

We envision a

congregation

whose love for

Jesus and one

another leaves

a clear and

compelling

witness for

Christ.

**Pinehurst Post** 

We exist to love Jesus and live for Him.

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## **Getting to Know the Holmberg Family**

Question: Where did you grow up?

Jenn: I was born in Fort Collins. Colorado, but grew up in Victor, Montana.

**Aaron:** I grew up in western Montana's Bitterroot Valley in a small town. Corvallis' Main Street extends just three blocks. My dad owned and operated the town Drug Store for nearly 40 years, where he was jokingly referred to as the mayor. Jenn and I were married in the same church my parents and grandparents were married in.

Q: Did you go to college? If so, where and what was your major?

**J:** I went to Seattle Pacific University where I majored in science and became a K-8 certified teacher. Years later, I finished master's education.

A: In 1993 I graduated high school and became a Montana Grizzly, which is the University of Montana, not Montana State, our pathetic nemesis. I majored in elementary education completed my student teaching in the spring of 1998. I returned to my hometown to teach language arts at Corvallis Middle School for the first five years of my career. Since then, I earned my master's in education and my National Board Certification in education. I've been a teacher for 12 years.



degrees to change diapers, wipe noses, ease hurts, read with little ones on my lap, and loving every minute of it! Thank you, Lord, for this work!

A: Nearly seven years ago, Jenn and I moved to Everett. My first year, I subbed over 150 days, hoping for an opening in the competitive job market. The Lord provided an opportunity to teach 4<sup>th</sup> grade in one of Everett Public Schools' only choice Lighthouse programs, Elementary Cooperative. For the past five years I have worked in Everett's Jefferson Elementary, teaching grade. I've had the pleasure of seeing my oldest child, Weston, pass through my classroom and my youngest son now enter kindergarten in my school. I look forward to being the teacher of Lauryn as well.

Q: Did you always do that?

J: After college, and before having Weston, I taught second grade for four years in Quilcene, a small town on the Before Collin, I peninsula. subbed a lot and taught fifth grade at Mukilteo Elementary for one year. Before having Lauryn, I subbed a little.

A: Although I once considered a career in commercial art and design, I have been a teacher and sometimes coach for all of my adult life. If I were to take up another career right now, I would enjoy working for a curriculum company, designing materials elementary school classrooms.

Q: How did you meet your spouse? How long have you been married?

**J:** My first encounter with Aaron was when he around age four, my thought was, "He's sure a cutie!" More than twenty years later, when we were reintroduced, I still had the same thought... "Cute!" We've been married for six years and counting.

A: Jenn and I went to the same grade school, but I didn't know her, as she was in a different grade. She then graduated from a different high school and moved to Seattle-Everett, where she began teaching. In 2001, after she had returned to Montana, we ended up in the same master's program. We began courting in 2002 and were married in June of 2003.

Q: How did you come to faith in Christ?

J: From birth, my parents taught me about Christ, encouraged my relationship with Christ, and built a strong foundation from which my faith began and grew.

A: I grew up in a traditional, little country church, hearing

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For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

## **Bible Trivia**

The Apostle Paul was the most prolific writer of the New Testament, with 13 books accredited to Who him. was the second most prolific of writer the New Testament?

Answer from last month: the first password mentioned in the Bible was Shibboleth (and if you pronounced it incorrectly, the penalty was death!). (See Judges 12:6 for the rest of the story).

## Getting to know the Holmberg Family continued from front

the Bible stories from family and friends who served as my teachers. However, I didn't know the distinctives of being a Christian, nor how I could be certain of my Savior and salvation until I reached high school. I then began reading the Bible and joined up with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship in college. I first asked Jesus to be my Lord and began a life of repentance in the fall of 1994 during a retreat. My faith began in books and intellectual circles amid a liberal undergraduate environment that challenged me to understand and argue for what I knew to be true.

**Q:** Can you share an experience when God increased/matured/tested your faith?

**J:** Living life's struggles has a tendency to mature our faith, and that certainly holds true for me. Before I was blessed with Aaron, I was a single mom. During this time, God showed me clearly the magnitude of love he had for me and the purpose he had for my life. Although I am in ever need of increasing my faith in God, this experience brought me closer to him in a way that got me through it and to a place of greater devotion and love for Christ.

**A:** There are many small experiences I can credit for maturing my faith, and I look for them in each day. However, the process of courting and marrying Jenn, then moving away from my life-long home, friends, and family in Montana was my greatest springboard to greater maturity. The Lord has blessed me richly with a wonderful wife and family I only received by surrendering control of my life to him and leaving my old life behind.

**Q:** What is your favorite book?

**J:** The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe is a favorite, but I also enjoy reading historical non-fiction books that tell a story.



**A:** The Bible is my favorite book. My favorite genres are historical fiction, history, and Christian-topic related.

**Q:** What's your favorite book (or verse) of the Bible?

**J:** One of my favorite verses is Psalm 42:1 "As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God." This is also a well-known worship song which I love to sing when I need to refocus my priorities onto God.

**A:** If I could only choose one book of the Bible to keep, I would pick either Romans or Psalms. Philippians 1:6 continues to be transformational verse in my life: "Be confident of this, that he who began a good work in your life will carry it on until completion in the day of Christ Jesus."

**Q:** Do you have any hobbies? If so, what are they?

**J:** I would like to say finishing up my children's baby books, but that is not really accurate, as pictures stay put away in boxes and album's stay empty! I really look forward to hiking and camping with my family. Reading is also a hobby I love, but has mostly been put on hold for now, and may I say napping (can this be a hobby?) is something I enjoy when I get the chance!

**A:** I enjoy woodworking, reading, drawing, fly-fishing, and almost anything related to basketball—coaching, watching, playing.

**Q:** Where's the most interesting place you've traveled/lived?

**J:** As a fifth grader, my parents took me to Israel. I still remember that trip and how I immaturely grumbled because I was so hot walking around Masada! An amazing country though, filled with such fantastic history, a place which I would love to revisit.

**A:** My heart is in Montana, and I want to return with my family to its mountains again one day.

**Q:** Do you have any specific future plans/goals/dreams?

**J:** Seeing my children live their lives for Jesus, becoming more involved with my community, working with children, becoming foster parents (Aaron?), and getting back home to Montana.



**A:** 1) Return to Montana. 2) Celebrate 50 years of marriage, not that I won't enjoy the 51<sup>st</sup> year either. 3) Do something at "the next level" in teaching. I'll let the Lord decide what that is. 4) See my kids head up Christian families. 5) Visit Civil War battlefields.

**Q:** What is one thing that most people at church don't know about you?

**J:** I still cry while watching my favorite show, "Little House on the Prairie."

A: I was an avid skateboarder.

We asked Weston and Collin...

Question: How old are you?

Weston: 12 years

**Colin:** 5 years (almost 6!) **Q:** What grade are you in?

**W:** 7<sup>th</sup>

C: Kindergarten

**Q:** What is your favorite subject at school?

W: Web Design

**C:** Free Time (playing in different centers)

**Q:** What is your favorite sport or activity?

W: Football

C: Superheroes

**Q:** What do you like most about God?

**W:** His love for us.

C: That God cares for me.

**Q:** What do you like most about our church?

W: The fellowship

C: Teaching and playing