

# FELLOWSHIP

## NEWCOMER PROFILE

PEOPLE MAKING THE REDEEMER THEIR FAITH COMMUNITY

INTERVIEWED BY KEN GARNER



This month meet Sonja and Jeremy Souder.

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?** We've been attending since the Autumn of 2016.

**Are you life-long Episcopalians? If so, what other Episcopal churches have you attended?**

No. Sonja grew up Protestant in Germany, and Jeremy's religious grounding was Mennonite.

**How did you find The Redeemer?**

Jessica Todd-Harper and Chris Zafiriou are good friends, and had invited us to attend for the past several years!

**What inspired you to attend?**

Our children began singing in the children's choirs, and that got us in the door. Since then, many things have kept us coming! The thoughtful and principled sermons, the introspection and unity fostered by the liturgy, the energetic adult forums, the spiritually and emotionally inspiring musical worship, and a growing sense of belonging to a greater community have all inspired us to attend The Redeemer.

**What would you want to tell others about The Redeemer to encourage them to come and explore our parish?** Be prepared to be surprised, nourished, and welcomed in many ways!

**Tell us a bit about yourself outside of The Redeemer—your job, your family, your hobbies.** Sonja is a teacher; in Germany she taught French, athletics and music; for the first several years in the USA she taught French and Prima Lingua at Friends Central Middle School. Jeremy is a physician at Pennsylvania Hospital, where he specializes in hospital medicine and palliative medicine, and is the patient safety officer. Marlena (9) is in fourth grade at Merion Elementary school; her passions include choir at The Redeemer, reading, and being outdoors in nature; Charlotte (7) is in second grade at Merion Elementary; she loves gymnastics. Lucy (5) is in kindergarten at Bala House Montessori; playing with friends is her favorite thing to do. Clover is our twelve week-old puppy, and we all love her! Our favorite family activities are cooking and sharing meals with friends, skiing, and the performing arts.

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER AT THE REDEEMER

