

“Prince of Peace History 101”

This week’s feature : Janet and Gary Allie



Janet was born in Saginaw, Michigan and grew up in Lansing, MI along with her sister Cindy. The family moved to Bay Village in 1970 where she graduated from high school. After searching for a new church, they felt at home and became members at POP in 1970. Cindy and Janet were both confirmed here. She attended Cuyahoga Community College for a few years but then decided to begin working. Gary was born in Cleveland where he attended school as well as Bedford, OH. His focus of study was math and history. He grew up with a sister and brother that have since passed away. He has 3 children: 1 son is 54 years old, another son is 53, and his daughter is 41 years old.

Janet has been employed in a variety of positions including retail at May Company, operations manager at Mallard Bay Gift Company , distribution at a local company, and the recreation center in Middleburg Heights. Gary has focused his work as a semi truck driver. As Janet was running a warehouse in 1995 in Westlake, Gary was making a delivery. They began to talk and exchanged phone numbers. Janet and Gary were engaged shortly afterwards. They were married on Gary's 48th birthday at Prince of Peace on July 1, 1995!

Janet has related many stories to me of her experiences at Prince of Peace when the congregation was just getting started. Some members may remember her parents, Joe and Carole Newman, who had served on most committees during the time they attended. With Janet and sister Cindy, they were all very involved in many missions. Her father was on Council and the Stewardship Committee. In the early days only the office and nursery building existed, so she remembers the work done to add the new additions of the sanctuary, the fellowship hall and education wing.

Several other things bring joy to her as she recalls a 4 sided display in the narthex that had pictures her father took when a new member joined. Westlake also had a church softball league that many participated in. Janet's mother was in charge of the Christian Education program for many

years and became the Parish worker. She became a longtime member of the Choir and the Altar Guild. Her mother passed away in 1982, and several items have been donated in her memory that are still in use. The Eternal Candle at the back of the sanctuary was provided by the church Choir. Two Candelabras given by the family are used by the Altar Guild for special occasions . Her father is now living at the O'Neill Nursing Home in Bay Village.

Gary's interests include softball and exercise. Janet enjoys gardening, crafts, and photography. She is a devoted Michigan sports fan, which certainly makes Pastor Charlie happy! Gary and Janet have been away from POP for a period of time and are living in Middleburg Heights. They are no longer members, but in the last 6 months Janet has returned to attend services and is renewing old friendships and making new ones. Say hello to Janet as she worships at the contemporary service. She wants to offer a Thank You to all for making her feel welcome and home again. The early members had planted a mustard seed that has grown Jesus's Kingdom!

By Tom Robinholt : Profile Reporter