

GETTING TO KNOW JOE SALTER



Parishioner Judy Tingley is interviewing parishioners and helping them to share a bit of their stories with us. This is the sixth in her series of stories - look forward to more of them in the future. Thanks, Judy, for helping us get to know each other a bit better! July Tingley and Joe Salter collaborated on this article about Joe.

Joe comes from a family full of Episcopal clergy but he somehow managed to avoid becoming a priest himself. His father was a priest and was rector of St. John's Olympia and Christ Church Puyallup when Joe was growing up. His grandfather was a priest. His mother's older sister married a priest; Joe's uncle later became a bishop. And two of Joe's cousins are priests and one of them also became a bishop. As for Joe's own involvement in the church, he was an acolyte as a youth, served on the vestry of a large parish in Dallas during the 1990s and readily admits that there have been periods of his life where he wasn't regularly in a pew.

Joe graduated from UW and went on to get a master's degree from the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Phoenix, Arizona. He taught in a university foreign study program in Guadalajara, Mexico and then returned to Seattle and began a long career in human resources management with companies in the Puget Sound region as well as in Southern California and Texas. He retired in 2015.

Joe moved to Bainbridge Island from Kirkland last summer and jokes that he followed Rev. Karen here after getting to know her at St. Thomas Medina, where he was a member and she was one of the clergy. Joe has actually considered the island a second home for decades; he has had family here for more than 40 years. His mother spent the last several years of her life at Madison House and got to know Deacon Dan well through his regular visits there.

Joe is a lifelong bachelor and enjoys spending time with his two sisters and their families. He volunteers at Bloedel Reserve and says he loves exploring the island's many miles of trails.