

## “Member Profile”

*This week's feature : Phil and Pat Sprague*



Phil and Pat were both born in Youngstown, Ohio and grew up on the same street. They began dating in high school. Both attended Youngstown State University. Pat received a degree in Education and Phil graduated with a Mechanical Engineering degree. They married shortly after graduating from college. Pat has one brother who recently passed away. Phil has one sister and one brother. They have raised three sons, Phil, Scott, and Matt. They have three wonderful daughter-in-laws who have blessed them with four grandsons and three granddaughters ages 13-22.

Phil started working for Dow Chemical Packaging Division in Cleveland. The packaging division was sold to American Can Company and they were transferred to Neenah, Wisconsin for a year. They returned to Cleveland and he worked for Anderson Ibec in Strongsville followed by a 30 year

career at the C.A. Litzler Company in Cleveland managing the engineering department. Pat taught 2nd grade in Fairview Park Schools until their boys were born. Once all three were in school, she became a substitute teacher in both Fairview and North Olmsted Schools until she took a position at Ascension Lutheran Church teaching Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten.

Pat and Phil joined Prince of Peace in 2008 after St. Andrews Lutheran Church in North Olmsted closed. They have contributed much Time and Talent to our congregation! Both are involved with the Coffee House & Open Mic Nights, Sunday Greeters, and the Communion Services at Bickford Assisted Living. Pat also enjoys the Comfort Quilters group. Phil has been involved in Special Property and Outreach projects. Recently, he led the Bob Skufca Memorial Car Show that raised over \$4,000 with the Endowment Committee's matching funds to be given to Second Harvest Food Bank. Ron Filkill was a dedicated partner in arranging military displays for the car show as well. Phil has been a leader in the planning and design of the proposed Peace Pavilion Outdoor Worship Facility.

In their free time, Pat loves reading, and going to their grandchildren's school and sports activities. Phil's hobbies include fishing, photography, and driving his home built Cobra. They started a family tradition in 1981 of an annual trip to the Outer Banks. Originally they took the three boys along, but over time they included friends, girlfriends, then their wives, and now all seven grandchildren. Fishing, cooking, and beach time provide wonderful memories!

Pat and Phil have traveled overseas as well for many trips due to Phil's engineering career. They have had the opportunity to travel to Holland, England, France, Belgium, and Germany. Phil also had extensive travels to many Asian countries. I had the opportunity to visit their home in our development for a "fish tank house call". Visitors usually meet Cooper, the Beagle/Basset mix they adopted who makes sure he protects his owners!

You can connect with them at the Contemporary Service at POP, along with many other groups they are part of. They walk through life with a spring in their step as they experience God's Love every day!

*By Tom Robinholt : Profile Reporter*