



# September Connection

## LPUMC Info

1421 Elmhurst Dr.  
Longmont, CO 80503  
303-776-0399  
Website: [lpumc.org](http://lpumc.org)  
Email: [lpumc@lpumc.org](mailto: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](https://www.youtube.com/@LongsPeakUMC)

Follow us on Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/  
LongsPeakUMC/](https://www.facebook.com/LongsPeakUMC/)

### **Staff:**

Rev. Jeremiah Harris, Pastor  
[pastorjeremiah@lpumc.org](mailto:pastorjeremiah@lpumc.org)  
Parker Steinmetz, Music Director  
[music@lpumc.org](mailto:music@lpumc.org)  
Jase Lucas, Program Director  
[jase@lpumc.org](mailto:jase@lpumc.org)  
Thomas Chuang, Tech Support  
[thomas@lpumc.org](mailto:thomas@lpumc.org)  
Alexandria Anderson,  
Office Manager, Treasurer

### **October Newsletter**

**Deadline:**

**September 16**

Please send any articles to:

[alex@lpumc.org](mailto:alex@lpumc.org)

### **Meet our new Program Director, Jase Lucas**

Jase Lucas is a follower of Jesus.

Since 2013, Jase has been a leader and shaker in the Christian community. With 10 years of experience in family ministries, connectional outreach, church communications, teaching and preaching, and congregational care, he believes that the local church is the hands and feet of God's love in our communities.

Raised in Southern Illinois as a member of the Southern Baptist Convention, Jase served as a children's ministry leader and outreach coordinator starting at the age of 12 through his faith community. In his early years, he grew his ministry as a campus missionary through the SBC and an elected messenger to the denomination's annual meeting. During this time, Jase was a regional coordinator for Prison Fellowship Ministries, working with the families of incarcerated persons to meet physical and spiritual needs.

In 2016, Jase moved to Los Angeles, CA, and began working in inter-denominational settings. He graduated from Biola University in 2019 with a degree in Public Relations and Theology, where he also partnered with university leadership to drive change in the areas of diversity and inclusion. Through these experiences and the radical love of Christ, he built a deeper connection with God which helped him to deconstruct his beliefs about religion, embracing a relationship-based, compassion-oriented, and justice-centric belief system about God and the world. Shortly after, he joined The United Methodist Church to embark in their mission of love and acceptance for all people.

As a gay person of faith, Jase's work has recently focused heavily on reconciling the global church with marginalized groups and others who have been historically harmed by the Christian community. While continuing his ministry to families and children, he also partnered with a number of justice-seeking organizations serving seniors, queer people, and houseless individuals. In the UMC, Jase served as a lay delegate to the California-Pacific Annual Conference and an organizer of the LGBTQIA+ Ministries of the Western Jurisdiction, as well as an advocate for the Church's humanitarian efforts at the US-Mexico border and participant in creation care efforts. Understanding the harm that the universal church has done to so many people in the past, he cares deeply about helping Christ-followers find new ways to meet people where they are without asking them to step into a church building, which led to co-founding The Harmony Podcast Network - a faith-based audio outreach group - in 2023. In LA, Jase worked annually to create a Halloween event to break down walls between the

local church and the community by welcoming families into a safe space; last year, over 1,200 (mostly unchurched) people were warmly embraced in God's house in a single night.

In addition to his work in the faith community, Jase is a lifestyle publicist and founder of The Excellence Agency, a PR firm based in Los Angeles. While he is widely considered an expert in influencer marketing and the role of artificial intelligence in the future of the communications industry, he is also passionate about good coffee, true crime documentaries, and long walks with great company. Since moving to Colorado in 2024, he has served at the City of Longmont, overseeing summer programs for families in need of low-cost childcare. Today, Jase lives in Broomfield, CO, with his fiancé and two cats.



**The Missions Team will meet Tuesday, September 3, 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.

## **SEPTEMBER MISSION FOCUS- NOOR EL-SALAM**

*"A mission to provide light and hope for Syrian refugee children living in Lebanon."*

In 2022, Amine Tarhini, a dual citizen of Lebanon and the US, founded this Colorado non-profit to extend educational opportunities to Syrian refugees living in Lebanon. Many of these children were born in Lebanon as their parents fled the Syrian civil war in 2011. The families live in the poorest areas of Beirut and in encampments around the country, unable to legally attend school or work. These conditions create a lost generation, and that hopelessness can lead to very poor outcomes at a societal level.

Knowing that his own success story lies in the foundation of education, he wanted to provide hope in their future to these children and to show them that others care. In the first year, nearly 100 students aged 5-14 completed the academic year. In the second year, the number increased to 165. In 2024-25, the Board took a leap of faith and expanded the numbers to 215 despite not having enough money in the coffers to cover that budget. The need is huge and parents are clamoring at the door having seen the difference school makes in their children's lives.

The focus of the program is on the basics: Math, Science, English, Arabic, and Ethics. The overall message is showing the children they are valuable and loved. While classes take place in rented church classrooms, the school is non-sectarian. Most of the Syrian children are Muslim Kurds.

This church family has been incredibly generous in the past for which the Board is so appreciative. We are looking for outside grants and funding as we expand our donor base. This special September LPUMC Mission drive for funds will help us ensure Noor El-Salam Academy will be able to purchase books for all the children and that they are able to complete another school year!

*"Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world." Nelson Mandela*

We are also continuing to collect food and personal hygiene items for the [OUR Center](#) Community Market. Specific suggestions for this month are cereal and small bags of cookies or chips that can be used in school lunches. If you would like to contribute, please place your donations in the barrel in the lobby near the sanctuary doors or in the blue wheelbarrow in Fellowship Hall.

## Missions Meals

On September 7 (Saturday) we will provide lunch at the [OUR Center](#) Community Cafe. **Please note this is the FIRST Saturday this month ... not our usual 2nd Saturday.** On September 29 (Sunday) we will provide dinner for 20 participants at [HOPE \(Homeless Outreach Providing Encouragement\)](#). Sign up to help with either of these using the Meal Sign Up buttons below, or contact [LPUMCMissions@gmail.com](mailto:LPUMCMissions@gmail.com).

[OUR Center Meal](#)

[Hope Meal](#)

## Craft & Bake Sale DONATIONS NEEDED

The Mission Team is again hosting a Craft & Bake Sale as our annual fundraiser for [The Center for Health and Hope](#). The sale will be Saturday, November 9th this year. We are hoping to have a variety of handmade items donated by members of the congregation and our surrounding community. Popular items in the past include gift items (crochet/knit/sewn/wood-work), cards, wreaths, Thanksgiving & Christmas season decor & table items, Colorado themed items, pet accessories. Whatever you would like to craft for this great cause is most welcome. Pretty much everything in the bake sale sells well - from cookies, cupcakes, breads & pies to salsas, jams & pestos!

If you have any questions, or can let us know you plan to donate, please email:

[LPUMCMissions@gmail.com](mailto:LPUMCMissions@gmail.com) We will begin collecting donations at the church about a week before the sale. Thanks!!



United  
Women  
in Faith

United Women in Faith will have a board meeting on Saturday, September 7th at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This is for officers but everyone is invited.

We will have our annual potluck picnic on Saturday, September 28th at 11 a.m. in the backyard of Judy Scrimshire. Her address is 1717 Drake. All ladies are invited.

The Peaks Pikes Peak District Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, September 21st at Broomfield UMC from 9:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. The registration fee is \$20 a person to cover a continental breakfast and lunch. The registration deadline is September 18th. To register and sign up for carpooling contact Jan Spittler at [janaspittler@gmail.com](mailto:janaspittler@gmail.com) or 720-600-3344.

Also, please come by our table on Sunday, September 1st at the church Block Party!

Jan Spittler, President, UWF



Longs Peak is starting a 13-week GriefShare session on September 23. 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 from September 23 to 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 Spittler

Register online at <http://www.griefshare.org/groups/239030> to order your workbook. If you are unable to register online, contact Wendy Reed at 303-772-3290 or [wlr8555@aol.com](mailto:wlr8555@aol.com). Childcare and transportation can be arranged if needed.



## Youth Mission Trip 2024

We are Rooted in Love...

From July 20th-27th our Youth traveled to the Lake Traverse Reservation in South Dakota for our mission trip. Our group of 8 youth and adults, joined with 54 other youth and adults from Minnesota and Wisconsin to serve the community and to be the hands and feet of Jesus. We arrived there as strangers but left that community as friends. We spent the week serving, learning, worshipping, growing in our faith, and simply having fun together! While there we were led by three amazing YouthWorks staff members. They made sure that we were well-fed, had plenty to do, had the supplies to do it, and were able to learn about and experience the culture of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, a branch of the Santee Dakota.

On our first day we worked with a gentleman named Johnny who has and continues to pour out his love for his community. We were there to empty a space to be turned into a commercial community kitchen. This involved hauling all sorts of items out of that space, some went to a trailer that would be taken to the dump, and others were moved to a storage space for future use. We did a lot of sorting, carrying, step climbing, sweeping, and working together. None of us could have done the work on our own, but together we accomplished a great deal. Johnny loves his community and loves sharing his community with all who come to serve. He has a passion for making a difference, and when you are around him, it is easy to get excited about all that is possible. He truly has a zest for life and desire to make a difference.

We also spent several days at various local assisted living centers. Our time at these involved some weeding, lots of visiting, some crafting, and of course a few games of Bingo. Time with the special older adults, some with dementia, are treasured memories for our trip. We needed to leave our phones and cameras out of the facilities, so while being completely present, we got to hear their stories, to laugh with them, and to help them feel seen. All of these were holy moments. We were proud of our young people for stepping out and interacting with the residents, offering a time of connection and community.

In addition to our mission work, we also had the opportunity to hear from local Dakota members. One evening we learned about the culture from a man who has been an intricate part of the community for a long time. He spoke about the importance of remaining connected to our heritage, to our history, but also to live each day in the present and to live our lives led by love. He reminded us that resentment only hurts us, and when we live in love, there is a ripple effect of love spreading beyond what we could ever imagine. He spoke from his heart and connected to us at a heart level. On our final evening before returning home, we heard from several members of a local youth camp and newly launched church that is geared at meeting the needs of the local Dakota community. The husband-and-wife founders of Dakota Sonshine told of how they were called to serve the community, and then a local Dakota man and his wife spoke of how they were called to join in this important work and ministry. He expressed the importance of preserving the language and culture of the Dakota people, sharing that less than 1% of those on the reservation can speak the language fluently. Together, along with countless volunteers, they offer a safe place for young people to gather, to grow in their faith, to connect with the culture, and to connect with each other.

In preparation for and upon returning home from this mission trip, we were challenged to find ways to continue to serve and reach out in love to others, to let the mission trip be the beginning of what we can do as a means of authentically loving and serving God and our neighbors! I encourage us all to consider what this means for each of us, what this can look like for each of us.

Lake Traverse is one the few Reservations that continues to partner with mission teams since the pandemic. We are grateful to have had this opportunity to work with and learn from this community. Your support of our mission trip through your prayers and financial sponsorships allowed us the opportunity to serve and gave us the encouragement when we were hot, tired, or discouraged. So, thank you for your love and support for us, which we then carried with us and extended to those we served and served alongside. It truly was a joy to serve alongside our extended church family. Our hearts are full and ready to continue to be the ripple effect of the Love that Jesus has given us.

Spread Love!

Katie Pekarek and Emily Kintzel, Roger Wisheart, Samantha Kintzel, Lexi Opatril, Heidi Kintzel, Madison Kintzel, and David Kintzel



### Worship Attendance

Date:	9:30 a.m.	Online:
August 4	119	46
August 11	112	67
August 18	125	94
August 25	111	43

### Finance:

	July '24	July '23	2024 YTD
Income:	\$18,609	\$35,012	\$211,456
Expense:	\$27,225	\$31,224	\$220,374

# A TAPESTRY OF FAITH

*Seeing Ourselves Through God's Eyes*

## A Retreat for the Women of Longs Peak UMC & FUMC Loveland

This retreat journey will help you know yourself better as you get to know others and their challenges. Through presentations and activities, you will learn how to more fully trust God and use ideas from the retreat to help you create a more beautiful and spiritual life tapestry. Great food and fellowship too!!



### Special Guest Speaker - LAUREN COOK

Program Director for

"Resurrection, A United Methodist Church," near Kansas City

- **Date: Saturday, October 19, 2024**
- **Time: 8 am-3:45 pm (PLEASE only register if you are available for the entire day)**
- **Where: Grace Place, 375 Meadowlark Dr., Berthoud, CO (Carpooling available)**
- **Who: Anyone age 18 or older who identifies as a woman from LPUMC or FUMC Loveland**
- **Cost: \$35 per person includes breakfast, lunch, snacks and all retreat materials**
- **Scholarships: Available to anyone who indicates need on the registration form**
- **Child Care: Financial assistance for childcare will be available upon request**

### Registration Process

\*\*\*\*Space is limited to a total of 60 participants (30 per church), so the following process is necessary to be fair to everyone:

**Registration Opens: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd at NOON**

#### Two Ways to Register:

1. Email your name and your church name to Brenda Henry at: favy@hotmail.com OR
2. Call and leave a voice message with Brenda Henry at 209-535-2755 with your name, your church name, your best phone number, and your email address if you have one.

**EACH EMAIL OR CALL CAN ONLY REGISTER ONE PERSON**

\*\*After receiving your time stamped email or call, we will then notify you that your space is reserved **OR** that you are on the wait-list. If your space is reserved you will receive a registration form with instructions for how to pay and complete the signup process.

**General Retreat Questions:** Contact Robyn Morgan at robyn22m@yahoo.com or 303-588-7804

**Registration Questions:** Contact Brenda Henry at favy@hotmail.com or 209-535-2755

## Bible Studies and other groups

### Sundays:

**6:30 p.m.** (on Zoom) - Class is resuming on September 8th. We will be reading and discussing a really interesting and current topic of rethinking life. The book is entitled *Rethinking Life: Embracing the Sacredness of Every Person* by Shane Claiborne. Contact Bruce Armstrong at [brucearmstrong1213@gmail.com](mailto: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): On September 12th we are starting a new study using the book *Becoming Heart Sisters* by Natalie Chambers Snapp. Contact Jan Spittler for more information.

### Saturdays:

**7:30 a.m.** – Men's Group. For more information contact Steve Gaffney at [stvnffn@gmail.com](mailto:stvnffn@gmail.com) or 303-702-9877.

## Happy Birthday!

Sept. 1	Linda Wisehart
Sept. 2	Fred Williams
Sept. 3	Mike Johnston Mary Jane Mees
Sept. 5	Debbie Adolf Janelle Johnson John Mees
Sept. 6	Wes Lawley Dave Monhollen Jackie Tarpley
Sept. 7	Katie LeBlanc
Sept. 8	Karen Hubner
Sept. 11	Diane Kirby
Sept. 12	John Chilson Betty Tatman
Sept. 15	Paula Muncy
Sept. 18	Jolene Mechtly
Sept. 20	Marshall Allen Julie Stockert
Sept. 21	Beverly Ernst Alice Marshall
Sept. 22	Phyllis Crow
Sept. 24	Mike Tatman
Sept. 27	Allen Ghimenti, Sr.
Sept. 29	Susie Foster Russ Lambert

### Three 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. In 2023, we made \$1786 in rewards. 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: [www.iGive.com/LongsPeakUnitedMethodistChurch](http://www.iGive.com/LongsPeakUnitedMethodistChurch)

3. **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.

