

## Linda Platt



I grew up in Wenonah, New Jersey, a small, one-square-mile town with only 1,000 residents. After high school, I went on to become an English major at Gettysburg College, where I graduated as a licensed secondary teacher. Right after college, I married my high school classmate, Alan. Over the next 33 years, we moved 28 times, living mostly in obscure African countries while Alan worked with the CIA. After all those years of moving, I was absolutely overjoyed when we finally settled in Middleburg, where we've lived for the past 22 years.

It took me three decades and living on three different continents to finally complete my Master's in Education at the University of Virginia in 1998, but it was worth the wait!

Alan and I love to grow vegetables and flowers—especially dahlias—and I take great pleasure in making pickles, jam, and marinara sauce. Many church members have come by to cut flowers for the altar guild or to get free plants and bulbs, and we're always happy to share! We also have a deep love for travel, having visited Italy, France, Crete, Malta, Santorini, Greece, Turkey, Australia, and New Zealand over the past five years. Our time spent with our children, Joshua and Amy, and our three grandchildren is always a cherished one.

I served on the board of A Place to Be for seven years, was president of an antiques group, and worked behind the scenes for the Seven Loaves Easter baskets. The Bergner and Maggiano families were a huge influence on my early connection to the church, along with its wonderful members. I never expected to lead the bunny brigade, but I've been doing so since 2014. In addition, I continue to help with Treasures, the Christmas Shop, and knitting with the church "sisters." Serving Emmanuel over the next three years will truly be a blessing.