Brian Wiese – '90

Born and raised in Grass Creek, Brian was active in many activities at school, church and in the community. Brian's passion for music was evident at a young age and continued through his involvement in band, choir, swing choir and drama club throughout high school. At age 15 Brian played for Grass Creek United Methodist Church, and at age 16 he became assistant church organist for St. Ann's Catholic Church in Lucerne. Brian wrote "New Oceans" which was performed by the choir at his graduation ceremony to complement the senior class theme, "We cannot discover new oceans unless we have the courage to lose sight of the shore." Brian also played on the golf team and was editor of the "Comet Tale" his senior year.

Brian left for basic training in the Navy the day after graduation. He entered the nuclear propulsion program and was selected as the Recruit Chief Petty Officer of the Recruit Choir. While completing his nuclear training in Ballston Spa, NY, he attended the Saratoga Springs United Methodist Church where he started a youth orchestra and arranged each of the songs they performed. At age 20 he qualified as reactor operator and was assigned to the USS Mississippi (CGN-40) where he served as one of the ship's two organists for the church services onboard.

Brian was honorably discharged from the Navy in '95 and began working as a junior instrumentation technician at American Electric Power's Cook Nuclear Plant. Brian served in various positions at Cook eventually being promoted to the Assistant Director of Quality Assurance. Brian joined the Stevensville United Methodist Church and started another youth orchestra program. After taking classes while working full time he earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Excelsior College in 2001. In 2002 Brian accepted a position with Atlantic Union Resources as site manager at Palisades Nuclear Plant. He was promoted through the ranks, earned his Senior Reactor Operator license, and became Control Room Supervisor for a team of nuclear operators in the safe operation of the nuclear reactor. Brian left Palisades in 2012 for a short stint to serve as a consultant in the nuclear industry, supporting the recovery of Fort Calhoun station. His desire to be back home prompted his return to Palisades as Project Manager for the Fukushima modifications in 2013.

In 2014, Entergy hired Brian as their Senior Manager, Projects & Maintenance Services, to provide governance and oversight for projects and construction activities for nine operating nuclear plants in Entergy's nuclear fleet. Brian continues at Entergy's nuclear headquarters in Jackson MS. He also serves as Chairman of the Nuclear Mechanic Apprenticeship Program in Washington, DC, which evaluates and assesses union apprenticeship training on an annual basis for acceptance in the nuclear industry.

Brian and his wife, Glenda, have homes in Madison, MS and Baroda, MI. Glenda continues her career at Cook Nuclear Plant where they first met. Their daughter, Bailey, is a sophomore at Southwestern Michigan College.