



Longs Peak United Methodist Church

"Invite, Embrace, Nurture, Serve"
1421 Elmhurst Drive, Longmont, CO 80503

lpumc@lpumc.org
303-776-0399

November 2020 Newsletter



The temperatures have begun to become a bit more frosty. I found myself grateful for my fleece jacket just this morning as I was leaving home to come to the church. With the colder temperatures comes the vividly colored leaves. The other day I saw a young family raking their front yard. The mother was doing her best to get the job done while entertaining her small child and, simultaneously, keeping her dog out of the pile of leaves. The squeals and laughter from the child seemed to encourage the dog as it would chase the leaves flying off the rake. I'm not sure who enjoyed this situation most: The dog, the child, the mother, or me. I was just out for some exercise in my neighborhood -- something that I don't necessarily enjoy with any great value -- when I happened upon this delightfully humorous interaction. I do not take the same route every time that I exercise, often winding my way down side streets that I've not traveled down previously. I say all that to connect my point of this month's Pastoral letter.

God's blessings abound EVERYWHERE

In the midst of a global pandemic when we are encouraged to stay at home, the midst of a rather contentious political season, it can be very easy to miss God's blessings. It can be easy to turn inward and become hardened to the world. It is understandable that messages of fear and despair seem to

be everywhere recently. God, however, calls us to a different reality. God calls us to live in abundance; unafraid and overflowing with love for our neighbors. I encourage you, as we approach Thanksgiving at the end of November and we return to more indoor activities with the changing weather, do not miss the blessing that God is pouring out to us every single day. Seek those quiet moments where God whispers to your heart a message of love and wisdom. Open your eyes to the moments in life where God helps you return to the glee of childhood or sharing memories with family. Return those calls you've been meaning to make to those you haven't spoken to in too long. Listen to God's still, small voice and follow the lead of the Holy Spirit who speaks to your heart. Answer God's call upon your heart by responding in gratitude.

Choose Kind,
Pastor Phil

Music Notes

Kay W. Lloyd, Music Director

A Season of Thanksgiving

Some of you may know that I enjoy crossword puzzles and other word games. I also spend a lot of time writing and wordsmithing; therefore, I am generally more comfortable with the written word, than the spoken word. Every year, between Christmas and New Year's, Gary and I do a letter to family and friends to catch everyone up on what has happened in our

lives during the previous year. Sometimes it is in the form of a regular letter – but many times we take the letters of MERRY CHRISTMAS and form other words or phrases beginning with each letter – to describe our year. For instance this one from 2015.....

Marriage of Garrett and Erin Taylor Beal

Erin landed her first full time job this summer at.....

Riley County Consolidated School District, just outside Manhattan, KS where she teaches grades 5-12 band!

Riley County Law Enforcement is where you can find Garrett working.

.....well, you get the picture.

As we enter a season of Thanksgiving, I thought it would be worshipful to do the same thing with the word GRATITUDE – exploring those things that Gary and I are most thankful in our lives this season.

God’s grace in our lives

Reviving our hearts for God

Abundance of God’s love

Thankful for the blessings of family and friends

Inspiring others through music

Time to be in God’s presence

Using our gifts to serve others

Devotion to God

Endeavor to praise God every day

I’m sure that many of you could come up with the same type of list – maybe even using different words like THANKFUL or PRAISE or FAMILY or SERVICE. Whatever the word that represents the season to you - we pray that you are able to take some

time to thank God for the many blessings in your lives!



Rebekah Fisher and Danielle Hagedorn

Our participation in the **Boulder County Crop Hunger Walk** was a big success even though the pandemic and the weather made it a challenge to pull off. We held a unique crop circle event on Zoom, during which Pastor Phil shared his talent of working with stained glass and Donna Chuang made Christmas ornaments from empty thread spools collected from her masking making efforts earlier in the year. We had several people do a 5K route starting and ending at the church. We had others participate virtually in their own unique ways. In total we collected over \$1,700. Twenty-four percent of these funds are distributed locally to Community Food Share, 75% go to Church World Service to fight hunger globally, and 1% goes to Bread For the World. We appreciate everyone who participated or donated to our team and look forward to trying it again next year.

The OUR Center has seen unprecedented demand for their services this year and they are struggling to keep food on their pantry shelves. To that end, we are hosting another **OUR Center food Drive on Sunday, November 8, from 1:00-2:30 PM**, rain, snow, or shine. We are not focusing on any particular item this time, but invite you to choose from their list of the most needed items: canned fruit and vegetables, canned soups, hot/cold cereal, rice, beans, pasta, peanut butter (16 oz size only please), canned chicken and tuna, tomato products,

and pasta sauce. Personal hygiene products and laundry soap are also appreciated.

Can't make it to the food drive, or want to keep giving after November 8? You can drop your items off at the OUR Center at 220 Collyer Street at the south receiving door weekdays between 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Or you may bring them to LPUMC Monday through Thursday from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. The blue OUR Center wheelbarrow is located just past the welcome desk near the fellowship hall. Every donation directly helps fight food insecurity right here in Longmont.

Mission Events for November:

November 8: OUR Center Food Drive:

1 – 2:30 PM at LPUMC. Drive by and drop off your non-perishable food donations.

November 14: Our Center lunch 9:30-2:00 PM. Contact Amy Mann-Miner, 303-931-8429, to participate.

November 29: HOPE dinner. Contact Evelyn Fontanez, 303-709-1710, to help prepare the meal.



Jan Spitler – UMW President

Beautiful fall days are upon us. But that also means cooler weather and earlier darkness. So we will not be having any more parking lot meetings until warmer weather next year. We have decided to have Zoom meetings the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. An email with instructions on joining the meeting will be sent out every month. If you do not receive an email please contact either:

Jan Spitler at 720-204-6583 or
Judy Scrimshire at 303-702-9094.

Please remember that **November is World Thank Offering month**. If you wish to make

a donation please make your check payable to United Methodist Women and write World Thank Offering on the memo line. Checks can be mailed to Linda Orrell at 121 Grant Street, Longmont 80501 or taken to the church. Some of you have been working on lap blankets for Meals on Wheels. A spokesperson for them has indicated that they almost have enough blankets to meet their needs. They are still accepting blankets though and they can be delivered to the Senior Center by the first week in December. It's not too late to participate in the Reading Program. There are several books available in the UMW library at the church. You can check out the UMW national website at: unitedmethodistwomen.org for a list of books for each year. Some can also be found at the Longmont library or can be ordered through Amazon. But before you order, please check with Jan or Judy listed above or with Jane Carlson at 303-678-0748 since some of the books we have are not yet in the UMW library at the church. Those participating in the program need to get their list for the year mailed to Jane Carlson by the first week in December. Her address is 12979 N. 66th St., Longmont 80503.

A box will be placed in the church for donations of new or gently used coats, gloves, scarves, hats, blankets and comforters. It is preferred that blankets and comforters be twin size. These items will be distributed to the OUR Center and to HOPE.

We know everyone is disappointed that we are not able to meet in person at this time, but it is important that we all stay safe and healthy. Our Zoom meetings will mostly be just chatting to see how everyone is doing, so please join us. We pray that everyone is well and keeping busy.

Blessings, Your UMW Officers

Thank you!

Dear Church Family,

It is with sincere gratitude that I am writing this thank you note to express my deepest thoughts and heart felt feelings in regards to Dan’s sudden passing at the end of March of this year.

I cannot begin to express my thoughts and feelings in regards to the compassion, hope and assistance that I have received since Dan’s sudden passing from my dearest friends within the congregation. You have been a true blessing in these last few months and it is beyond my ability to express how deeply grateful I am with the compassion, help and comfort during this difficult time. God has blessed me with true and compassionate friends within the congregation and I will always be extremely grateful for your love, understanding and just being there for me during this time.

Once again thank you for everything!

Sincerely,
Paula Gamble



Are you experiencing pandemic fatigue?

Are you feeling exhausted from all the disruptions to life brought on by the pandemic? Are you or someone you know struggling with challenges like...?

- Isolation and loneliness
- Anxiety over health
- Grief due to many different kinds of losses
- Tension from juggling work, childcare, and schooling
- Financial strain or job loss
- Uncertainty about the future
- Other unexpected life challenges

If so, you don’t have to face it alone. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support.

A Stephan Minister will meet with you privately – by phone, by video chat, or, if safely possible, in person – to offer care and support. It’s free and completely confidential. For more information, call: Phyllis Crow – 303-906-5055 or John Mees – 303-506-7979.



Help Decorate the Church for Christmas on November 15th!

Come help us decorate the Sanctuary for Advent! We will have 4 time slots available between 1:00 and 4:00 PM. Sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4fa8a62fa3f49-lets>. For more information, please email Katie at katie@lpumc.org.

Sunday:	Attendance/Views
October 4	219
October 11	149
October 18	266
October 25	175



Terry Larsen - Chair

Thank you for returning your pledge cards. We have had a great response! Your pledges will help us finalize our budget for 2021.

	Sept 2020	2020 YTD	2019 YTD
Donations	\$25,959	\$273,985	\$349,988
Expenses	\$29,508	\$294,371	\$347,236
Difference	(\$3,549)	(\$20,386)	\$2,752

November 8th: 1:00 – 2:00 PM

Come Get Thanked!

We want to thank each of you for your gifts and service to Longs Peak UMC this year. We could not do this without you! Join us on November 8th during the Food Drive. **We will have coffee, apple cider, donuts, and bagels in the parking lot!** Bring some items for our food drive and say hello!

LPUMC Staff

Pastor Jeremiah Harris – Lead Pastor
pastorjeremiah@lpumc.org

Pastor Philip Rogers – Associate Pastor
pastorphil@lpumc.org

Katie Pekarek - Outreach and Children's & Families Coordinator
katie@lpumc.org
kids@lpumc.org

Kay Lloyd – Music Ministry
music@lpumc.org

Alex Anderson – Office Manager/Treasurer
alex@lpumc.org
finance@lpumc.org

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



Day:	Name:
Nov. 1	Marcia Allen
Nov. 2	Diane Slowen
Nov. 3	Barb Huner
Nov. 5	Phillip Zigterman
Nov. 7	Roberta Shanahan
Nov. 8	Gayle Stiller
Nov. 9	Kathy Crier
Nov. 14	Janice Bailey
Nov. 15	Nicholas Larson Anne Williams
Nov. 18	Caitlin Rezac
Nov. 21	Janie Rogakis
Nov. 22	Tom Sarlo
Nov. 25	Jo Ann Hauger
Nov. 27	Carol Mudd
Nov. 28	Leland Ernst Steven Stiller
Nov. 29	Jackie Clark
Nov. 30	Mel Mardick

December Newsletter Submissions:

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

Due Date:

November 16