



MORE LIGHT

PRESBYTERIANS

JULY NEWSLETTER!

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STAFF UPDATE



A note from the Director of Engagement, Claudia Aguilar Rubalcava

Being the church is hard work. I have been wrestling with the question: what does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself? Is it love when real, enflashed beings are considered an issue? Is it love when disagreement is centered around a congregation's ability to keep cash flow?

Is it love when some of us need to be a special category in order to be treated like a full human being? The conversations I have seen make me question if it is love what I see. And yet, this is the place and the people with whom we are called to be the body of Christ. Those who don't love us are those we are called to love. That is the heartbreak of being the church.

But joy is the other side of the coin. Even as we learned that our work is still necessary as we seek to "center and celebrate the lives, gifts, and leadership of LGBTQIA+ people," one of the highlights of our work this month has been the hire of our summer intern, Zoë Goode. Zoë just completed her Sophomore year at Agnes Scott College where she is majoring in Religion and Social Justice. At Agnes Scott, she is a member of the Ukirk Exec team and Agnes Scott's Interfaith Council. She has been involved in the PCUSA her whole life, and is a former Young Adult Advisory Delegate (GA22) and youth ministries intern. When she's not working or away at college, Zoë likes to bake, cuddle her dog, and play board games with her family. She loves a challenge and is currently teaching herself to make chainmail. Zoë is thrilled to be More Light's first ever intern, and is excited to see what the summer will bring!

We also rejoice in welcoming this year fourteen congregations to our network. These churches join us from 11 states, ready to roll up their sleeves and become agents of change in their communities and presbyteries.

It is this joy that keeps us going and keep us working. We are thankful for you all who are joining us in the work.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MLP will be busy this summer! If you are going to be attending one of these events and want to chat with us or just hang out, email our Director of Engagement, [Claudia](#) to make plans! Mark your calendars now for our upcoming events!

- **July 11-14 – Wild Goose Festival. It's our first time there, so come to our table and say hi!**
- **July 15-21 – Montreat Middle School Conference. Rev. Claudia Aguilar, our Director of Engagement, will be keynoting the conference.**

Support More Light Presbyterians

IS
ANYONE
ELSE
OUT THERE
GAY?

Do you have THE picture? Our story started with David Sindt holding a sign that said: "Is anybody else out there gay?" Everybody remembers the moment, but we don't have a picture of it. Do you have a copy of this picture? Email it to hello@mlp.org

YOUR
SIGN
HERE

Speaking of holding signs: If you were holding up a sign at General Assembly or your Presbytery meeting, what would you say? Where is justice still needed? What work is still to be done? Send an email to hello@mlp.org with a 5 second video or an image of you (or anyone in your community!) holding a sign that would start a movement in our denomination and honor David Sindt's courage!

Support More Light Presbyterians



Purchase the A Sanctified Art/More Light Presbyterians Pride Sunday liturgy [here](#).

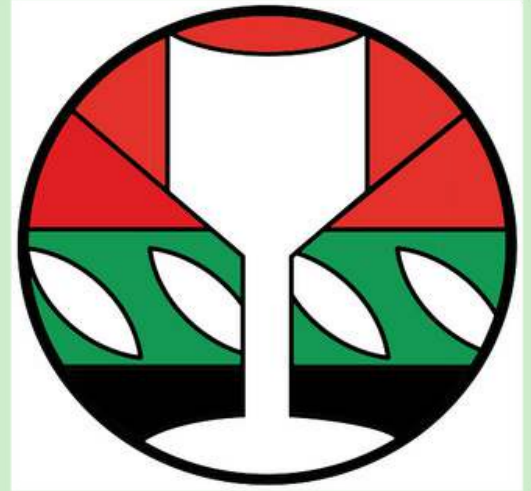
MLP ALUMNI

We are trying to collect a list of all of our former board members to create an MLP alumni group. Have you served on our board or do you know someone who has served on our board? Fill out this form and we will be in touch with you in the next few months.



Has your congregation paid dues this year? If not, you may submit them [here](#). Your dues help us do this work.

On May 29, 2024 the More Light Presbyterians Board of Directors and Staff released an official statement regarding on the ongoing genocide in Palestine and call for a permanent ceasefire.



We invite and encourage you to read the statement [HERE](#)

More Light Merchandise

There has been a lot of talk of LGBTQIA+ issues in the life of our denomination and in the world. Remember you are beloved by God and your place at Christ's table is set, and cannot be yielded. You are loved and deserve to be here. Be sure to order your stickers, like the one here, at the mlp.org shop!





MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS

More Light Presbyterians' mission is to center and celebrate the lives, gifts, and leadership of LGBTQIA+ people in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and beyond. We accomplish this by igniting the prophetic witness of our ministry partners and by cultivating relationships rooted in mutual accountability and care. Together, we journey toward God's promised liberation and flourishing for all creation.

Your gift helps to advance More Light Presbyterians mission to work for the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual people of faith in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Click **HERE** to learn how you can donate today!

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