

Mark and Joanie Sloan Profile Story

(Pictured with their daughters on vacation in Cancun, Mexico)



The Sloan family has deep connections to the Prince of Peace Family.

Mark was born in Lakewood, Ohio and grew up in Lakewood and Fairview Park. He attended Gilles-Sweet Elementary School, Fairview Junior High and graduated from Fairview High School. Mark began college education at Bluffton College in Bluffton, Ohio for two years and then spent two quarters at Cuyahoga Community College West Branch in Parma studying for a degree in Accounting. He has an older brother Keith and a younger brother Todd. Joanie was born in Flagstaff, Arizona and grew up in multiple locations, including Mexico, California and Ohio. She attended schools in all three places and graduated from Rocky River High School. Joanie earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology at Ohio University. She has a younger sister Anne and a younger brother Jack.

Mark met Joanie, who was waitressing at the time, at the Grog Shop in the old Westgate Mall in Fairview Park. In August of this year, they will celebrate their 49th Wedding Anniversary. They have two daughters, Johnna age 46 and Jessie age 42. Both reside in the Chicago area.

God has blessed Mark and Joanie with four grandchildren ages 10-15 and four step-grandchildren ages 20-29.

Mark took an interest in working construction after two and a half years of college courses. He liked the idea of seeing what was accomplished after a day's work. He and his brother Keith worked for Keith's father-in-law, a carpenter/contractor, building garages, decks, additions and home/commercial renovations. They also worked on one of the first U-Storage facilities in the area located on Lorain Road in North Olmsted way back in the day. Mark also worked for eight years in the Maintenance Division at Wendy's fast food chain in Northeast Ohio, consisting of approximately 30 stores. He finished his career working in the Maintenance Department at Lutheran Hospital for 25 years. He retired in 2014. Joanie spent 10 years in the travel business before moving into employee benefits for 11 years at the Cleveland Clinic Health System, after which she moved on to United Healthcare for 11 years as a key accounts manager. She retired in 2017.

Their connection to Prince Of Peace was mainly through the members of St. Andrew Lutheran Church on Clague Road in North Olmsted. Many of their friends from there became members of P.O.P. during the merger. They elected to attend Bethany English Lutheran Church on Triskett and Lorain roads and have been members since 2008. Mark, at the invitation of Dan Fronczak, became involved with the S.O.A.P. Bible Study, which was introduced at P.O.P. He's been attending the study since June of 2020. He finds it to be a discipline in study which has deepened his faith, knowledge of and love for the Lord. He also had involvement in Habitat for Humanity through P.O.P. for a time. Taking two separate 2 year Bethel Bible Studies courses at his home church has been gratifying for him personally. He's so thankful that the Lord has guided him into taking these life-changing classes.

Mark and Joanie have other interests and hobbies as well. Mark loves sports and watches them on T.V. whenever possible. He's always rooting for our local teams. He enjoys listening to music or movies on his audio system in the basement, which includes the resurgence of vinyl on his turntable. One little tidbit of information he shared is the fact that he was a charter member of St. Andrew Lutheran Church and remembers attending their church services at the school gymnasium on Maple Ridge road in North Olmsted before there was actually a church building. Joanie's interests and hobbies include sewing, gardening, cooking and crafting. Joanie speaks fluent Spanish because of her time spent growing up and attending school in Mexico. Mark and Joanie also enjoy their time in Dunedin, Florida during the winter months.

Our community of Faith always benefits when we partner with others to strengthen the efforts to do God's work. The Sloan family brings a dedication we can all celebrate!

By Tom Robinholt : Profile Reporter