



Pastor Laura received her M.Div. from Western Theological Seminary in 2016 and her Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures from the University of Michigan in 2002. She will be ordained in the United Church of Christ on **June 30** at Edgewood UCC in East Lansing. Pastor Laura has served as a sabbatical replacement at Bethel UCC in Waterford, MI and in many volunteer and intern positions in both the UCC and the Presbyterian Church, USA, as a preacher, worship leader, mission trip leader and coordinator, pastoral care counselor, adult and children's Bible study teacher, and choir and hand bell participant. In her free time, she volunteers with the ecumenical group, Advent House Fellowship, in Lansing, providing Bible study and some pastoral care on the second Saturday of every month. Laura currently lives in Lansing with her husband John and three children:

John Paul (22 and currently attending Kalamazoo College), Katie (19, also attending Kalamazoo College), and Emily (16). Pastor Laura's family time is a very important part of her life. They particularly enjoy playing strategy board games, camping, and traveling. As a bi-vocational pastor, she will continue working part-time as a professor at Kettering University in Flint, where she teaches leadership and ethics, humanities and, her favorite, a seminar on J.R.R. Tolkien.