

Longs Peak United Methodist Church

1421 Elmhurst Drive, Longmont, CO 80503

lpumc@lpumc.org

"Invite, Embrace, Nurture, Serve"

August 2020 Newsletter



*Rev. Jeremiah Harris and
Rev. Lee Anderson-Harris*

Greetings Beloved
Longs Peakers!
Merry Christmas! Ok,
so I am aware that
August is a few
months early!
Recently I was
helping a church

member move some furniture from their home to a donation center. As we were unloading these items, another man in a mask (like all of us these days) walked by us and said, "How are you doing Santa," in reference to my grey-bearded companion, who responded "I do play Santa!" The man then continued "I know you are Santa, I go to your church!" At this point I introduced myself as the newly appointed pastor of Longs Peak UMC, and we all had a brief conversation about how great it was to run into each other.

This little interaction got me thinking about two things. The first, is how much we need to be intentional about maintaining our spiritual connections, in the midst of social distancing. Too easily we can fall in to "survival" mode and we forget that we need each other's encouragement to help maintain our spiritual health.

Unfortunately, a side effect of wearing of masks, is that now we "see" others even less. Oh sure, we see there's a person there so that we don't run into them, but we miss a deeper sense of seeing of our human connection, or in this case our connection.

The second thing that struck me in this interaction, was that even behind a mask, the giant grey beard gave away Santa's identity! Isn't that just like the spirit of Christmas? In an unassuming corner of the world, in a time where no one was looking, GOD showed up! Just as today, behind masks, in a donation center alley, in the middle of July, the Spirit of Christmas showed up! Friends this is a reminder that even though times are challenging, God is not distanced from us. Whether our connections are virtual like zoom or in-person small groups gathering outside, God's hope continues to reach out to each of us.

It is my hope that even in the midst of the day's challenges we might continue to grow closer together. If we have not yet had the opportunity to meet personally, I'd love to get to know you through one of our Meet and Greets; we are offering both zoom and in-person options to accommodate multiple comfort levels. We are also continuing to offer a virtual Sunday morning gathering to view the service, as well as join in fellowship. If you do not have a computer, or if your computer does not have speakers or a camera, it is possible to join in this Sunday morning service through your telephone. If you have questions how to do this, please contact any of the staff or the church office.

Friends, keep hope in your hearts. As I choose to observe the promise of God with us through Christmas all year long, I am reminded of the words of the Prophet Isaiah, who proclaimed, "Therefore the LORD himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and

will call him Immanuel. Immanuel--God with us," even in the midst of what feels like isolation. I invite you remember the hope of Christmas, and a promise of God to hold you close.

Blessings my Friends,

Pastor Jeremiah

#spread love, #Choose kind

Sunday Worship Zoom Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/94508974007?pwd=ZngzL2FTd2lxWkdBSDVtb1RNVjNkdz09>

You can listen to the audio version of the Longs Peak United Methodist Church Worship Service every Sunday morning at 9:30 AM on your phone (no computer necessary!)

1. From a touch-tone phone, dial 720-707-2699
2. When prompted, press #
3. When prompted, dial 573194#
4. You'll then be able to listen to the worship service!

Music Notes



Kay W. Lloyd, Music Director

As we look forward to meeting again in person someday, it is obvious it will be with restrictions and limited capacity in order to safely hold worship. Along with that comes the reality that singing and choirs will be some of the last things to come back to our worship experience.

In light of that, the music ministry is exploring new ways to bring music to all of you. In July, our Handbell Choir met for rehearsals and recorded three pieces in our sanctuary. All ringers were masked, gloved, and socially distanced. It was safe for all those involved and gave them the opportunity to be back together – being in

Fellowship making music. We will be meeting again in August and look forward to ringing for all of you on our video worship. Our Praise Team is in the process of putting together a virtual performance with voices, piano, drums, and guitar. Thanks to the engineering of Bruce Armstrong, it will be ready in a few weeks. We are also looking forward to putting together a couple of virtual choir pieces – first with A cappella and then with choir. All of these take time and effort on the part of the musicians – and many hours for those people who compile all the individual videos and put them together as a whole. You will also see small vocal ensembles singing in outside locations. The Music Ministry is working hard to bring music into worship in a safe and effective way - and learning a lot of new ways of doing it in the process!!!

In addition to Sunday morning video worship, we hope you join us every Thursday for a Music Moment on the Church's Facebook page featuring various musicians and styles of music. The Music Ministry also holds weekly Zoom meetings on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Feel free to 'join us' anytime by reaching out to Kay (kaylloyd1463@comcast.net)

Until we can meet again in person – we hope you find our music to be a respite in your day – and that it brings joy, peace, and hope to all.

Longs Peak Worship and Groups Gatherings Survey

You should have received (or will shortly) a letter and survey. We value your input and would appreciate the survey being filled out as soon as possible. You can fill it out online at this link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tG5Aokv0zWTBneodEpPppsclA6CHdoTt6WLvNjVjQrU/edit> or you can mail it, drop it by church, or call in to speak with staff.



Missions

Rebekah Fisher and Danielle Hagedorn

Mission Committee Update

For many of us, the pandemic has disrupted our normal life in a variety of ways including our volunteer work and the ways we try to serve others. Some organizations and individuals have found ways to work through the challenges. The OUR Center, HOPE, and Meals on Wheels have all adapted the way they are serving the hungry and homeless in our community while striving to keep everyone safe. The Reentry Initiative (TRI) which works with individuals as they reenter society following incarceration are seeking pen pals to combat isolation during this time. Do you volunteer with an organization that is making it possible to continue to serve in a safe way during the pandemic? Do you have an idea for outreach or know of a way our church could better serve you or our community during this time? During the pandemic we want to continue to be the hands and feet of God in our community.

August Service Opportunities:

August 6: HOPE virtual concert fundraiser featuring the Longmont Symphony Brass Quintet

August 8: OUR Center lunch volunteers needed from 9:30-2:00 (or any portion of that time)

August 12: Center for Health and Hope virtual golf tournament

August 15: TRI meal (provide dinner for 1-2 residence at their apartment in Longmont)

August 20: HOPE Virtual concert fundraiser featuring the Brazilian music of Jambu

August 29: HOPE meal (provide a side dish, salad, or dessert to feed 30)

For more details on any of these opportunities or to sign-up please contact the mission committee at lpumcmisions@gmail.com or call Rebekah Fisher at 303-834-8784.



Adult Virtual Bible Study Class with Bruce Armstrong

Please join us for an ongoing study of the Bible using the Bible Project Videos. Each week we pursue new and different material, so join us when you can. We learn a lot from the videos and from class discussion. All are welcome. The class begins as close to 10:30 as we can, but depending on the Q&A from the morning all-church Zoom call, it might be a few minutes later than 10:30. Email Bruce for the Zoom link at:

brucearmstrong1213@gmail.com



Sunday:	Total Views:
June 28	233
July 5	170
July 12	156
July 19	145
July 26	168



Thank you all who have so faithfully continued to contribute to LPUMC during the CoVid-19 crisis. Some of you may wonder where your money is going now that the doors are closed to group meetings. We still have commitments to our staff to pay their salaries, and the church owned buildings continue to need maintenance, insurance and utility services. We have cut all other expenses almost completely including reducing our Apportionment payments to the greater Methodist Church.

We ask that you please continue your faithful giving to LPUMC. We plan to survive this current crisis just like we have survived each one we have encountered in our 100+ years of existence. We need your continued support to make sure that we can keep serving our community and are still here when this crisis is past.

Trusting in God’s Love and Grace,

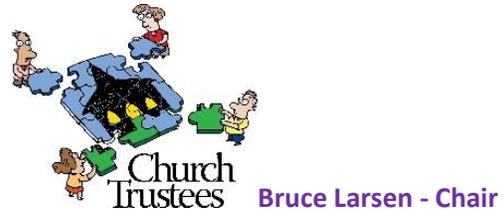
Terry Larsen
Finance Committee, Chairwoman

	June 20	2020 YTD	2019 YTD
Donations	\$29,583	\$187,294	\$246,716
Expenses	\$34,573	\$211,381	\$238,188
Difference	\$4,990	\$24,087	\$8,528



Come check out the Church Garden!

You are welcome to come pick fresh produce from the church garden. We are offering it to the congregation as well as to the neighborhood surrounding the church.



The Trustees have been busy! The HVAC system has been repaired and caught up on maintenance. The fire alarm/sprinkler systems have been tested and other maintenance around the church has been done or is in the process of being done. We could always use more help. If you feel led to help out, please call or email the church office to let them know (303-776-0399 or alex@lpumc.org). Thanks!

Stephen Ministers Listen Well

“Don’t go on the Journey Alone” – On Sunday (7/26), Pastor Jeremiah had a great message for all of us. During this uncertain time consider letting a Stephen Minister help. Stephen Ministers at LPUMC are here for those who are dealing with low self-esteem, illness/hospitalization, family frustrations and challenges, moving, death or serious loss, financial setbacks, faith issues, terminal illness, loneliness, job loss, aging, separation/divorce and other life challenges. A Stephen Minister is a member of this congregation who is trained to listen, encourage, pray and walk alongside you during difficult times. It’s confidential, free and very helpful. At this time we can meet either one-on-one, distancing with wearing a mask or telephone conversations are also possible. Please call one of our Referral Coordinators today:
Phyllis Crow (303) 906-5055
John Mees (303) 506-7979.
“As I have loved you, so you must love one another.” John 13:34



Day:	Name:
August 1	Karl Bogle Lyn Dines Alexa Opatriil
August 2	Kristine Simpson
August 3	Patrick Anderson
August 4	Annette Anderson
August 5	Wendy Reed
August 7	Kimberly Ainsworth
August 8	Morgan Fisher
August 11	Darlene Chilson Jessica Miller Kenneth Pennington
August 14	Bruce Larsen
August 15	Shirley Roberts
August 16	Elisabeth Comeau
August 17	Danielle Hagedorn
August 20	Valerie Crandall
August 23	Karen Bunker
August 28	Alexandria Anderson
August 29	Alex Carlson
August 30	Connie Capron

Longs Peak UMC Mission Statement

Longs Peak United Methodist Church is about inviting new souls to find God, nourishing the souls of the faithful, and sending God's people to serve the world as the hands and feet of Christ. We will transform the world by demonstrating love and grace, praising God, and nurturing others in Christian Living. Christ sets all free!

LPUMC Staff

Pastor Jeremiah Harris – Lead Pastor
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Pastor Philip Rogers – Associate Pastor
pastorphil@lpumc.org

*Katie Pekarek - Outreach and Children's
& Families Coordinator*
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Kay Lloyd – Music Ministry
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Alex Anderson – Office Manager
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Paula Muncy – Pianist

Rev. Sandy Stewart – Deacon-in-Residence

Glorie Gitonga – Kenya Social Worker

Rev. Granville Smythe – Retired

Pastor Charlene Smythe – Retired

Ministers – Those Who Call Jesus, Lord

To submit an article for the September Newsletter, please email Alex at alex@lpumc.org. You are welcome to advertise your small group meetings! Please put "Newsletter" in the subject line.

The due date is:
August 17th. Thank you!