

Biography

Leah M. Tuckwood

I was born locally into a family that valued faith, business and athletics. My family was involved in our local Pentecostal Church, spending many years in children's ministries and general church life. We grew up pouring many hours into our family furniture business as well; two of my brothers are still involved in ownership of these two stores. Our family also put a lot of emphasis on athletics, and this is something that has carried on to the many grandchildren. All of these things have contributed to my strong work ethic, my unshakable faith and my love for athletics and community.

I knew I wanted to be a teacher from the time I was in high school. I was accepted into the Education program at the University of Alberta. While going to school, I played soccer for the U of A, as well as in the Alberta Major Soccer League. After I graduated, I moved to Cold Lake, Alberta. I enjoyed my time teaching high school, coaching various teams, and joining the local church. I taught there for two years and then headed back to Sherwood Park, and taught at Fort Saskatchewan Junior High. Again, I met some amazing people, learned so much from my colleagues, students and administrators.

I got married in 2004, to my husband, Aaron (he is an administrator at F.R. Haythorne Junior High). In 2006, I had my first daughter, Calli. My second daughter, Julia, came in 2008 and finally my son, Jack, was born in 2010. I felt strongly that I wanted to stay at home with my children and am thankful that God put that on my heart. I gave up my permanent contract with Elk Island and started subbing, so I could be flexible for my children. I did this until 2017, when I took a teaching contract at Strathcona Christian Academy Secondary. We started attending the Alliance Church when my son was born, and have been involved ever since. Our children attend Sunday school, Fun Nights, youth group and we have been so thankful for these amazing ministries.

In 2018, a position opened up in the Spiritual Life Department at SCA and I felt strongly about applying. I have a heart for the girls in our school. I am passionate about how students feel, how they are spoken to and that they know how God sees them. I enjoy connecting with students, as well as building and fostering relationships. Constructing strong relationships allows students to feel safe, cared for and loved. Girls in their teenage years are going through so many changes; it is a fantastic time to be able to speak truth into their lives.

In this school, we have the unique opportunity to provide large and small scale spiritual encounters. I am particularly interested in connecting through small group Encounters as well as having a larger part in organizing activities, that help connect both students and teachers. Having strong, healthy relationships with staff and students, allows us to build community.

My heart is for our students. My goal is that everyone in this school feels loved. When we know how much we are loved, it is easier to understand how much God loves us and takes care of us. I am passionate for teachers, students and parents to understand that God has us, He loves us and that He turns everything around, to benefit us.

Be anxious for nothing. Turn all your worries and cares into prayers (Phil 4:6)

