

## **Chris Pearson**

Chris Pearson grew up on a farm in southwest Iowa. His upbringing fueled a passion for agriculture that led him to spend his career building and running farmer-owned cooperatives in Iowa and the Dakotas. He has served in senior executive and board roles spanning the Grain, Agronomy, Precision Ag, Feed, Energy, and Ag Services sectors since 2002.

In 2017, he led the merger of two of the largest agricultural supply cooperatives in the United States. The result of the successful merger vote by the cooperative members was the formation of Agtegra Cooperative, based in Aberdeen, South Dakota. He served as CEO of that organization for nearly 5 years.

Agtegra's purpose is "To do something great for farms and farm families that nobody else will do." That mission is executed by 850 fulltime employees that work at over 70 locations across a large portion of the production areas of North and South Dakota. Total revenue when Agtegra formed in 2017 was projected to be \$1.8 billion and in 2021 revenue had grown to \$2.5 billion. Agtegra is currently the largest locally owned agriculture supply cooperative in the nation.

In 2022, Chris became Vice President of Crop Nutrition and Cooperative Alliances for Winfield United, the crop inputs and insights business of Land O'Lakes, inc., which is also an agricultural cooperative. In this role he operates the fertilizer business for the United States and Canada and also serves a role with local cooperatives, assisting them with Mergers and Acquisitions, strategic planning, CEO and Board advisement, and promotion of the farmer-owned cooperative business model.

In 2024, Chris became President of Purina Animal Nutrition, another division of Land O'Lakes which delivers \$5 billion a year in top-line revenue. The animal nutrition team distributes a full line of nutritional solutions for farmers, ranchers, backyard hobbyists, zoos, and labs through a national distribution channel that is made up of independent Purina dealers, large farm and ranch stores, and cooperatives as well as maintaining on online presence.

Christ accepted Christ as his savior at a young age and was fortunate to be raised in a Christian home. While working at the Iowa Regular Baptist Camp, Chris met Rachel Holub and they were married the following year after attending one year at Faith Baptist Bible College. The Lord has blessed them with 5 children and 6 grandchildren.