

Donna Kincaid Spiritual Bio

My husband Stephen and I have lived in Lowell for the last 40 years. We have two adult daughters, Ana and Jennifer, who we brought into our home as foster children when they were 10 and 6, and then adopted soon after. Their two younger siblings, Josue and Rosa, are also an integral part of our family. We are also blessed with six wonderful and unique grandchildren: Lilli (20), Jacobi (12), Logan (9), Ronen (8), Phoenix (7), and Lilith (3).

I have always been a believer. Church and faith have always been critical in my life. I was brought up Catholic and attended Catholic schools through college. I had a good relationship with many priests and religious sisters along the way. I met Stephen in high school although we didn't start dating until our first year in college. He introduced me to his large Irish Catholic family, which was so full of love, faith, and affection. The relationship among his family members was so different than mine, which was greatly affected by alcoholism. Their faith strengthened my faith throughout the years we've been together. Faith and a church community have kept us together for more than 40 years.

Before and after we got married, Stephen and I were very involved in our church community. We were part of a young adult group, participated as team leaders for pre-Cana, and taught religious education. Going to church was one thing; engaging in the church community was quite another thing and was very important to both of us.

The turning point for me in my faith came, though, in 2004, when I made a Cursillo (short course in Christianity). It was then that I really began my personal faith journey and accepted Christ as my Savior and Lord. For the first time in my life, I felt a connection with the Holy Spirit. I remained very active in the Cursillo community for many years, being on leadership and teaching teams, to help bring others closer to Christ.

Stephen and I were introduced to Harbor through our daughter Ana in 2012. She had been going to Harbor since it started in Lowell. We committed to go with her to help her to re-engage with the church. At that time, I had been struggling personally with many aspects of the Catholic Church, with what God was calling me to be, and with how I was being called to serve. At Harbor, we were drawn to the mission, the message, the worship, and so, we kept coming. I found such peace and freedom at Harbor and felt like I was being given the gift of time and space to explore how I was being called to serve others.

I became involved gradually. I helped with communion. I volunteered for special events. Then, I joined a women's journey group, which led to co-leading women's groups, and participating more fully in the Harbor Women's Ministry. Even through Covid, our groups continued virtually. Harbor has been my home, my safe harbor.

My relationship with God is solid. Jesus is the center of my life, my rock and my foundation. He is my hope and my joy. I try to follow in Jesus' footsteps as best I can each day. I am not perfect by any means, but I know that I am a child of God, loved abundantly, and graced with his mercy and forgiveness.

I am honored and humbled to be invited to serve as an Elder at Harbor.