



# Lakewood Presbyterian Church

Open. Inclusive. Affirming.



Spring 2026 Newsletter

## Holy Week with Lakewood Presbyterian Church

-  **Saturday March 28** Community Easter Egg Hunt (11am)
-  **Sunday March 29** Palm Sunday Service & Pancake Breakfast (10:30am)
-  **Thursday April 2** Maundy Thursday Meal (6pm)
-  **Friday April 3** Good Friday Service (7pm @ UMC at Lakewood)
-  **Sunday April 5** Easter Sunday Service (10:30am)

Dear Church,

The season of Lent is meant to be a time for spiritual growth as we prepare for the holiest and hardest week of the church year. But spiritual growth is easier said than done and each of us come into Lent with our own barriers to growth.

For some, the barrier is **time and energy**. Working parents are squeezed in every direction and most parents I know end most days collapsed on the couch. *Time for daily devotionals? No way!* If that's your story, I wonder how God might be trying to meet you in the midst of your daily life, not just in time set apart from it?

For others, the barrier is **thinking we already know the story**. If you've been a Christian your whole life, it's easy to be tempted into thinking, *"I already know all this. I've done my work. Now I*

*can just relax."* If that's your story, I wonder how you might be different this year? How does the familiar story ring true in a new way this year?

Or perhaps for others, the barrier is **not knowing where to begin**. *What does 'discipleship' even mean? I don't even know how to pray!* If that's how you feel this Lent, I wonder how you might attune your eyes to see God at work in your life already? A life following Jesus isn't something we succeed or fail at, but simply about small, everyday faithfulness.

Whatever your story may be, know that you are not on this faith journey alone. We're in it together as the Body of Christ and oh what it a delight it is to be in it with you.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Laura*

### In this newsletter you can expect:

Calendar

Educational Opportunities

Upcoming social events

Celebrating Life at L.P.C.

**Newsletter contributions are always welcome.**

The deadline for the next newsletter is May 20th. Please email your submissions to Cynthia at [florfam@comcast.net](mailto:florfam@comcast.net)



ONLINE GIVING



LPC FACEBOOK

## Church Calendar

Sat. March 14th 5:00-7:30 pm	Potluck Dinner & Bingo
Sat. March 21st 9 am - noon	Church Clean Up Day
Wed. March 25 Noon	Friends Who Feast
Sat. March 28th 11 am-12:30 pm	Easter Egg Hunt
Tues. March 31st 7:00 pm	Vicki McCollom's Memorial
Thur. April 2nd 6:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service
Fri. April 3rd 7:00 pm	Good Friday Service
Sun. April 5th 10:30 am	Easter Service
Tues. April 14th 4:30 pm	Session Meeting
Sat. May 2nd 9 am - noon	Hunger Walk
Tues. May 19th 4:30 pm	Session Meeting
Wed. May 20th	Newsletter Deadline



<b>Ongoing:</b>	
Thursdays 10:00 am	Gentle Yoga
3/15, 3/19, 5/24, 6/14	Godly Play
Wednesdays 10:30 am	Adult Book Study

### Did you know we have a podcast?



**SCAN THIS!**

If you miss coming to church on a Sunday, you can still catch the sermon! We now have a podcast where you can catch up on the sermon every Sunday afternoon. Follow the link, scan the QR code, or subscribe on Apple Podcasts to "Lakewood Presbyterian Church Sermons."

Questions? Call Pastor Laura!

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

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## Educational Opportunities



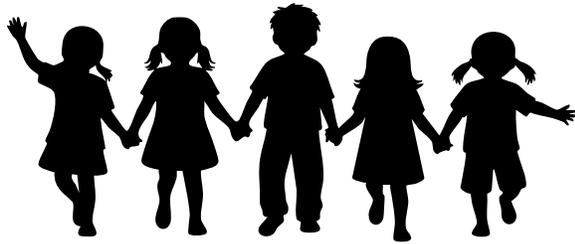
**Godly Play** is a creative, imaginative approach to Christian formation and spiritual guidance. It has a Montessori foundation with 40+ years of research and practice, and models for children the worship life, stories, symbols and rituals of Christian congregations. It's a beautiful way of nurturing participants (children and the adult leaders!) to deeper experiences of belief and faith through wondering and play.

Our Godly Play class has 4 more sessions before the summer break. The class is for children ages 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade and meets in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00-10:00am.

Families, mark your calendars with the next dates for Godly Play:

March 15<sup>th</sup>  
April 19<sup>th</sup>  
May 24<sup>th</sup>  
June 14<sup>th</sup>

**Interested in learning more and getting trained in Godly Play? Save the (tentative) date for a training at LPC Friday July 31 & Saturday August 1.**



### **Sunday School note:**

Elementary aged children now stay in worship for the full worship service on the first Sunday of every month. This gives children a regular opportunity to get familiar with the language and rhythms of our worship service.

It also gives our Sunday school teachers a much needed break each month! We may make some small changes to our service on those Sundays to help our youngest worshippers feel that this service is for them, just as it is for the adult worshippers. What a gift it is to hear their small voices in our sanctuary each Sunday!

### **Adult Education: Book Study**

Our Wednesday morning Adult Book Group meets Wednesdays from 10:30 - 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. We've gone through several books together and the group is always open to new members! Talk with Pastor Laura for additional information.





## Vicki McCollom Memorial Service

Celebrate the life of Vicki McCollom on Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm at Lakewood Presbyterian Church. After the service stay for a reception to share stories and memories of her remarkable life.



Our Good Friday service will be held at United Methodist Church at Lakewood, in collaboration with UMCL and Manitou Park Presbyterian Church. Please join us for this “service of shadows” where we reflect on the 7 Last Words spoken by Jesus on the cross.

**Friday April 7<sup>th</sup> – 7pm**



## Pastor Laura's Upcoming Time Off

- Vacation: April 6 - 12
- Vacation: May 6 - 10
- Study Leave May 11- 18
- *Sue Watkins is available for emergency pastoral care needs*

## Laura's Study Leave

Pastor Laura will be at Ferncliff Conference Center, a PCUSA Camp outside Little Rock, Arkansas for year two of the CREDO Conference sponsored by the Board of Pensions. CREDO is an in-person, weeklong conference focused on ministers' wholeness and well-being. Each CREDO conference is led by a team of experienced faculty who guide participants through four key areas of well-being: spiritual, vocational, physical and emotional health, and financial. Laura is grateful for this opportunity to tend to her well-being, for nothing can be poured out of an empty vessel.

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# PACK THE PANTRY

Rhose of you that have been around, know the “2 Cents a Meal” campaign raised funds to send to our Presbytery to fight hunger. That program ended several years ago, but we have continued to have the children of our congregation collect coins and bills on the 2nd Sunday of the Month.

The donations have always gone to hunger-related causes and in 2024, the donations officially began going toward buying food for our church’s Free Little Pantry. Therefore, the Deacons have voted to rename the program “**Pack the Pantry**”. All money collected will be used to put food in our little pantry. The pantry is well used by our neighbors, it is emptied almost everyday. So when the kids come around with pots on the 2nd Sunday of the month, please help our neighbors and contribute to the pot.



## Easter Flower Cross



This Easter, we will be doing the “**flowering of the cross**” during our Easter worship service.

Members are invited to bring cut flowers or greenery to add to a cross in the sanctuary throughout the service, transforming a barren cross, a reminder of Jesus’ death, into an Easter symbol. Covered with fresh, living flowers. The cross serves not only as an emblem of Jesus’ resurrection but also of the continuing presence of Christ among today’s Christians. The flowering of the cross represents the transition from Good Friday to Easter, from meditation on Jesus’ death to joyful celebration of His resurrection.

On Easter Sunday, please bring cut flowers and greenery, or take one provided by the Worship Committee.

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## Fun Activities for Our Community!

### St. Patty's Potluck & Bingo

Join us at 5:00 pm on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. Bring neighbors, family and friends for fun for all ages. Bring a dish to share at the potluck and enjoy some St. Patrick's Day bingo. Lots fun good fun!

### Church Clean Up Day

Join us March 21<sup>st</sup> from 9 am – noon to help clean up our grounds. Bring work gloves and be prepared to spiffy up our grounds for the Easter egg hunt the following week.

### Friends who Feast

This is a fun opportunity to socialize over a meal. Everyone is welcome to this no host gathering at Hop's N Drops in Lakewood. This monthly gathering is meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

### Hunger Walk

Join LPC's team for the Emergency Food Network's annual Hunger Walk on Saturday, May 2 from 8 -11 am at Ft. Steilacoom Park. Sign up by April 6 for \$20/adult and \$15/kid.

**Join our team** by April 6th. Our goal is to raise \$500 for EFN as a church. If you can't do the walk, you can donate by writing "Hunger Walk" on checks made out to LPC.

### Easter Egg Hunt

We need donations of candy and small items to stuff in the eggs. Please bring donations to church by **March 21<sup>st</sup>**.

It is time for **all kids** to come to the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup> at 11 am sharp. Don't be late. Toddler section for little ones. Candy and prizes. There will be hot dogs, chips and drinks for everyone to enjoy.

### Pancake Breakfast

Mark Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> on your calendar for our PANCAKE BREAKFAST following worship on Palm Sunday. Bring Your appetite!

# HUNGER WALK

sign up here



## WHO ARE WE?

### PASTOR

REV. LAURA NILE TUELL

### NURSERY STAFF

PARKER WILLIAMSON  
KIRI-ANN ZAMBARD

### PIANIST

XIAOHUI YANG

### CUSTODIAN

ANDREA RITTENHOUSE

### 2026 CHURCH LEADERS

#### DEACONS

TOM CALLAHAN  
CANDICE COCHRAN  
TINA MESSMER  
KELLIE ROGIERS  
BRAD TOURANGEAU

#### ELDERS

BECKY BUESCHER  
JENNIFER ROGIERS  
JAMIE SIMONS  
DAUNA RITTENHOUSE  
JIM HALL

#### FINANCIAL SECRETARY

MELINDA ROGIERS

#### CLERK OF SESSION

BECKY BUESCHER

#### TREASURER

JAMIE SIMONS

#### SESSION COMMITTEES:

##### MISSION & SOCIAL

DAUNA RITTENHOUSE  
**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**  
JIM HALL

##### FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

JAMIE SIMONS

##### NOMINATING

JAMIE SIMONS

##### PERSONNEL

BECKY BUESCHER

##### WORSHIP

BECKY BUESCHER

##### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

JENNIFER ROGIERS

