

FELLOWSHIP

NEWCOMER PROFILE

PEOPLE MAKING THE REDEEMER THEIR FAITH COMMUNITY

INTERVIEWED BY KEN GARNER



This month, Kristin and Daniel Wesley.

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 have had strong family connections to The Redeemer, through Daniel, for many years. Our daughters Adele (3) and Beatrice (2) were baptized at The Redeemer in October 2012, and we started attending services as a family when we moved from Manhattan to Bryn Mawr in early May of this year.

I realize that Daniel is the son of Richard and Patricia Wesley and grew up here. What's it like for you returning now with your own family?

It's wonderful! Both of us have always imagined raising our family in a place very much like Bryn Mawr, and each time we visited from New York with our children, we found it harder and harder to leave. We had both lived in the area (Daniel grew up here, and Kristin spent a year at Bryn Mawr College doing a post baccalaureate premedical program before going to medical school) so once we decided that it was time to settle down, the choice was easy.

Kristin, are you a life-long Episcopalian? If so, what other Episcopal churches have you attended? If not a life-long Episcopalian, what is your previous church experience, if any?

I grew up in Durham, North Carolina and attended the Watts Street Baptist Church there. During my decade in New York, I attended a Presbyterian church—coincidentally, also named Redeemer. This is my first experience with The Episcopal Church. My grandfather, a devout Christian, studied daily the Episcopal devotional *Forward Day by Day*. I look forward to developing my faith within this church and community.

How did you find The Redeemer?

Daniel's family has always had a connection to

The Redeemer. The Wesleys moved to Bryn Mawr when Daniel was twelve, joined The Redeemer, and he was confirmed here some years later. Daniel's sister, Julia, was married here in July 2011, and our daughters were baptized here in October 2012.

What inspired you to attend?

Since we married in 2010, we would attend services together at The Redeemer when visiting our family in Bryn Mawr. We were impressed by many aspects of the church: the Christ-centered worship, the sense of community, the focus on family, as well as the clear sense of service and mission. Faith is an important part of our marriage and family life, and we want to raise our daughters in a Christian household and community. When we moved to Bryn Mawr, we felt called to choose The Redeemer as our church home.

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

We have had a wonderful and welcoming experience at The Redeemer. The church itself is physically beautiful and awe-inspiring. The worship services are structured and formal, but there is a relaxed spirit to them. We find the sermons to be thought-provoking and erudite. The congregation is friendly: when the "peace" is exchanged, people cross the aisles to greet each other, and there is a genuine warmth to it. The children's ministry has been terrific for our daughters. Due to her experience in the nursery program, Beatrice now loves to sing "Jesus Loves Me" at every opportunity. We are delighted that our children are learning about Christian life and values here.

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

Kristin is a psychiatrist who supervises and teaches at Columbia University Medical Center. She went to school at the University of North Carolina, Oxford, and Harvard. Her specialty is women's reproductive mental health, and she is planning to open a private practice on the Main Line later this year. Kristin is looking forward to returning to her hobbies when the girls are a little older. (She used to enjoy writing, hiking and running, among other things).

Daniel works at a quantitative finance firm in Manhattan. He was educated at Princeton and Cambridge, and before moving to Manhattan, he worked as a postdoctoral researcher in early universe cosmology at the University of Pennsylvania and Cambridge. He is a great lover of the outdoors: in the past, this led to many backpacking and climbing adventures, though these days it mostly entails keeping the yard in good shape.

Our girls, Adele and Beatrice, will be starting school at Gladwyne Montessori this fall. Since moving to Bryn Mawr, our girls have enjoyed exploring all the wonderful playgrounds, parks, trails and nature preserves in the area.



THERE'S A SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT IN THIS PLACE. . .

Just look at the faces. . . The final night of the Choir Music & Mission Tour in Prague. Redeemer tradition holds that tours end with the "Mikey Awards" (named for the originator of the awards on the very first choir tour). Every member of the Choristers and Schola Cantorum were honored for an attribute they became known for throughout the choirs' amazing time of music and mission together.

**COFFEE
HOUR
JOIN IN**



Each Sunday during the academic year there's time for fellowship and refreshment. Coffee Hour, beginning at 10:15am in the Parish House Assembly Room, provides the opportunity for us to catch-up and enjoy fellowship together. It also allows us the luxury of focusing a place to distribute information and provide opportunities to engage for mission service in and outside the parish. Drop by on your way to the Adult Forum or just spend some time building relationships with fellow parishioners.

**Please Join Us!
Sunday September 7**

**PARISH
PICNIC**

following the 10 am service

Please help us by bringing food items that do not require warm-up.

If your last name begins with:

A – I Salads

J – R Desserts

S – Z Entrées



The dads and kids camping trip at Wapiti, June 21 & 22 was a rousing success.

View a gallery of photos at www.TheRedeemer.org/photos.

