

**LONGS PEAK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

1421 Elmhurst Drive, Longmont CO 80504

303-776-0399

lpumc@lpumc.org

Sunday Services: 9:00 and 10:30 AM

Welcoming, Embracing, Nurturing, Serving

JANUARY 2020



Pastor Steve Reinhard

Pastor's Ponderings... "Wishing You a New Year's Christmas!"

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. —**John 1:14**

Do you have a lot of bills to pay off in the New Year after the holiday season? Christmas costs a lot, but often we only think in terms of what's left in our wallets. Like the church bulletin misprint for one of the songs that was going to be shared in church at Christmastime: "I Heard the Bills on Christmas Morn." But because of Christ's example, God's Word shows us that the true value of Christmas is not financial, but relational. The Christmas message of the Bible demands that, out of deep gratitude, we spend a great deal of time, effort, and emotional energy pouring ourselves into relationships. The gift of strong relationships is a gift that is not only to be shared among us at Christmastime, but ALL the time.

What kind of *relationship cost* will we incur in the New Year, 2020, and what kind of value will result in our lives? Will we reconcile with someone we have hurt? Will we reconcile with someone who has hurt us? Will we have a greater presence and influence of love in a child's life? Will we share openly with the friend who has no idea that there's a life of forgiveness through Jesus, ready and waiting for them? If we've just been on the fringes of our church family, will we

invest ourselves in deeper Christian friendships through worship, works, and fellowship?

Who in your world needs you to connect with them? With whom do you need to connect in 2020? Maybe it's an in-law, a parent, a friend, or your child. Maybe it's your church family.

Christmas is costly, and it's an investment to be made ALL YEAR LONG—not just financially, but, most importantly, relationally. The impact of what we buy with our money fades fast. Jesus' birth shows us that the cost and the impact of connecting relationally lasts forever.

Grace and Peace in 2020 and Beyond,

Pastor Steve

REACHING OUT.....

Associate Pastor Phil

"When I was a seeker
I sought both night and day
I asked the Lord to help me
And he showed me the way"*

The lyrics above are from the first verse of the hymn, "Go Tell It On the Mountain," one of my favorite Christmas-time songs. It's so happy and tells of the good news of Jesus Christ. It tells of the someone who was someone filled with hope because God, our Heavenly King, has come to "proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of

the Lord's favor." Jesus came to show us the way to defeat fear and death (physical and otherwise).

I love to look people in the eye when I encounter them, either by chance or by purpose. I try to reflect the love of Christ back to everyone I meet, to acknowledge the belovedness that God has claimed for every person on earth. This time of year, it is pretty common to find people in a jovial mood; often reaching out to others in charity and goodwill. I love it and I wish it would last all year long! However, I also encounter those for whom, it would seem, hope has evaded their spirit. They appear broken inside and hungry for love. Just last week I had someone come to my office to chat. At the end, all the person wanted was someone to look them in the eye, to offer dignity, and to remind them that they are worthy of love. They asked for a hug, something they apparently do not receive nearly often enough. I love the power of a hug and so this was pure delight for me. I could feel the weight of the world leave their presence in that moment, even if for just that one moment. I was humbled to bring hope to someone so desperate for a sense of belonging after, what I got the impression, too long of being shut out. That, my friends, was Jesus at work through me- it wasn't me!

This Christmas, I encourage you to consider telling others about the miracle of Christmas. Sure, it's a lot of fun to purchase gifts and to make delicious treats and to travel afar to see loved ones- hold strong to those traditions. While you're doing that, though, take a bit of time to open the Holy Bible and to read the Christmas story. I'm talking actually read the story with your own eyes, not just recall the details that have become rote in your memory. As you read, ask God to keep you curious and to hear the hope that Christ offered by coming to us in the form of a small baby. Invite others, especially if they've never heard the story or are "rusty" on the details, to join you in reading the story. I've read it so many times in my life I could probably tell you most of the details without even flinching and yet I still get chills considering the miracle that God provided to us in Christ. I still love to read the story. I pray you'll join me in revisiting the story and that you'll invite others along for the journey.

"Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
Our Jesus Christ is born"*

Merry Christmas,
Pastor Phil <>

*Go, Tell It on the Mountain, UMH #251: v1 &
Chorus

Confirmation Classes **Mondays, Jan. 6 through end of** **March 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM**

Students in 8th/9th grades wishing to participate in confirmation are invited to gather at Longs Peak UMC on Monday evenings, starting January 6. We will start with a provided meal at 5:30 PM, then have class from 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM. This year's class will be led by Pastor Phil Rogers from Longs Peak, Pastor Emily Kintzel from Lyons Community Church, and Pastor David Burt from Heart of Longmont UMC along with the young people from the St. Vrain UMC Circuit.



MUSIC NOTES

Kay W. Lloyd

January

On behalf of the music ministry at Longs Peak, we hope that the music of the Advent season and Christmas Eve opened your hearts to the love, peace, and hope of Jesus Christ. Thank you to all of those involved in this ministry and for your countless hours of rehearsal time and dedication to bringing the joy of Christmas to the congregation and our community through music.

All rehearsals will resume the week of January 6, 2019 – with Praise Team, A cappella and Choir on Tuesday, January 6 at 6:00, 6:45 and 7:30

respectively. Handbells will resume Thursday, January 9 at 6:00.

If you love to sing or play an instrument, consider joining our music ministry team. There are many opportunities to serve in the New Year.

Contact Kay W. Lloyd at 303.651.2499 or at kaylloyd1463@comcast.net if you are interested or have any questions.



Bruce Armstrong has started a new Sunday morning Bible Study (10:30 AM) using videos from *The Bible Project*. Each week is a self-contained lesson from the Bible.

The videos and class discussion will familiarize us with important themes in the Bible and encourage further Bible Study.



BIBLE STUDY.... ISAIAH

The Sunday School Class led by Gran and Charlene Smythe will bring a new study of the book of Isaiah on January 5th.



Rebekah Fisher and Danielle Hagedorn

Mission Committee 2019 Year in Review

- ..OUR Center monthly Saturday lunches provided \$2000 of food, and over 50 hours of volunteer service
- ..Food collection for the OUR Center contributed over 1200 pounds of food donations from our congregation
- ..HOPE meals provided 14 times

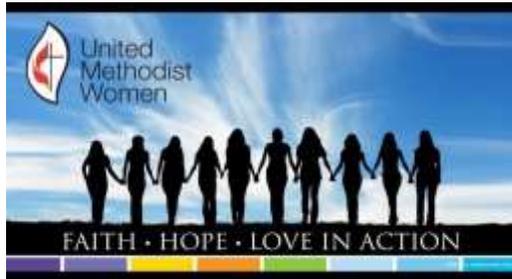
- ..Agape Fellowship had a total of 21 guests stay with us on Thursday nights in our Fellowship Hall
- ..TRI supported 6 women by serving 13 meals
- ..Little Free Pantry provided countless church neighbors with hundreds of pounds of food and hygiene supplies
- ..150 Tag Bags were made by the youth group and mission activities and distributed by the congregation
- ..6 Tie Blankets made and distributed through HOPE
- ..Through the spring, Cherish our Church event 43 volunteers spent 250 collective hours cleaning and repairing our church and grounds
- ..Money donated to Ray and Kittie Sherrod \$150
- ..Habitat for Humanity 4 builders and 15 lunches served at our June build day
- ..Garden Market funds raised \$329.08 donated to the OUR Center
- ..UMCOR School Supply Kits made 83
- ..Money raised for Center for Health and Hope \$3095.00 in addition to paying the salary of our social worker Glorie Gitonga
- ..HUGS gathering 6 boxes of clothing that was distributed to HOPE, the OUR Center, and the Agape Fellowship
- ..Tissue Boxes for Reading Buddies exceeded 100 boxes for Mountain View Elementary School
- ..Through gifts and gift cards to residences of Mountain States Children's Home and the Inn Between 50 children and families have a little brighter Christmas
- ..Holiday bags for OUR Center and ten meal boxes for local neighbors in need
- ..Salvation Army bell ringing, 5 volunteers completed 5 hours of bell ringing

SERVICE ATTENDANCE



Sunday	Wed.	9:00	10:30	Total:
Dec 1	--	50	65	115
Dec 8	13	79	80	172
Dec 15	11	127	150	288
Dec 22	--	88	70	158
Dec 29 (9:30)	--	111	--	111

(Christmas Eve: 4:30 – 61; 6:00 – 150; 8:00 - 102)



Jan Spitler, President

United Methodist Women will have their General Meeting on January 9th at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The Esther Circle meeting will be on January 16th at 7:00 p.m. at the church.

Our Christmas party was a great success. We were so blessed to have Bishop Catherine Mutua from Kenya join us. It was difficult to hear about the plight of the children there, but also good to hear how we can help. Thanks also to Don Messer for bringing Bishop Catherine. Also, Cheryl Runyon from Mountain View-Boulder joined us. She mentioned the Leadership Development event which will be held at Broomfield UMC on February 1st. The speaker will be Reverend Lucia Guzman, who is a former Colorado State Senator. Please think about attending even if you are not an officer. The cost will be \$10. Cheryl will be the District Vice President for 2020 and our shepherdess. So you think that since December 25th has come and gone that Christmas is over? Not so. Remember the 12th night of Christmas is January 5th which is the Epiphany. Here's a little history about Epiphany:

Up until the 19th century, the Epiphany was more important than Christmas Day and was used to celebrate both the three kings' (or three wise men's) visit to Jesus shortly after his birth and also Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist. In the West, Christians began celebrating the Epiphany in the 4th century, associating it with the visit of the Magi (the three kings) to Bethlehem. According to the Gospel of Matthew, the three wise men - named Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar - followed the star of Bethlehem across the desert to meet the baby Jesus, offering gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The gifts were symbolic of the importance of Jesus' birth, the gold representing his

royal standing; frankincense his divine birth; and myrrh his mortality. The word 'Epiphany' comes from Greek and means 'manifestation'. It celebrates the revelation of God in his Son as human in Jesus Christ. The six Sundays which follow Epiphany are known as the time of manifestation; the last Sunday of the Epiphany is celebrated as Transfiguration Sunday.

So what does this have to do with United Methodist Women? Everything! With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we help women, children, and youth over the world. Join us and be a part of this ministry.

We pray that everyone had a blessed Christmas and that the New Year will be a blessing as well.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY



Katie Pekarek

Happy New Year!

It is time to launch into the new year! Our children and family ministries have many things planned for 2020. Our focus is Outreach. We will be coming together with our community to connect families through Welcoming, Embracing, Nurturing, and Serving!

Please continue to stay connected with our newsletter, bulletins, and our Social Media to keep up to date. We are looking for more volunteers to join the Children and Family Ministry Council and would love for you to help grow our ministry.

Longs Peak would like to stay connected with you as well. If you haven't filled out a registration for your children, please grab one from the crossroads or ask any of our staff. It is time to begin our prep for our annual Lip Sync Battle and would love the entire congregation to be a part of it this year. Please email kids@lpumc.org for more information.

We are looking for volunteers to help in our Nursery during services and special events. This is a great opportunity to connect with the newest members of our congregation and to be a part of their faith

foundation. Please contact Katie for more information and expectations!

Spread Love,
Katie Pekarek
Director of Children and Family Ministries



Jan 1	Janet Armstrong Barbara Bowman
Jan 2	Angela Larson
Jan 4	Hannah Hauger
Jan 8	Magnus Henry Mary Jolly John Tarpley
Jan 10	Chuck Everitt
Jan 11	Debbie Sarlo Jan Spitler
Jan 15	Jake Marsing
Jan 19	Adrienne Maxwell Lois Olin Jerry Orrell Jeff Spontarelli
Jan 24	Wilson Bryant Mary Ann Hayden
Jan 25	Rick LeBlanc
Jan 27	Don Davis
Jan 28	Milton Briggs
Jan 29	Donna Huff Irene Lambert
Jan 31	Bruce Richardson

LPUMC Staff

*Rev. Steve Reinhard – Lead Pastor
pastorsteve@lpumc.org Rev.
Philip Rogers – Associate Pastor
pastorphil@lpumc.org Kay W.
Lloyd – Music Ministry
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– Children’s Ministry
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Sharon Cantrell-Jaap – Admin.
Assistant sharon@lpumc.org
Catherine Romero – Business
Manager
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Paula Muncy – Pianist Rev.
Sandy Stewart – Deacon-in-
Residence
Jim Moore – Custodian
Glorie Gitonga – Kenya Social
Worker
Rev. Granville Smythe – Retired
Pastor Charlene Smythe – Retired
Ministers – Those Who Call Jesus,
Lord*

Evelyn Martin passed away on
December 23 after sustaining a
fall.



The Finance Committee

Based on our discussions, November should not be a surprise. Year to date, we are in the negative \$12k and for the month of November \$11k. I'd like to call out some items:

November 2018 Income was \$40k, November 2019 \$23k; delta of \$17k. Part of the difference is due to \$5k being moved from General Funds to Designated HVAC per donor feedback and approval of.

YTD Income 2018 \$439,425	YTD Expenses 2018 \$433,398	Variance () negative, + positive \$6,027	Nov 2018 Income \$39,742	Nov 2018 Expenses \$36,675	Variance () negative + positive \$3,067
YTD Income 2019 \$405,651	YTD Expenses 2019 \$417,434	Variance () Negative + positive (\$11,783)	Nov 2019 Income \$22,791	Nov 2019 Expenses \$33,802	Variance () negative + positive (\$11,011)