



Hello. I'm Bethel's new Pastor, Jaime Larson-McLoone, and I live in Wauwatosa with my husband, Mike, who is a photographer. We both grew up in Minnesota – I grew up on a crop farm in southwestern Minnesota and he grew up in Red Wing, just south of the Twin Cities along the Mississippi. We have lived in the Milwaukee area since 2011. In between, we lived in Florida and North Carolina, where we both worked at newspapers.

In addition to my Master of Divinity degree from Luther Seminary, I have degrees in journalism from UW-River Falls and UW-Madison. I have worked as a reporter, copy editor, and nation/world editor for daily newspapers in Minnesota, Florida, and North Carolina. Shortly after Mike and I moved to Wisconsin, I began working in communications and volunteer

coordination for Mount Carmel Lutheran Church in Milwaukee.

My ministry passion is discipleship. How do we grow together as followers of Jesus? How do we learn to listen to where and how God is calling us? How do we grow in our ability and courage to share stories about the ways God is at work in our lives? I enjoy journeying with people as we seek answers to those questions, and as we discern the gifts God has given each one of us for the sake of the world God loves. I believe God is at work all around us – often in places and ways that might surprise us – and calling us to join in that work, not just by serving others but also by building relationships with others, inside and outside the church building.

How God is at work in the world – that's just one of the things I am curious about. I love learning new things. I enjoy digging into scripture and the work of diverse biblical scholars as I prepare sermons. I read the newspaper each day (though mostly on my phone). I also read a good mix of fiction and nonfiction. At the beginning of the pandemic, when I was down to my last seminary class, I took online ukulele classes, learning to play well enough that I could lead some hymns in online worship once I started my internship. I find that the more I learn, the more I see God at work in all of it, connecting us to one another through worship, scripture, stories, songs, and everyday life.