



STC 2007 BIO

Advisor Team
February 7-10, 2007

KATHLEEN PINKOWSKI

I was born in Maryland, where I lived until 1978. I have lived in the Finger Lakes region of Upstate New York ever since. I am married to my husband of 10 years, Rich, and we have had three children together. We had 7 from our first marriages when we got married for a grand total of 10 kiddos. Until they began to move out for college they all lived with us. I have 5 stepchildren and my 5 "birthed" kids are Jessica (19), Kyle (17), and with Rich - Grace (9), Nick (8), and Claire (5).

Jess is a sophomore at the University at Buffalo, where she is on a full scholarship as a runner. Kyle is a homeschooled senior in Core 400. Grace and Nick are in Core 3 which we are loving together. And Claire is re-using Core K (loving that again too).

Rich has his own business as an electrical and chemical engineer. He has to travel quite a bit and we love to go with him for field trips and to keep the family together whenever possible.

I danced (ballet) for 25 years and stopped 2 weeks before the birth of my 4th child. I've done 5 (sprint distance) tri-athlons since then. I'm not a natural distance athlete, so getting back to dance is on my "someday dreams" list, along with getting my pilot's license so I can do more in right-seat when I fly with Rich (a long-time pilot).

I started homeschooling when Grace was pre-K age and Kyle was in 4th. He asked to come home mid-year when he saw me researching homeschooling for Grace. He went back for 9th and 10th and then home again. I also homeschooled one of my stepsons for 2 years. Grace, Nick, and Claire have been 100% homeschooled. I started with Oak Meadow for Kyle for the first half-year. Way too fluffy for me, although I really agreed with the no-textbook idea. I found Sonlight the next year and have never looked back! It took a couple more years for me to gain the confidence to use the literature approach for science also, but I love Sonlight for science now too.

In my almost 20 years of motherhood, I've worn the work-away-from-home hat, the work-at-home-hat, the home-non-working-hat, and the homeschooling-mom hat. Homeschooling mom is (by far!) my favorite hat! I love working for Sonlight and helping other parents find the fulfillment that I have found learning together with my children the literature approach way.

