



Bellevue Church Newsletter

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Getting to Know You: Kellie Zielinski

By Amanda Whiting

Kellie Zielinski was born at Valley Medical Center in Renton, and lived in Renton until she was about 12, when her mom and stepdad got divorced. She lived in Kent until she moved out at 18, but has always lived in the Seattle area.

Kellie attended KSDA for grades 1-10, then Auburn Adventist Academy (there was no PSAA yet). After graduation she began attending Green River Community College to study Criminal Justice, but switched to Highline Community College for their Paralegal program. She worked as an administrative assistant from the time she was a senior in high school until 2000, when she got her first job in a law firm. She did legal work for several years off and on, but switched back to being an executive assistant. Kellie was the executive assistant to the CEO, Chief Medical Officer and Senior Director at Virginia Mason until April 2020 when she was laid off because of COVID. She is still diligently looking for work.

From February 2014 to October 2017 she worked at NeighborCare as an eligibility specialist. She helped people sign up for insurance or, if they didn't qualify, she helped them apply for a sliding scale so they could still see a doctor or dentist. "It was amazing talking with someone who arrived from the Congo or helping someone who was caught in human trafficking. It was amazing to me how emotional people got. It made me realize health care is so important! Some of the people I met with had never received health care. It was an amazing experience."

Kellie was raised Adventist, and was baptized at age 10 or 11 into the Renton SDA Church, her family's home church. However, when she was a teenager she stopped going to church and didn't return for a long time, although she still considered herself an Adventist. About



12-13 years ago (in her early 30s) she started attending the Bellevue SDA Church. Kellie says "I returned for my daughter as well as myself." Kellie tries to help out with VBS every year because "I know it's hard to find help for all those kids and I really enjoy doing it."

She has one daughter, Jasmine. Kellie was divorced when Jasmine was 2 years old and it's been just the two of them ever since. Kellie submitted a photo of Jasmine to accompany this piece "because without her I wouldn't be me."

Jasmine is now 18 and they are very close. They share a love of reading and between them Kellie estimates they own 1,000 books! They spend a lot of time with Kellie's family. They live with her mom and step dad (Deanna & Rich Wong), and have Sabbath lunch with her sister Kursten Patrick and her family as often as they can. Kellie says "My family and especially my daughter bring me so much joy and happiness."



Kitchen Remodel

By Kayla Mellon

Kitchen expansion, new door placements and sizes, and appliances are starting to move in. Check out the pictures of our ever evolving kitchen remodel on our church web page <https://bellevueadventist.org/?p=8870> for more pictures and updates.

