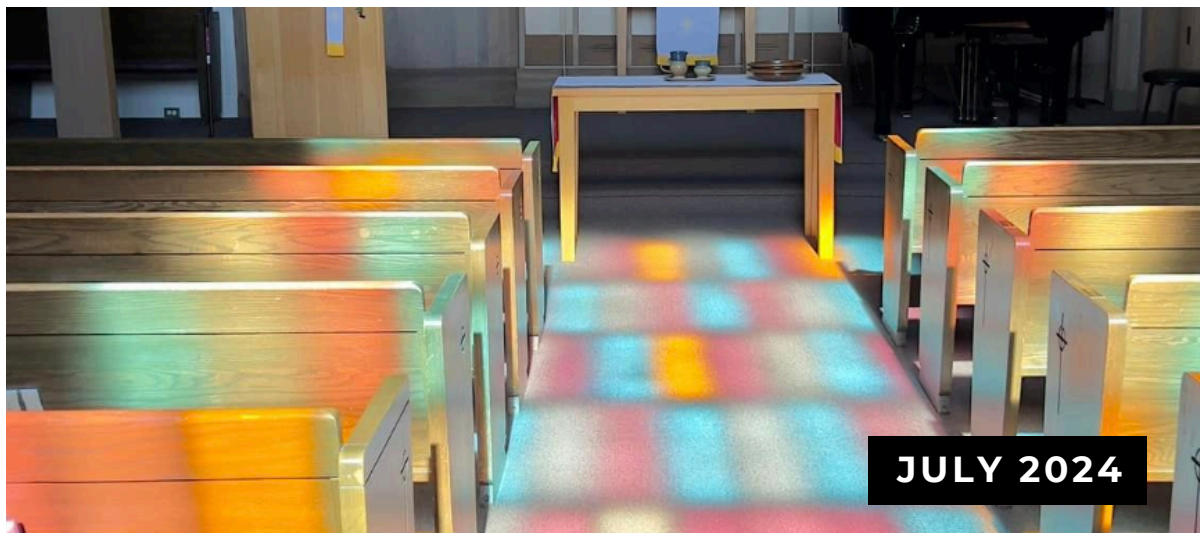


The Light of Lakewood Presbyterian Church



NEWS, UPDATES, AND
STORIES FROM LPC



I'm rooting for you!

I can't believe **I'm coming into my last month with you**, dear ones! It's been an absolute honor to be with you this summer as your supply pastor.

Last month I preached a sermon called "I'm rooting for you!" which was basically a love letter to this congregation. (By the way, **did you know all of our sermons are now hosted and easy to find at our new website?** You can view them all at lakewoodpres.org/sermons anytime you want to revisit a sermon or if you missed a week.)

In that sermon, I used the image of a propagated plant to describe where I think you're going as a community, and as I move into my last month with you, I'm pumping you up with all of the love and sustenance that a glass of water can give a new plant cutting.

Because I'm **am** rooting for you. In both sense of the word: I'm cheering you on. And I want to see you succeed in a new thing like I want that propagated

plant to take what it came from and root into something new. I'm invested in y'all.

This month we have some great community opportunities: to give some tender-loving-care to our grounds (July 13) and share in fellowship together at the Annual Church Picnic (July 28)-- it's also on this day that Pastor Laura and family will return to LPC from maternity leave!

My last Sunday with you is July 21 and my last day in the office will end with Gentle Yoga on July 25. I can always be reached at pastor@lakewoodpres.org or through text for in-person appointments in Lakewood this month.


I'm so grateful to have spent the summer with you all. Enjoy this month's newsletter!

With much peace,


Pastor Addie

In this month's newsletter you can expect:

 A Prayer for Fourth of July

 We are now a More Light congregation!

 Save the Dates for Church Picnic and Grounds Clean-up Day

 A Letter from Pastor Laura, and more!



ONLINE GIVING



LPC FACEBOOK

A Note from Pastor Laura

Dear Church,

July is an exciting month for me because it means I **get** to go back to work! Yes, I **get** to go back. Not everyone has a job they love enough to be excited about returning to after parental leave, so I **consider myself one of the lucky ones that I am eagerly awaiting July 28th and my return to my role as your pastor.**

Since I wasn't working when I had Jack, this has been my first maternity leave and I have to say that it is such a necessary time for parents and families! I thought about calling it a "gift" or a "privilege" but it shouldn't be either of those things! I want every parent to have a fully funded and supported leave. I'm grateful that we live in a state that makes it possible for people to take the time needed to recover, bond, and establish new rhythms and routines as a new family. I certainly needed all four months to achieve that! We're finally starting to get some sleep and feel like we have our feet solidly underneath us. **Our family will continue to adapt and change as our kids grow, but we feel ready to start this new chapter as I go back to work.**

I am looking forward not only to pastoring you again, but to sharing our family's lives with you as well. Jack and David have missed you and we're all excited for you to get to know Eli and Viola! Some personal updates that you might like to know, as we prepare to return:

- **David** has taken a job at Columbia Jr. High in Fife as a science teacher (incredibly, it's the exact job that he left when he moved away to marry me! It's a great story, so be sure to ask him about it). In June, he also started the Principal Administration program at PLU to be a school administrator. Yes, it's a very busy year for us!
- **Jack** is like a whole new person now! When

we return, you'll get to enjoy his many new toddler words and his almost-2-year-old personality. He starts preschool 2 days a week at First Presbyterian Preschool in September.

- **The twins** are healthy and growing! Viola is our little firecracker and she can most often be found with wide eyes, staring at her surroundings. Eli is our most relaxed baby and can usually be found sleeping.

As I plan for my return at the end of the month, I have lots of important tasks as I hit the ground running but the most important is seeing you all. I hope to have as many coffee dates, walks at the park, or conversations at your homes as possible. I'll be reaching out to as many of you as I can, but **please, please don't hesitate to reach out to me to set something up.** I know life hasn't been on pause for these last four months and I look forward to catching up with you and hearing how you are doing.

On a final note, **I believe in the pastoral ministry of babies.** There's something sacred about holding a tiny baby, and I know many people don't get to do so very often. I see my kids as part of the way that I connect to my community that I am called to pastor to and so, I look forward to bringing the babies (one at a time!) to work with me when I can. If you'd like for me to bring a baby when I come see you, please let me know. Of course, please also tell me if our meeting would be best baby-free. They don't belong at all places!

You have been in my thoughts and prayers during the last four months and I look forward to seeing you at the church potluck at the end of the month!

In Christ, *Pastor Laura*



Save the Date!

Lakewood Presbyterian Church
CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, July 28th, 11:30a-3p

COME FOR FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, AND ENTERTAINMENT!

Mark your calendars for Sunday July 28!

Our Annual Church Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, July 28, 11:30a-3p. AND this is the Sunday Pastor Laura returns from maternity leave! Come welcome back Pastor Laura and join in on the

fun at the end of July. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be served. PLU's steel drum band, Steel Rain, will provide live music with a conga line! Sign up to help in Fellowship Hall.

Weekly Prayer Zoom



Join Pastor Addie on Zoom for a weekly prayer meeting each Thursday from 9-9:30a. We begin with prayer requests for our local church, expand to prayer requests for our state and neighbors, lift up our national body, and then complete our time by reciting the weekly Sabeel Wave of Prayer, which is a weekly liturgy written in Jerusalem by the [Sabeel Center for Liberation Theology](#).

Visit the calendar section of the church website (lakewoodpres.org/calendar) for the Zoom info.



Deacons on Duty

Thank you to Tom Callahan for serving as our Deacon of the Month for June!

This month (July)
Renea Williamson

Next month (August)
Melinda Rogiers

Feasibility Study Update

Thank you for participating in the feasibility study questions this summer! Your input is invaluable to our future planning and it has now all been collected as study data for our work.

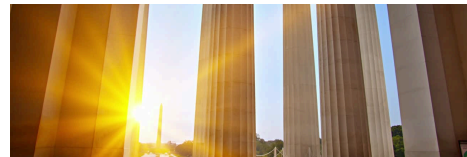
In the early summer, our feasibility study consultant, Rev. Heather James, was diagnosed with breast cancer and will need to take the foreseeable future to recover; please hold her in prayer as she fights to overcome this diagnosis.

The feasibility study will be paused until Pastor Laura returns from leave, at which point we have some more exciting ideas for you to consider as a community.

July Church Calendar

Find online at lakewoodpres.org/calendar

- Thurs, July 4 **4th of July** - church closed
- Sun, July 7 (9:30-10:15a) **Adult Formation with Rev. Addie Domske**
- Sun, July 7 (10:30a) **Worship and Coffee Hour with Rev. Addie**
- Thurs, July 11 (9-9:30a) **Wave of Prayer Zoom**
- Thurs, July 11 (10-11a) **Gentle Yoga**
- Sat, July 13 (9-11a) **Grounds Clean-Up Day**
- Sat, July 13 (12-6p) **Tacoma Pride Festival**
- Sun, July 14 (9:30-10:15a) **Adult Formation with Rev. Addie**
- Sun, July 14 (10:30a) **Worship and Coffee Hour with Rev. Addie**
- Tues, July 16 (9:30-11:30a) **Wapato Preschool Building Use**
- Tues, July 16 (5-6p) **July Deacons Meeting**
- Wed, July 17 (9:30-11:30a) **Wapato Preschool Building Use**
- Thurs, July 18 (9:30-11:30a) **Wapato Preschool Building Use**
- Thurs, July 18 (9-9:30a) **Wave of Prayer Zoom**
- Thurs, July 18 (10-11a) **Gentle Yoga**
- Sun, July 21 (10:30a) **Worship and Coffee Hour with Rev. Addie**
- Thurs, July 24 (9-9:30a) **Wave of Prayer Zoom**
- Thurs, July 24 (10-11a) **Gentle Yoga**
- Sun, July 28 (10:30a) **Worship and Coffee Hour with Rev. Laura Nile Tuell**
- Sun, July 28 (11:30a-3p) **Church Picnic**
- Mon, July 29 (3-4:30p) **July Session Meeting**



A Prayer for July 4th

On this day and always,
may we remember how
costly freedom is, and yet
how joyous it can be.

On this day and always,
may we remember that to
live as Americans is to live in
a complex global landscape.
On this day and always,
may we truly do God honor,
seeking earnestly and
truthfully to be the land of
the free.

On this day, and always,
may we be the welcoming
home of the brave,
especially the bravery of
doing good.

On this day, and always.
Amen.

*Join us for
worship,
Sundays at 10:30a.*

Update from Session - we're now a More Light congregation!

At the June meeting of Session, the leadership continued years of tradition at LPC in being a church that is open, affirming, and inclusive by officially voting to become a More Light community. More Light is a Presbyterian-centered advocacy group that works to make the church safe and abundant for LGBTQ+ Christians. This vote is similar to our Presbyterians for Earth Care vote, in that it connects us with a larger, national network to support our local church work.

Here is the complete *statement that was voted on*: "Following the risen Christ, and seeking to make the Church a true community of hospitality, the mission of More Light Presbyterians is to work for the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in society."

The Session had already affirmed the theology of the church in multiple votes before, but this action allows us to be listed on the More Light Church database so that we may be found by those seeking an affirming church in the area.

What a great culmination of the work Lakewood Presbyterian Church has done for years around being welcoming neighbors to God's people!

To learn more about the network of More Light churches, visit mlp.org.



Join us for Grounds Clean up!

Grounds Cleanup Day is scheduled Saturday, July 13 at 9a (alternate date is July 20 in case of rain).

Bring your own tools. Coffee and donuts will be provided.

Questions? Contact Brad Tourangeau 253.230.0056.

Meal Train for Laura and Family

Want to support Pastor Laura on maternity leave? You can provide a meal to her family by signing up here: www.mealtrain.com/dn8716



Looking for Earth Care Members

LPC recently joined **Presbyterians For Earth Care**. God is calling us to figure out our part in protecting and caring for creation! We're interested in greening our building--do you have experience grant-writing?

Contact Jennifer Rogiers (jmrogiers@gmail.com / 253-314-2895) or Connie Dunkelberger (connied@harbornet.com / 253-565-7518) if interested in joining the earth care team.

Who are we?

PASTOR (on leave)
REV. LAURA NILE TUELL

SUPPLY PASTOR
REV. ADDIE DOMSKE

NURSERY STAFF
ALLY SUTTLES
PARKER WILLIAMSON
KIRI-ANN ZAMBARD

PIANIST
XIAOHUI YANG

CUSTODIAN
ANDREA RITTENHOUSE

2024 CHURCH LEADERS

DEACONS

- RENEA WILLIAMSON
- CHELSEA WILLIAMSON
- MELINDA ROGIERS
- BARBARA POLAND
- TOM CALLAHAN

ELDERS

- BECKY BUESCHER (clerk)
- JENNIFER ROGIERS
- JIM HALL (treasurer)
- CONNIE DUNKLEBERGER
- SUZY FARLEY
- BRAD TOURANGEAU