



Our Pilgrim Stories

Heart Healing

Keith Galloway's 37-year career at ETV led him to marry a principal ballerina with the Columbia City Ballet and allowed him to play on the company softball team which annually competed against the all-clown team from the Ringling Brothers' Circus. His dancer wife, Lou, was a longtime member of Resurrection Lutheran in Columbia. When Keith married Lou, he married that congregation, too. Over the decades, Keith became very involved in numerous leadership responsibilities there. With all that personal and spiritual investment, it was heartbreaking when Resurrection closed its doors in 2018.

Since they lived in the Lexington area, the Galloways decided to seek a new congregation near their home. They were seeking a faith community that offered an early traditional service, but truly they were seeking a church that could provide some heart-healing after the trauma of losing their congregation. They felt called to Pilgrim and discovered a church where people were interested in getting to know them. That made a lot of difference.

You wouldn't guess today that Keith is a relatively new member at Pilgrim. He now leads the Property ministry, is on Council, participates in Lutheran Men in Mission, and heads the audio-visual team for our worship service. But Keith's gifts are greater than the ins and outs of cameras and audio boards. He has always had a love for children and teenagers, so it's no surprise that he quickly involved the youth of Pilgrim as his tech crew each week. In fact, the audio-visual room has become our church's youth room. Some of the youth refer to him as their mentor and their mascot. He's pretty sure that's a compliment! Keith also has a special bond with our preschool children and staff and is sometimes a substitute dad for a child whose father can't attend a special event.

It's also been a wonderful surprise for Keith to find a best friend at Pilgrim in Greg Sommer. "I wish I'd met him fifty years ago," he said. Reflecting on where our church has been and the direction it's going, Keith says, "Pilgrim is like our Season of Renewal tree, it's blossoming and growing!"

With your continued support, Pilgrim can grow its legacy as a heart-healing place for all those who need a place of renewal.