

OUTREACH

NEWCOMER PROFILE

PEOPLE MAKING THE REDEEMER THEIR FAITH COMMUNITY

INTERVIEWED BY KEN GARNER



Kathleen (and Andy) Kovner Kline

Thank you very much for sharing your story with us about your entry into The Redeemer community.

How long have you been attending services here?

About a year.

Are you a life-long Episcopalian?

I was fortunate to receive my early Christian formation in the post Vatican II Roman Catholic Church, surrounded by many faithful, intelligent, energetic and broad-minded teachers and leaders.

What is your previous church experience, if any?

As I re-appropriated my faith as a young adult, I decided that the Episcopal tradition was the “flavor of Christianity” that was a good fit for me. In graduate school, I met my husband, Andy, who became an Episcopal priest. My church life followed his to Saint Stephen’s in East Haddam, Connecticut, Saint Thomas in Hanover, New Hampshire, and Christ Church in Denver. When we moved back East to care for my mother, I took a step back from my pastor’s wife role, though still supporting his work at Saint Augustine and now at Saint John’s in Norristown. I’ve also worshiped at Saint David’s.

How did you find The Redeemer?

Our friends, Alan, Hillarie, and Roxanna Woods are longtime members, and had invited us to various Redeemer celebrations.

What inspired you to attend?

In this season of life, with our children grown, I was looking for the opportunity to deepen in prayer and reflection. I found that in the beautiful Choral Matins at 11:15. The architecture of the sanctuary and the beauty of the music are truly inspiring. I also love songful prayer, so I am an enthusiastic congregational hymn singer.

What would you want to tell others about The Redeemer to encourage them to come and explore our parish?

The Redeemer parishioners are truly a welcoming bunch. The clergy are thoughtful, intelligent, caring, and approachable. It is a good place to approach the Sacred, to learn, to pray, to serve, to be inspired, challenged, nurtured, and to be part of the vast Christian tradition.

Tell us a bit about yourself outside of The Redeemer—your job, your family, your hobbies.

I’ve always been interested in the healing ministry, and integration of body, mind, soul and spirit. I met Andy at the Divinity School at Yale, where I got a M.Div. and an M.D. I was in academic medicine at Dartmouth, the University of Colorado, and now teach child psychiatry residents at CHOP and Penn. I am chief medical officer at the Consortium in West Philadelphia, whose mission is to bring evidence-based, high-quality behavioral healthcare to the publicly insured. Andy and I enjoy walking, reading, podcast listening, spending time with friends, having vigorous discussions about faith, community, science, politics, and just being with our adult children, Christopher, Benjamin, Stephen, and Alexia, my mother Peggy, and our dog Kali.



On March 12 thirteen folks from Redeemer made a field trip to St. James School in the AlleghenyWest section of Philadelphia. After touring St. James, a faith-based middle school in the Episcopal tradition, the spacious grounds and the Church of St. James the Less, we learned about opportunities for hands-on service. Most needed are volunteer tutors, even for one hour a week, to help on weekdays from 4 to 6 pm and on certain Saturdays from 10am to 1pm. If you are interested, please contact Mary Hopkins, Outreach Community Service liaison to St. James.

PLEASE JOIN US
AS WE BID
FARWELL TO
DAVID ROMANIK
Sarah Beth, Cecilia & Elizabeth
SUNDAY APRIL 7
following the 9am service

