

Member Profile

This week's feature: **Deanna Rose**



Deanna was born and grew up in Lakewood, OH. She graduated from Lakewood High School where she was a majorette. She was a member along with her family at Faith Lutheran Church and has fond memories of the Luther League Youth Group. She was one of three kids in her family. Brother Larry Nickel, is a member of Prince of Peace. Her Father was very musical and played a number of instruments in several bands over the years. He loved to entertain.

Early on, Deanna decided to become a Lutheran Parish Worker. She attended Wartburg College in Waverly, IA. She then became a Parish Worker in Long Lake, IL., which is about 50 miles northwest of Chicago. Her first experience living alone – in a small house in Long Lake didn't go well. The oven exploded, and the toilet kept backing up into the kitchen sink. She finally left for a small cottage in Fox Lake, IL. After 3 years she came back to the Cleveland area. Back in Cleveland, she got her cosmetology license and worked at Higbees Department Store; then as a Parish Worker again, in Boardman, OH for 12 years. During this time she got her college degree at Youngstown State University in Social Work, and was married to her first husband, Dick. They adopted a daughter, Nicole. She also has two daughters of her own. Sadly, Deanna decided to move back to the Cleveland area as a single mom with a job waiting for her at Lorain County Children Services with her sister-in-law, Claudia

After moving back to Cleveland, Deanna married again. Her husband, Martin, had two boys from a previous marriage, and they had another son together – Joel. Deanna went through a divorce in 1981. She went back to work initially at the Lutheran Home

until she was offered to return to work at Lorain County Children Service with her sister-in-law, Claudia. Deanna retired from the City of Lakewood as a social worker for the Health Department and the Youth Department. To this day she continues to volunteer at POP.

Deanna is a cancer survivor, and she says that the experience certainly strengthened her faith. She stays active with church work, crafts, gardening and reading, she makes cancer survivor bracelets which are donated to the Gathering Place. She also makes Prayer Beads and teaches workshops at church groups and at Lakeside in Marblehead during the summer months. She has made many Damn-it Dolls as fundraisers for OMNI and Love-A-Stray Animal Shelter. Deanna reads a wide range of books and topics; from Grisham thrillers to spiritual books on faith. She is also an avid photographer and she loves animals. Many at POP might not know that Deanna has written and published a book of prayers. Because she gives wonderful prayers at church, several folks recommended that she should compile them into a book. So, she did. The Book is titled So Prays My Soul. I have a copy, and it is beautifully written, and I recommend it to all. Since I am a dog-person, Deanna directed me to one of the prayers in the book, “A Canine Lord’s Prayer”. She continues to write weekly prayers on the book’s Facebook page. I love my friend, Deanna. She brightens up the room. You will love her as well.

By Dick Hardy, Profile Reporter

