

CONNECTION

Mike Freland is a teacher at La Salle High School where he not only teaches science but is also responsible for the operation of La Salle's TV and Radio stations. In addition he is a podcaster covering the topic of true crimes. To keep the podcast focused and accurate, he works with and shadowed a police detective who works in forensics where he learned about DNA and fingerprinting. His journey to this time and place is interesting.



Mike is a lifelong Lutheran who was Baptized and Confirmed at Hope. But as time went on and he got older, attending church was no longer a priority. He went to college to study media and become a DJ. Later he worked in finance where he helped people plan for retirement. Not finding that fulfilling he went back to college and earned his teaching credentials.

However, something was still missing and that something was the fullness that faith brings. There were events that happened in his life that were signs to which he needed to pay more attention. He would meet students who were struggling with life issues, and he wanted to connect with them. To do that he felt he needed a foundation that would allow him to make that connection.

In addition, and just as important, he and Meghan wanted to raise McKenna in the Christian faith. Her Baptism, in a sense, allowed him to come full circle to when he was Baptized.

As he entered church life at Hope, he found a welcoming presence from those who knew him in his youth. As he became more involved, he felt a deeper connection in his faith and a sense of peace and is overall happier. He gets excited about being here on Sundays and he wants to take the message to others.

Since returning to Hope, he (and Meghan) have immersed themselves into the church life. Mike leads the children's message during church services and he has forged relationships with many other members, and is a leader on the planning committee for events. He also plans to attend the newly created evening bible study.