

JOSHUA LEWER, PH.D.

Statement of Christian Beliefs and Commitments

My personal relationship with Jesus Christ

I have lived long enough to fully know that there is nothing certain or sure in this world except the love that Jesus has for me. This love and forgiveness is available to all people through childlike faith in Him.

I have been a Christian all my life. My family's and extended family's faith runs deep as relatives and ancestors have served the church as pastors, elders and Sunday School teachers. Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." I have an intimate and personal relationship with Jesus, and I will never depart from it. He hears my prayers and is with me where ever I go. "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." (John 10:27)

Lastly, as the Apostle's Creed rightly states, Jesus is Lord, savior, and judge. He is truly an awesome God!

What it would mean to me to work at an institution of higher learning that actively promotes the principles of the Christian faith.

Working at a place like UMHB that promotes Christian values and faith would be infinitely rewarding.

In a world that has strayed away from and at times become hostile toward the Gospel, I would love to work at UMHB and further God's kingdom through higher education.

As I mentioned in my letter of application, I received my bachelor's degree from Augustana College, a small liberal arts institution affiliated with the Lutheran church. It has been my desire to return to a Christian setting for my professional career because I personally experienced how faith can be strengthened within the formative years in college.

I also believe that God has called me to work in higher education, and has given me the tools to be a leader in this field. He has also given me a responsibility to use my skills to further His glory here on earth. All too often, professors use their position of authority to push some particular agenda instead of reflecting and listening to God's voice with regard to truth. UMHB values statement declares that, "...the university seeks to develop graduates of strong Christian character and integrity who are able to communicate effectively, think critically, and solve complex problems." This reflects my views as an educator and a Christian.