Volume 24, Issue 11 November 2024

LONGS PEAK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Together we all belong



November Connection

LPUMC Info

1421 Elmhurst Dr. Longmont, CO 80503 303-776-0399

Website: lpumc.org
Email: lpumc@lpumc.org

Office hours:

Monday – Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Worship Schedule

Sundays at 9 and 10:45 a.m.
Services are available on
YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/ @LongsPeakUMC Follow us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ LongsPeakUMC/

Staff:

Rev. Jeremiah Harris, Pastor
pastorjeremiah@lpumc.org
Parker Steinmetz, Music Director
music@lpumc.org
Jase Lucas, Program Director
jase@lpumc.org
Thomas Chuang, Tech Support
thomas@lpumc.org
Alexandria Anderson,
Office Manager, Treasurer
finance@lpumc.org/
alex@lpumc.org
Joanna Lynden, Accompanist

December Newsletter
Deadline: November 18
Please send any articles to:
alex@lpumc.org



Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

A man lay in a hospital bed worried about whether he would live or die. He called his pastor to come pray for him. He told her that if he got well, he'd donate \$20,000 to the church. The pastor prayed and the man eventually DID get well and returned home. But no check came to the church. The pastor paid him a visit.

"I see you're doing quite well now," she observed. "I was just wondering about the promise you made."

"What promise?" he asked.

"You said you'd give \$20,000 to the church if you recovered."

"I did?" he exclaimed. "That goes to show you just how sick I really was!"

It is easy to give thanks—or to show it—when we feel grateful. But gratitude is not a feeling that comes easily in all circumstances. Rather, gratitude is a spiritual discipline that we must regularly practice in all situations. By making it a habit to express our thankfulness for even the simplest of things, we can grow to become more like Paul, who was able to express his gratitude even in hard times.

November is the perfect time to reflect on all the things we have to be grateful for. I would like to take a moment to express my thanks for your recognition of Pastor Appreciation Sunday in October, as well as my thanks to you, the church! It is truly among my greatest blessings that I am able to serve Longs Peak UMC as your pastor. You are an amazing church!

Throughout this month, there will be several opportunities for us to express our gratitude together for the ministries of Longs Peak. On November 3rd, we will begin by observing All Saints Day as we give thanks for those who have joined "the great cloud of witnesses." Saturday, November 9th, will be our Craft and Bake Sale, followed by a benefit concert in the Sanctuary that evening.

Sunday, November 10th, at 12:30 pm will be the first presentation in a series of Courageous Conversations, as we strive to be a more welcoming church for all people. On Sunday, November 24th, there will be one worship service at 10:45 AM. Following the service, we will celebrate a Thanksgiving meal together in the Fellowship Hall. Be sure to bring your appetite!

In Gratitude for LPUMC,

Jeremiah



The Missions Team will meet Tuesday, November 5, 5:30 pm at the church, in God's Harbor. This Zoom link is available, if you prefer to attend via Zoom. All are welcome & invited.



The Mission Team's Craft & Bake Sale will be on Saturday, November 9th; 10 am - 2 pm. (and, if items remain, during Fellowship time on Sunday, November 10th). Please be sure to stop by and shop the wonderful handmade items donated by members of the congregation and our surrounding community. We have some wonderful pieces for the silent auction portion again this year. Those will be on display starting Sunday, November 3rd. There will be lunch available Saturday, November 9, 11 am - 1 pm as the United Women in Faith host a Chili Cook-Off (\$8/person). This event is our annual fundraiser for The Center for Health and Hope. Questions?: LPUMCMissions@gmail.com

HUGS for HOPE

During November we are collecting warmth items for <u>HOPE</u> (<u>Homeless Outreach Providing Encouragement</u>) of <u>Longmont</u>. We are focusing our collection on Hand and Feet Warmers, but they can also use blankets, Sleeping Bags, Coats, Long Underwear, Gloves, Wool Socks, Boots, and Men's T-shirts. If you would like to donate, you may place your items in the big collection barrel near the sanctuary doors or the blue bins at the east end of Fellowship Hall.

Missions Meals

On November 9 (Saturday) we will provide lunch at the <u>OUR Center</u> Community Cafe. On November 29 (Friday) we will provide dinner for 20 participants at <u>HOPE (Homeless Outreach Providing Encouragement)</u>. Sign up to help with either of these using the Meal Sign Up buttons below, or contact <u>LPUMCMissions@gmail.com</u>.

OUR Center Meal

Hope Meal



Ring the Bell for The Salvation Army

After missing out last year, we are again signed up to ring the bell and fill the kettle in front of the Safeway on Hover Rd. The funds we collect will go directly to helping people in St. Vrain Valley to provide vouchers for rent assistance/homelessness prevention, utility assistance, and automobile repair.

LPUMC's assigned date is **Friday, December 20 between 10 am and 6 pm** and I need people to work a 1 or 1.5 hour shift. You can even work in pairs if you want!!

Look for the signup sheet in early December or contact Robyn at robyn22m@yahoo.com if you just can't wait to sign up or have questions.



Tapestry of Faith Retreat Follow-up: A Perfect Day

All day on Saturday, October 19th, The Tapestry of Faith Women's Retreat filled the air with laughter, music, and prayer. Sixty women from LPUMC and First UMC of Loveland joined in a day full of activities, songs, and worship. Our special guest speaker, Lauren Cook from Resurrection Church in Kansas, gave us new insights into God's view of us as his beloved....even with our flaws. Special thanks to the LPUMC Faith Forward Fund for the donation that helped sponsor this event.







United Women in Faith will have a board meeting on Saturday, November 2nd at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall. This meeting is for officers, but everyone is invited.

There will be a general meeting on Thursday, November 14th at 1 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The program will focus on Veteran's Day and World Thank Offering month. A snack will be provided. All ladies are invited.

UWF will be in charge of the chili cook off on November 9th in conjunction with the craft sale. Two of our officers will be unable to attend, so we could use a couple of people to help out. Please contact Judy Scrimshire if you are able to help.

Also, if anyone needs to complete their pledge for the year, this is a good time to take care of that. The lists of books anyone has read this year from the Reading Program list needs to be turned into Denise Gaffney by December 7th. Remember, to complete Program I, you need to have read 5 books, one from each category. For details, check out the UWF website.

Keep in mind that the Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 7th at 11 am in the Fellowship Hall. It will be a potluck lunch. Watch for more details in the December newsletter.



Longs Peak is hosting a 13-week GriefShare session that began on September 23rd. GriefShare is a support group for people grieving the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend that allows you to be around people who understand the pain you feel. The group meets weekly, but you can join at any session.

When: Mondays through December 16

Time: 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Where: Longs Peak United Methodist Church; Rm 130-131 Cost: \$20 for GriefShare workbook (scholarships available) Facilitators: Wendy Reed, Kathy Crier, and Jan Spitler

Register online at http://www.griefshare.org/groups/239030. If you are unable to register online, contact Wendy Reed at 303-772-3290 or wlr8555@aol.com. Childcare and transportation can be arranged if needed.

News from the Leadership Board

Board Meeting Update October 23rd, 2024

Our spiritual formation for this month was focused on the parable of the good Samaritan. Our help in times of need may not come from expected sources. Discussed who in our lives was packing our parachute (helping us through) and also important to consider is who are we packing parachutes for (who are we helping)?

Jeremiah led a brief discussion on possible book study options for 2025. We are open to suggestions and topics that will help our Board grow and develop.

The majority of our discussion time was centered around consideration of next year's budget. Our current plan shows our expenses exceeding our predicted income. Our task is to bridge that gap in the coming weeks. There are a few options available to us. An updated proposal will be shared at our Annual Charge Conference later this year (date is still TBD based on District Superintendent input).

As always- Thanks to all for your support of YOUR leadership board!

Barb Huner (Chair), Caren King, Phil Wilson, Susie Sisson, Blaise Stephanus, John Mees, Phil Henry, Stacy Dewitt, Roberta Shanahan, and Rev. Jeremiah Harris.

Please welcome our incoming Board members elect for 2025 – Ellen Fish, Amine Tarhini and Roger Wisehart – When you see them around please thank them for stepping up!

Upcoming Events





Reservations and info: 303-345-1854

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE AN INCLUSIVE CHURCH?



HEATHER CRATE (THEY/THEM)

12PM FREE LUNCH | 12:30PM SPEAKER - NOVEMBER 10 -

> FOR MORE INFO OR TO RSVP: LPUMC@LPUMC.ORG



Courageous Conversation #1: What Does it Mean to be an Inclusive Church?

Our Inclusion Initiative Team invites everyone to join a thoughtful conversation on what it truly means to be an inclusive church. As we strive as individuals and as a denomination to embody inclusivity, it is vital to have open and honest discussions about how we can better support and welcome people of all races, socio-economic groups, varying physical and mental health challenges, gender identities and expressions, ages, etc.

Our first conversation will take place on Sunday, November 10th and will discuss making our church more inclusive for LGBTQ+ individuals and families. Join us for great deli sandwiches at noon followed by our guest facilitator, Heather Crate, at 12:30 pm. Heather is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and has been working in the area of equity and inclusion for 15 years. Together, we will consider how to create a welcoming and affirming space for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. Whether you are new to this conversation or have been engaged in it for some time, your voice and perspective are important! Let's come together in the spirit of unity and openness, as we seek to build a community that truly reflects the inclusive love of Jesus Christ. Because together we all belong!!!

All are welcome to attend but we need an accurate count of how many will be attending by November 6th so we can provide plenty of food and space. Please sign up for the event where you sign in for church in the Narthex, call the church office and leave a message or email the church office at lpumc@lpumc.org. Childcare will be available so just let us know how many children you will be bringing.

If you have questions, you can contact the church office or Mary Jane Mees at mimees@comcast.net.

Bible Studies and other groups

Sundays:

6:30 p.m. (on Zoom) - We are reading and discussing the book: *Rethinking Life: Embracing the Sacredness of Every Person* by Shane Claiborne. Contact Bruce Armstrong at brucearmstrong1213@gmail.com for information and the zoom link.

Mondays:

7 p.m. (on Zoom) – Ladies Bible Study: We are studying: **52** Weeks with Jesus. Fall in Love with the **One Who Changed Everything**, by James Merritt. Zoom link is in the Weekly Reminders.

Wednesdays:

10 a.m. - Quilt Group. Meets in God's Harbor

Thursdays:

10 a.m. – Ladies' Bible Study (in Fellowship Hall): We are studying the book: *Becoming Heart Sisters* by Natalie Chambers Snapp. Contact Jan Spitler for more information.

Saturdays:

7:30 a.m. – Men's Group. For more information contact Steve Gaffney at stvngffn@gmail.com or 303-702-9877.

Finance—Sept. 2024

	Sept.'24	Sept. '23	2024 YTD
Income:	\$28,748	\$29,552	\$260,002
Expense:	\$31,429	\$30,481	\$281,767

November Birthdays

Marcia Allen
Barb Huner
Phillip Zigterman
Roberta Shanahan
Kathy Crier
Janice Bailey
Anne Williams
Tom Sarlo
Jo Ann Hauger
Carol Mudd
Steven Stiller
Jackie Clark

Worship Attendance

Date:	9 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	Online:
Sept. 29	104	24	87
Oct. 6	103	51	56
Oct. 13	99	30	68
Oct. 20	103	49	85
Oct. 27	83	32	46

Four ways you can donate to Longs Peak UMC with your normal everyday spending:

- 1: **Kings Soopers Rewards:** If you shop at King Soopers using their loyalty program, you can link LPUMC with your account. Longs Peak receives 5% back on every purchase you make. We have earned \$1690 in rewards this year. It's easy to sign up: sign into your King Soopers account. Click on "Community Rewards" and search for Longs Peak United Methodist Church or TW440 and enroll the church as your organization.
- 2. **IGive.com**: Turn your online shopping and searching into much-needed donations. Click on this link www.iGive.com/ LongsPeakUnitedMethodistChurch and then shop at your favorite online stores.
- 3. Christianbook Giveback: If you shop online at Christianbook.com, we get cash back! Our Giveback code is: QSXFUY
- 4. RaiseRight App: if you use egift cards, you can purchase many of them through the RaiseRight™ app. If you sign up with LPUMC, we earn a percentage of your purchase. Scan the QR code to get set up.