

What did you want to be when you grew up?

Either an archaeologist, a geologist, or a fishing guide.

What is your fondest memory?

One of my favorite memories is of helping my grandfather to till his big garden with a roto tiller...I can smell the organic richness and feel my small feet sinking into the warm, rich earth as I write this!

What book would you recommend and why?

The Bible, of course, because it is God's written revelation to us about who He is, who we are, and how He has reconciled us to Him – Hallelujah!!

What's in your CD player or on your iPod?

Third Day's Offering album.

What is your favorite movie and why?

Lord of the Rings – a fantastic epic of hope and goodness triumphing over despair and evil.

Your favorite indulging snack?

YIKES! There are SO many! My favorite is Laura's fresh-baked chocolate chip cookies, but ice cream is a very close second.

Do you have a hobby you really enjoy?

I enjoy fishing for walleyes and muskies and hunting for pheasants, grouse, and deer.

What was your last purchase?

Gasoline.

What is your idea of a perfect day?

Camping and hiking up north with my family on a beautiful fall day (blue sky, blazing maples, crisp clean air) and knowing that God has created it all and that He is present with us.

Your biggest challenge?

Avoiding my tendency to be prideful and self-reliant and instead being humble and letting God work through me.

Besides Jesus, who is your favorite person in the Bible and why?

Definitely Paul! Though it is through Jesus Christ that I have discovered my true identity and purpose for existing in a personal relationship with Him in order to humbly serve and glorify God, it is through Paul that I have come to personally relate to and understand the response in faith to God's call on our new lives in Christ – a selfless but committed response to serving others and boldly and courageously proclaiming the good news in both word and deed, no matter what the personal cost may be.

If you could have lunch with a famous person, who would it be and why?

I would like to have lunch with any of the heads of state of non-Christian countries so I could share the truth and good news of Jesus Christ with them.

What are you passionate about?

Having been opposed to God out of ignorance and pride for most of my life, I am passionate about sharing the truth of the good news of God's salvation for humanity and for building communities of those who wish to follow the Way of Jesus Christ.

What do you think makes a good leader?

The transformational servant leadership of Jesus seems to be the appropriate model to follow. Our Lord developed and sent out new leaders with a diversity of gifts and with a cross-cultural mandate to meet people relative to their needs.¹ Jesus transforms hearts and teaches humility, patience, and service in His name. Like Jesus, the energy and confidence of transformational servant leaders are humbly rooted in the Lord's strength, power, and Spirit, not their own. They are committed to contemplative reflection, leading from the spirit of attentive listening to God acting through them. They are to be generous of heart, subordinating their own positions and desires to the needs of others and to the community: telling the truth; building consensus; maintaining a posture of learning; being superb conversationalists; exploring conflict; managing diverse viewpoints; being at ease; promoting conversations of the heart, and exemplifying commitment, communion, conversation, and care.² An effective, transformational servant leader must have high integrity and character. Others must find them trustworthy, motivating, and encouraging. To me, transformational servant leadership also means being humble, authentic, and credible as a catalyst for transformational change through: 1) *Vision casting* - developing and communicating a desired future state to followers; 2) *Strategy* - developing and implementing an action plan to reach the vision; 3) *Aligning* people, system, structure and resources with the Vision and Strategy, and 4) *Motivating* people and the organization to engage and work together toward achieving the desired vision.³

¹ Denny Gunderson, "Leadership in a Postmodern World," *Mars Hill Review*, no. 12 (1998): 54

² Donna Markham, "A Message to Postmodern Leaders," *Human Development* 23, no. 2 (2002): 23-24

³ Mark W. McCloskey, "Toward a Working Model of Transformational Leadership" (Ph.D. diss., Bethel Seminary, unpublished), 1

What has God been showing you lately that has surprised or delighted you?

More than anything, I am delighted every day and every time and in every way that I see God at work in this world, answering prayer, blessing His people, and working through them to reach and connect with the hurting, the needy, and the lost.

What do you like most about Faith Covenant Church?

There is great strength of faith and community grounded in Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit.