

## “ Member Profile “

*This week’s feature : Jane and Lowell Dillon*



The Dillon family and Prince of Peace Lutheran Church have a long history together. Lowell Dillon grew up in Bay Village and went to Bay High School. After graduating in 1970, he attended Bowling Green State University. He graduated with a double major in Marketing and Sales and began working for the marketing firm Ashby and Associates in Cleveland. Jane Dillon was born and raised in Lyndhurst, Ohio. While growing up, her family attended Messiah Lutheran Church in Lyndhurst. After graduating from Charles F. Brush High School, she went on to Bowling Green State University to study Elementary Education and graduated from there in 1986. She later took graduate courses to earn her licensure to teach special education. Jane’s first full-time teaching job brought her to the westside of Cleveland so that she could teach high school students with special behavioral needs in Lorain, Ohio. At the time, Lowell was Vice President of the Ashby Dillon

## Marketing Firm in Rocky River.

Lowell and Jane met when they had assigned parking spaces next to each other in the parking garage of their apartment building. It was the end of the school year, and Lowell held the series of doors for Jane as she brought in a box of teaching supplies. He later left a note on her car asking her out. Once Jane verified with the motherly apartment manager that Lowell was a nice guy, they had their first date. They've been a couple ever since!

When it was time to get married, Jane really wanted to get married in a Lutheran Church like the one she was raised in. The trick was finding a kind minister who was willing to marry them on December 28, 1996. Pastor Brett Rizzo, the pastor at that time at POP answered the call. He was the kind pastor willing to marry them during his very busy holiday season. It was his kindness and support that brought them to POP, where they have been members ever since!

Lowell and Jane were blessed with two children. Shaun Dillon was born on February 28, 1998. Rian Dillon was born on September 26, 1999. Both Shaun and Rian were baptized at Prince of Peace and grew up in the church. When they were toddlers, the Mom and Tots group at POP was Jane's lifeline to the world. As a stay at home mom, the friendships she established through this group were a blessing! It was wonderful watching their children grow up with other Prince of Peace children. The friendships she established there continue today through the Sisters in Spirit group. Shaun and Rian both attended Sunday School and were confirmed at Prince of Peace.

When Shaun and Rian became teenagers, they were very active in the Prince of Peace Youth Group. They enjoyed attending National Youth Conferences and hanging out with other teens. As a teenager, Shaun was very active in the POP Youth Band. He also was very active in shows at the Beck Center. When it came time to select a college, Shaun went to Baldwin Wallace University and graduated summa cum laude as a 2020 theater graduate. 2020 was a tough time for theater graduates! Shaun found his way to Columbus and started working for Starbucks. He is currently managing a Starbucks in downtown Columbus. His "empty-nester parents" are encouraging him to think about moving closer to home. Rian Dillon went to The Ohio State University and graduated cum laude with a degree in accounting. She is currently a CPA with Ernst and Young in Chicago, Illinois. Rian is enjoying the adventure of living in downtown Chicago. She is living with two of her closest friends that can be

traced back to when Lowell coached them all in soccer during their primary through middle school grades! Eventually, Rian would like to move back to Ohio.

Jane co-taught POP Sunday school for many years when the kids were young. She enjoyed many years as a volunteer teacher for summer bible school. Lowell was a lay reader for a number of years and was a substitute Sunday School Teacher for the high school grades.

Currently, Jane and Lowell are looking forward to their retirement years! Jane is once again a special education teacher in Lorain, Ohio. She has been blessed to have taught every grade from kindergarten through twelve in every type of special education classroom imaginable. She still has a number of years to go until she can retire. Lowell is semi-retired and is working at the Home Depot in North Olmsted.

Outside of work, Jane and Lowell both enjoy working out at Planet Fitness and playing board games. Jane also enjoys walking, gardening, reading and dancing. Lowell 's other interests include woodworking, hiking, watching football and soccer. They feel blessed to have been part of the Prince of Peace Lutheran Family for over twenty-six years!

*A Big Thank You is offered to Jane and Lowell as the authors of this story !*

*Tom Robinholt : Profile Reporter*