My name is Margaret Waggoner. I prefer to be called Margie. I've attended Algood United Methodist Church for 3 years now. I grew up in Nashville, Tn. and I have an older sister, brother, and younger sister. We grew up in a middle class neighborhood, where all the neighbors knew each other. Dad worked and mom stayed home. It was really an ideal childhood. I worked in IT for 40 years, starting as a Jr. Programmer and retiring in 2022 as the manager of three major systems. I love to travel by RV, reading, being outdoors and family visits.

I think one thing that may surprise people the most about me is the fact that I am a PADI certified Rescue Driver. I can no longer drive after a blood clot but I drove for about 6 years in the 1990s. One of my favorite meals is a grilled hamburger at home. I'm not sure I have one specific spot as a favorite, however, I am lucky to be able to travel. There are 64 National Parks and Rolen and I plan to visit all of them. We are currently at 39 and waiting!

One of my favorite memories would be, since I was about 8 years old, I have loved big cats, especially lions. In 2019 Rolen and I were able to visit Kenya, Africa for a photo Safari. I think I cried nearly every day at the beauty of the land, the animals, the people, and the feeling of God's Glory all around me.

I grew up attending a Methodist Church. I was compelled to go to the alter when I was 12 and was baptized then.

Rolen and I moved to Algood in 2023 from Smyrna. After visiting about 6 churches, we knew, Algood UMC was the one for us. So welcoming and spirit-filled!

What I love most about our church family is everyone cares and most are involved in some way. And there are many lifelong members and friendships.

I would say my favorite Bible Scripture is -1 Peter 4:8, Love is the answer! We all want to be loved, and we should love everyone. I like the simplicity of it.

I have been blessed to have several pastors in my teenage years and in college there was Dr. Brady Whitehead. He was such a compassionate Christian and teacher. I grew a lot during those years.

In 2009, my estranged husband took his own life. It was a dark and confusing time. I prayed for strength and answers. One night about a year later, I sat on my deck and talked out loud to my husband and to God for a long time. The next day, everything felt lighter. I know God sat with me that night, He comforted me and gave me hope.

We live in such an awesome and amazing world. I hope to see as much of our country and world as I can. God is everywhere if we look for him.

If I had one piece of wisdom or advice to share with others I would say start every day thanking God for what you have.

The one thing that always makes me smile and laugh is my husband, he is my best friend and I am so lucky to be married to him!

If I could spend some time with anyone alive or deceased it would be my dad. I lost him ten years ago and I miss him every day. I'd just like a hug.

I am thankful to God for the life I have, good or bad, I have an amazing life and it is all due to Him!

The one thing I would like for my fellow church family to know is, I love this church! I'm flawed, but I love you all very much.