



"You have made known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in your presence."

Psalm 16:11

LETTER FROM TOM

One Final Word Study

by Pastor Tom Patterson

In my final article for The Path, would you mind indulging me in one last etymological moment? A Spanish-speaking friend in the congregation just left my office, after saying "Adios." In keeping with my compulsive tendency to dissect words and their origins, I immediately felt compelled to study that one. As it turns out (and anyone who speaks Spanish would probably put this together pretty quickly), "Adios" literally means, "to God" ("a" meaning "to," and "Dios" meaning "God").

Naturally (and I'm sure your minds went here right away, too), I wondered, "Hmmm...what about some of the other ways of bidding farewell?" As it turns out, "Adieu" (French for "goodbye") means the same thing. You can tell just by looking at it. The English word "goodbye" originally came from a common 16th century salutation, "God be with you." It eventually mutated into today's form from "God be..." to "good bye."

Whether one says "adios," "adieu," or "goodbye," this casually used word has a history of rich meaning. And as I anticipate saying "goodbye" to this congregation as pastor, I want to say

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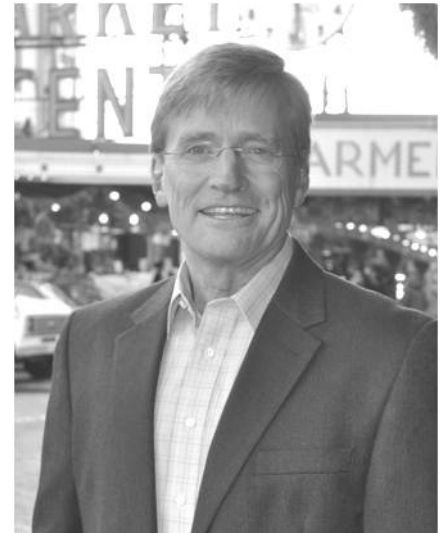
We Prepare to Say Good-bye

Tom has informed the church, after prayerful consideration, that his calling as our senior pastor has been fulfilled and it is time for new pastoral leadership at LFPPC. His last day will be February 28, 2010. He and his family have been part of the LFPPC family for 5 1/2 years. They will be missed.

Among Tom's goals in coming to LFPPC were to:

- Proclaim the Lordship of Christ and the gift of salvation while leading engaging and up-lifting Bible-based worship services
- Assess and evaluate the needs of our church and our community so that our internal development can be sustained and our external outreach to the community can grow
- Recruit and train lay ministers, promote stewardship and keep the congregation informed about church finances.

Pastor Tom was guided by his beliefs that we should do whatever we can to share the good news that, in Christ, the kingdom of God has come-and all that it implies. Additionally, he believes that it is vitally important to use whatever self-examining,



diagnostic tools we can to assess our health as a church. Given the choice of seeking quantity or quality, he would seek quality; for a church that throws its energy into being faithful to what they believe God's mission for them will be a church that will ultimately attract others.

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One Final Word Study (cont.)

by Pastor Tom Patterson

so in its most original sense. “God be with you!” And brothers and sisters of Lake Forest Park Presbyterian Church, God will be with you—and God always has been with you! God is so incredibly gracious that He leads His creation to have these incredible intersections of life together, and you are certainly a sign of God’s grace to me.

This world has seen just a glimpse of what you have to offer as Christ-followers, and I love to imagine what He has in store for you next. We’ve weathered a lot of things together, and it was for a purpose. God is shaping us all the time, and (I believe) wants us to be standing on our tiptoes in anticipation of what He has prepared for us to do.

It is with deep affection for you that we move on to the next thing God has in store for Liz, Joe and me. Thank you for the profound impact you have had on our lives, and for the part you have played in my own growth as a person, and as a Christ-follower. You rock, LFPPC, and I say “Adios,” “Adieu,” and “Goodbye” in the most positive, and most hopeful sense of those words!!



Pastor Tom Patterson
Lake Forest Park Church
tom.lfppc@comcast.net

God is so incredibly gracious that He leads His creation to have these incredible intersections of life together, and you are certainly a sign of God’s grace to me.

Lake Forest Park Presbyterian Church - a family centered in Jesus Christ with a growing faith and a fervent desire to worship God, teach his word, and minister to one another in our community and around the world.



We Prepare to Say Good-bye

(continued from page 1)

Tom Patterson will leave this congregation enriched by his leadership. Among his accomplishments:

- Our contemporary worship service has spoken the language of people who didn’t grow up in the church.
- Numerous small groups have been formed through Tom’s Wednesday Night Connection Biblical studies. These same small groups have gone out into the community to live their faith.
- This past year, eleven Ministry Support Teams with seventy five volunteers began their work as lay leaders, espousing the Session’s adopted vision that LFPPC become a family in Christ for the sake of others, equipping oriented; outreach focused; a priesthood of believers.

Pastor Tom has seen his vision for this congregation begin to grow and become visible to those who enter our doors. He believes he has accomplished as much as he can, of what God called him to do. He genuinely feels called in a new direction and now needs time to rest from 5 years of hard work. For all his efforts and accomplishments, we thank him and wish him well in his future endeavors.

A celebration of Tom’s ministry will be held on Sunday, February 28. Look for details in the worship bulletin. Please take a moment to write a note to thank Tom and his family for their ministry at LFPPC. Your notes can be left at the church office.

Pastor Selection Process: Interim vs. Designated

There are two methods by which a Pastor is selected. The most common way is to select an Interim Pastor, which LFPPC has done in the past. The other method is to choose a Designated Pastor which Session has recommended. The charts below outline the process for each method and some of the reasons why each one might be chosen.

INTERIM PASTOR	DESIGNATED PASTOR
PROCESS	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current Pastor departs 2. Interim Pastor is hired by Session with assistance from the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry (COM) 3. Interim Pastor leads session and congregation through Interim Developmental Tasks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Come to terms with History • Discover a new identity • Empower new leaders • Renew denominational relationships • Commit to new leadership and future 4. Develop Mission Study: Vision and Mission statements from first two steps of Developmental tasks 5. New Pastor Search commences after Mission Study and Church Information Form (CIF) is completed 6. Interim Departs 7. New Pastor begins 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current Pastor departs 2. Congregation's Pastor Nominating Committee(PNC) with Presbytery's Committee on Ministry(COM) searches for and calls Designated Pastor for a designated term (typically 2-3 years) 3. Conducts Mission Study 4. Over time, Session, Designated Pastor and COM conduct evaluation of whether Designated Pastor and congregation should renew designated term, dissolve relationship OR shift title to long-term pastor (no term). 5. If relationship does not continue, then congregation selects PNC and conducts search for another pastor using either Interim or Designated process.
PROS & CONS	
<p>PROS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate eras of leadership • Safely ask hard questions • External validation of vision and mission • Interim Pastor begins the role knowing he/she will be leaving <p>CONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 pastors in 2 years • Is maintenance; no new direction • Pulpit continuity • Attachment to interim • Interim not committed to long term 	<p>PROS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quicker, quality selection process • Validates strengths of current direction • Motivated by potential of continuing • Fewer pastor turn-overs • Less Druptive • Can continue "Work" sooner, faster, easier • Will be committed to long-term, immediately <p>CONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longer hiatus between Tom and new person • Potential for favor - currying overwhelming the hard work to be done • PNC will not see every potential candidate in universe of possibilities • Some good candidates may not be willing to move for a Designated position
SUMMARY	
<p>This option is often more commonly used for churches where their long term Pastor is leaving. This process helps refocus priorities and direction and typically takes 18 -24 months.</p>	<p>LFPPC went through the Interim process when Tom was hired, so much of the work required for the Interim process has already been done. There is still room for re-evaluation of our Vision (Step 3/Process). This process can be completed in a matter of months.</p>

get connected

WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAY WORSHIP –
9:30 & 11 AM

CLASSES AND FELLOWSHIP

WEDNESDAY ADVENTURE NIGHT

For grades 1-6 - Wednesdays
same schedule as Wednesday Night Connection
6:30 - 8 pm

JUNIOR HIGH

Sundays, 6-7:30 pm Youth Room

SENIOR HIGH

Sundays, 7:30-9 pm Youth Room

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

2nd Saturday of the month
8:30 am Fellowship Hall

WOMEN'S COFFEE BREAK

Wednesdays, 9:30 am Fellowship Hall

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

2nd Thursday of the month
11:00 am Fellowship Hall

ADULT FELLOWSHIP GROUPS:

TILLERS – 2nd Saturday of the month
Location Varies

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CONNECTION

ALL CHURCH LENTEN EMPHASIS
Feb 24 - Mar 31
6:30 pm Discussion/Small Groups

LADIES BOOK CLUB

Thursdays at 10 am

SPECIAL EVENTS

Congregational Meeting
Feb 7 10:45 am
One service only at 9:30 am

Tiller Valentine Dinner & Program
Feb 13

Parent Education
Sponsored by Children's Dept
Feb 14 10:30 am

Tom's Last Day & Special Event
Feb 28

Daylight Saving Time Begins
Mar 14

Rummage Sale
Mar 12 & 13

Parent Education
Sponsored by Children's Dept
Mar 14 10:30 am

For daily or weekly information
on specific activities, please check
the church bulletin or call the
church office 206.364.2712

Sacrifice to Advance the Kingdom


by Mark Teeter

Few things will bring the gospel to life for students like heading out onto the mission field. Spending a day, weekend, or longer in service to God, for his love, and with people in need brings the calling of Christ vividly into focus.

Lake Forest Park Student Ministries has a long-standing history of exposing teens to cross cultural missions. This February we are at it once again. A group of 18 teens and 5 adults are strapping on their backpacks, lacing up their boots, and dusting off their passports to head south of the border.

Many of you reading this article might not see a lot of the background work that makes this trip possible. The students put in countless hours working to raise money to cover their costs. Each student is responsible for personally fundraising \$750. In addition to this they participate in team fundraising efforts, which helps pay for the 20'x10'

house which we will be building for a needy Mexican family.

Students are sacrificing vacation time, money, personal hygiene, comfort, sleep, security, technology (just to name a few) to participate on this trip. It never ceases to amaze me that students would be willing to sacrifice so much, all for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom. Makes me think that youth pastors might just have the coolest job on the planet! 



Youth Mission Trip: February 13-20
to Mexico via El Paso, Texas

How you can support the Youth:

- Cash Donations
- Buy Krispy Kreme donuts on Feb 7th, Super Bowl Sunday \$10 dozen.
- Chili Cook-off
- Cake auction in the spring

MINISTRY SUPPORT TEAM UPDATES

Congregational Care: Finding Treasure

by Susan Christianson

The congregational care ministry support team is looking for volunteers interested in becoming part of a visitation team. After a training session, this team will visit homebound members of our church community, on an ongoing basis.

One volunteer from our congregation tells about her own experience visiting the homebound and encourages others to share in this joy:

“I visit Jody. The greeting I receive when I visit her at the nursing home is a greeting reserved for royalty. She greets me with such excitement, with such joy, and with such love.

It's no wonder I look forward every time, without fail, I'm ready she were seeing her best friend time in years. Sometimes we have dinner together. Sometimes she needs a little task, like reaching some shelf in her closet or getting her turned in the right direction. she needs is help finding the remembers hiding but can't remember! It's a great day when we find sure!”

What If You Had Only “One Month to Live”?

Sermon series begins Sunday, February 21

Study: Wednesday Night Connection; February 24 - March 31

You are invited to join our All Church Lenten Challenge “One Month to Live”, a six week study with related sermons each Sunday.

In this series, we learn that every message we receive gives us an opportunity to make choices. What would you do if your response to each message was that you have only “One Month to Live”? This series is designed to help us deal with the time we have left on earth. The reality of dealing with our own death is unwelcome, harsh and overwhelming to the point of paralysis in some cases. The purpose in offering this series is to teach us how to embrace our time on earth as a limited resource having incredible power to liberate and free us to live a full life. Offered throughout the study are fresh strategies for overcoming habits that mire Christians in mediocrity during our occupancy on earth. Strategies come to life through weekly readings in the companion book “One Month to Live” as well as through a video presentation and discussion in each group meeting.


Central to this series are the four basic principles outlined in the Study Guide:

- Live passionately for Christ
- Love completely
- Learn humbly
- Leave boldly with a Christian legacy that endures for generations

TELL MY KIDS I LOVE THEM | CLIMB EVEREST | SAIL THE GLOBE | GIVE MORE HUGS | MAKE ART | SPOIL MY GRANDKIDS



Participation is encouraged by signing up for the Wednesday Night Connection series which meets in Fellowship Hall or by signing up for or a small group that meets in homes. Another option is to study with a friend or on your own.

Whichever you choose, this series promises the start of a life-changing journey of learning to embrace your own mortality and live your life fully with no regrets. 



Book \$ 12.00
Study Guide \$ 8.00

Group sign-up and book orders can be arranged at Grand Central in the church foyer between services on Sundays or by calling the church office at 206.364.2712 during the week.

Questions?
Call Jeffrey Keuss 206.524.2881
or Andy Koss 206.365.3074

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In Matthew 25:36 Jesus said, “For I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.”

So, out of a sense of duty and obligation, strangely similar to the ‘dead works’ that Paul speaks about, I visited Jody. Thinking I could ‘good work’ my

way into heaven, I visited Jody. But now I see more clearly. Jody visits me. She shares her wisdom with me. She encourages me. She even shares her chocolate with me. And she loves me, not out of duty or obligation or ‘good working’ her way into heaven. She just loves me.

It is truly a great day when we finally find the treasure!

If you feel called to this type of outreach, please phone or e-mail Susan Christianson at 425.640.7446, deansus@msn.com.

Serving Others and Serving God

by Donna Bensley



Three-and-a-half years ago, at age 14, Joe Patterson offered his services to the Brunch Ministry at LFPPC. Candidly, he admitted he wanted to avoid the Sunday morning Confirmation class (which he subsequently did complete). But he really did enjoy cooking, which he had learned at home under the direction of his mother, Liz. At that time, Mark Robison was overseeing brunch,

and Mark took Joe under his wing and mentored him for a couple of years.

Today, Joe manages the ministry like a pro, assisted by his able crew including Nick Taflin, Adam Officer, George Dewey, John Richter, and Maki Muilenburg. For many years, Roger Bouck purchased the food for Sunday brunch; now Jerry and Melody Swenson have taken on that responsibility.

When asked about any funny “behind-the scene” stories, Joe mentioned “migrating equipment” – that is, utensils and cookware disappearing between Sundays (used for other church events and not returned). He has learned to relight the pilot light on the stove when it goes out, to make simple repairs on equipment in order to keep the operation running, and above all, to be flexible.


Obviously Joe derives great satisfaction from obeying the Biblical call to serve. He arrives at church at 7:30 on Sunday mornings and usually finishes up around 12:30. Describing the tasks as “fun,” Joe says “serving people feels good.” He also appreciates the way food brings people together in fellowship around the table. It is another form of communion among believers.

The most important lesson Joe takes away from the experience concerns not putting off what needs to be done. In other words, procrastination creates problems, whether it

is in preparing food or in accomplishing almost anything else that one needs to do. This is a valuable life lesson. Although the brunch menu does not vary much, Joe enjoys experimenting with recipes at home. Recently, he prepared a glaze for fish, which tasted good but looked unappetizing. (He thinks next time substituting cream for egg in the recipe might be advised.) If he were making a special dinner for family or friends, he would serve a salad of mixed greens with caramelized pears and nuts and an olive oil dressing, cream of broccoli or cream of potato soup, rare or medium rare steak, homemade bread, and freshly baked chocolate chip cookies or chocolate cake for dessert!

Currently a senior at Shorecrest High School, Joe leads an active life. Besides being enrolled in a Culinary Arts class, he is writing a 30,000 – 45,000 word novel as his senior project. The novel is a mystery, set in Nevada City, where the protagonist, a high school senior, has moved when his parents accept jobs at a hospital. The conflict is that patients in the hospital are dying of unknown causes, and the high school students are attempting to figure out why. He expects to finish the first draft of the novel in March and then to revise and edit it over the summer. Writing poetry, sketching, and reading science fiction and fantasy are his favorite indoor pastimes, along with watching movies and eating. Outdoor activities include running, rock climbing, and kayaking. An active member of the LFPPC Youth Group, Joe serves on the Student Leadership Team. He also works at the Woodhaven Veterinary Clinic in Edmonds.

Joe’s immediate plans are to participate in the youth mission trip to Juarez in mid-February and wind up his brunch ministry by the end of February.

The entire congregation has benefited from Joe Patterson’s dedication, hard work, and leadership. His service has set a standard of giving for everyone in the congregation. When you see Joe over the next few weeks take time to thank him for his wonderful ministry. You’ll recognize him as the distinguished young man wearing a white chef’s jacket and black beret. 

**Early Warning:
Women’s Retreat**

April 10 & 11, 2010 • Rainbow Lodge • Speaker: Meagan Howland
Register: Cathy Tradal 206-365-0511 • Sign-up early as last year was sold-out!
Check bulletin for more details: speaker topic, pre-retreat and retreat activities and cost

The Gift of Giving

by Amy Koehler


Worship fully, spend less, give more and love all! The theme for our advent this year was taken to heart as people in our congregation reached out to some of the immigrant/refugee kids living in our community. Ballinger Family Homes (located right off of Ballinger Way) is a low-income housing development that also provides English language assistance, homework tutoring, parent education classes, children's programs and a variety of programs for the mainly immigrant and refugee population that live there. I was privileged to be a part of their "Festival of Lights" this year which celebrates the many holiday traditions that make up this diverse population. I was greeted enthusiastically at the door when I asked if some people could help me bring in the presents. A group of kids volunteered and were excited by the brightly decorated presents that had their names on each one. "Are these for us?" they exclaimed. "Wow! They are so beautiful." The kids were clearly touched by the time and effort that each person took to buy a gift especially for them. They couldn't wait to open the gifts!

I had a chance to meet many of these kids. They have the same hopes and dreams for their future that our children have. They have overcome many hardships in coming to a new country, learning a new language and adjusting to a new culture, but they were happy to be settled in one place now. It was amazing to see the mix of cultures and languages and how everyone seemed to get along and had friends from countries far different from their own. It was like a mini United Nations and there was peace

and joy as they ate together and shared what they had received.

I was impressed by this sense of community and friendship and I wondered if we could all look deep into the heart of each other and see the beauty that God has created. Could we for a moment forget about our differences of nationality, ethnicity or religion and see the people around us as Jesus sees them? Maybe then we would understand what Jesus meant by loving our neighbor as ourselves. As Tom mentioned in his sermon on Dec. 20th, loving God and loving your neighbor are one and the same. We can't love God and hate our neighbor. We must love as Jesus loves us and this is a radical love that can transform our community, the world and the relationships around us!



Thank you to all who helped and prayed for these children! They warmly thank you from the bottom of their hearts! 

For more information on how you can help tutor kids at Ballinger Family Homes please contact: Morgan Moore at (206) 631-8867 E-mail: MMoore@chs-nw.org


Financially Speaking

by John Bensley, Finance/Stewardship Ministry Support Team

Your giving statement for the calendar year 2009 was delivered along with a cover letter by the Leadership Support Team (LST) on behalf of the LFPPC Elders and Staff. This letter addresses your stewardship of time through service on any of the eleven Ministry Support Teams (MSTs). Please bring any errors in your giving record to the attention of Julie Scherer in the church office.

Following is a synopsis of financial information from the 2009 - 2010 General Operating Fund, September 1 - December 31, 2009:

- Fiscal Year-to-date Approved Budget: \$224,241
- Fiscal Year-to-date Actual Expenditures: \$222,118
- Fiscal Year-to-date General Fund Giving: \$283,345

The future of LFPPC is still unfolding. Having embraced a bold vision under Tom's leadership, we must continue to move forward, supporting that vision through our attendance, participation, and giving. The Finance/Stewardship MST will keep you apprised of our financial status and any challenges we encounter as we reach out into the community and the world with the love of Christ. 



Mark Your Calendar: All-Church Directory photos will be taken April 6 - 10 & April 13 - 17



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Service Times

Sundays – 9:30 & 11 am

Pastors/Staff

Tom Patterson | Senior Pastor/
Head of Staff
tom.lfppc@comcast.net

Mike Young | Associate Pastor
myoung.lfppc@comcast.net

Don Griffin | Parish Associate

Judie Smith | Facilitator of Ministry to
Children & Their Families
missjudielppc@hotmail.com

Butch Zwicky | Facilitator of Music
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Julie Scherer | Church Administrator
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Jaime Ledger | Treasurer
staff.lfppc@comcast.net

Mark Johnson | Custodian for
Building and Grounds
206.660.1315

Clint Gawthrop | Organist
pianoclint@yahoo.com



Mothers of Preschoolers
Because We are "Better Together"

For mom's with children Kindergarten age & younger
1st and 3rd Tuesdays
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Breakfast and Childcare Available

Contact Jamie Henning for more info:
henningjamie@yahoo.com



**LAKE FOREST PARK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWSLETTER**

The Path is published 6 times per year by Lake Forest Park Church.

Questions or comments can be directed to barb.brister@gmail.com

Church Office Phone: 206.364.2712
Office hours: Monday – Thursday
8:30 am to 4:30 pm

A HUGE THANK YOU FROM THE YOUNGS

Gail and I want to thank so many of you from our congregation for your incredibly kind recognition of our 20 year anniversary at LFPPC, for your encouraging and gracious cards and thoughts, and for the \$200 gift card. We were able to enjoy some special meals out while we were in Hawaii on our vacation in December because of your generous gift. We thoroughly enjoyed time sitting down to read through your very touching and meaningful cards. It may have been very obvious that I was totally taken by surprise that morning during worship, with the party, and the very kind words shared by Scott Henning, Kristin LeClair and Sandi Keuss during worship and by so many at the reception (and thank you Mark J. for the great trophy!). We were deeply touched by your expressions of love and support, and realize what a rare gift they represent.

*With grateful hearts,
Mike and Gail Young*

www.lakeforestparkchurch.org
www.lakeforestparkyouth.com