

## **Rick McKinney – Responses to Candidate Questions**

1. How are you living out community life now?

Through the mercy of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit I endeavor to live out our community life through daily prayer for my brothers and sisters, through daily meditation on His word through daily examination of conscience, through generous giving, and through participation and service in this body as I praise and worship the Lord fervently on Sunday nights, place verses of songs on the screen, put up and take down chairs, greet folks at the door, lead a men's Saturday fellowship, help plan or just help out in our periodic hosting of conferences, or Growing in Faith Together talks or School functions like Globalfest, or help or house missionaries like Janis Clarke and Michelle and Peter Moran, and sometimes be inspired to compose songs and prophetic verses for God's glory and the building up of his body.

2. What have you been most blessed by in living out the covenant at Mother of God?

For me the most blessed part of living out the covenant at Mother of God is the privilege of praising and worshipping God together with my brothers and sisters and the privilege of privately praying for them and a word from the Lord.

3. What has been the biggest challenge/struggle in living out the covenant at Mother of God?

As I like time alone, for me the biggest challenge in living out the covenant is trying to really care about and care for each precious member called here by God and each precious person brought here by God.

4. What do you see as the central grace(s) of Mother of God Community?

The Mother of God Community is a like a mustard seed, which God took and planted in his field. Though it was one of the smallest of seeds it grew to become a large tree where many of God's people and God's ministries have found a platform in which to build and to give glory to God, such as the Mother of God School, the Word Proclaimed Institute, Christ Life series, Life in the Spirit seminars, Called and Gifted series, St. Paul Street Evangelization, Word for Life Rosary Mission, the Word Among Us devotional, Pray for Germantown pro-life activities, Damian Stayne conferences, Unbound conferences, home school ministries, Steubenville Youth Conference gatherings, not to mention many religious vocations and the many organizations that rent our facilities, plus many, many more that God knows in His magnanimity and divine providence. For instance, I believe that it is not a coincidence that across the street there is a 24/7 adoration chapel.

5. What is your vision? Where do you see God calling us as a community?

I believe that God will continue to use us as a platform to build his kingdom and quite likely in ways beyond our imagining. There may even be some here that will be called to be martyrs for Christ.

6. What do you see as the top priorities for the community over the next 5 years?

Our top priority is to become all that God wants us to become in deed and in truth, and hopefully, that means many new members being called here on earth as many of our older members are called into heavenly realms.

7. What do you see as the biggest strengths and weaknesses of the community?

Our biggest strength, I think, has been our faithfulness and perseverance to our covenantal calling to God and to one another, day after day, week after week, year after year. God is always faithful and He notes well and blesses those that are faithful to His callings. Of course, we do not always live faithfully especially, I think, in ways that care for one another and offer care and hospitality to those who are new.