



Longs Peak United Methodist Church

February Connection

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FEBRUARY 2023

Pastor's Pen:

Dear Friends,

The prophet Jeremiah (not the pastor) said to ancient Israel so many years ago, "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." Those words apply to our world and the church in this time more than ever. God has plans for us for our welfare and not for harm. **Our future is not without great hope.** We need to hear that!

Between rebuilding our church as we reemerge from the Covid-19 Pandemic, and the ongoing debate over homosexuality, specifically the ordination of clergy, and the performance of marriage vows for those who identify as LGBTQ in the United Methodist Church, we need to remain focused that the future of our church is a hopeful future. I am excited to be your pastor, and to journey together towards new and vibrant ministries. I truly believe that we are on the precipice of a time of new growth!

You may recall that delegates of the worldwide UMC last met in 2019, to discuss options to move beyond the global impasse around this issue. The 2019 General Conference created an exit plan for churches who did not wish to remain UMC, however the details of this plan were to be finalized at a specially called conference in 2022. Due to varying worldwide Covid conditions, the 2022 conference has been postponed until spring of 2024. In the meantime, a new denomination called the Global Methodist Church has emerged. On one hand, UMC churches are still awaiting the results of General Conference 2024, while at the same time other congregations have begun the process of disaffiliating from the UMC denomination. Needless to say, this further complicates the discussion, yet I would like to offer an opportunity to explain where we are as a denomination.

On Sunday, March 12th from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., both pastoral and lay leadership of LPUMC will be coming together to offer information and help answer questions regarding the schism of the United Methodist Church. While the ramifications of denominational separation are continually evolving, our intent is to offer some context to how the future of the UMC is unfolding. Following the discussion there will be an opportunity to ask questions. Lunch will be provided to ensure that we are all happy campers!

Know that your church, lay leaders, and your pastor are here for you. Let's approach our future with GOD-and with HOPE.

Your Brother in Christ,
Jeremiah

Sunday Worship Schedule:

9 a.m. - Contemporary
10:30 a.m. - Traditional

Notes from Katie:

January gave time for us all to reset whether big changes or slowly moving into the new season. In the end of 2022 I was grateful for the opportunity to take on a new job description. I am your Program Director. Along with working with the Young People I will be making sure we all stay connected with outreach and our church community with continued events. I am excited to continue to grow Longs Peak UMC! I am looking for a couple of willing adults to facilitate a three hour Parent's Night Out while our Young Adult group goes to dinner. Please let me know if this is something that would interest you!

Spread Love,
Katie Pekarek



FAMILY EVENTS WINTER/SPRING 2023

Parent's Night Out

Friday February 17th | 6-9pm
Kids get a Pizza Party and Movie Night while adults go out to dinner at 3 Margaritas!

Crackpots (Family Friendly)

Saturday March 11th | 10am-12pm

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday April 17th | 10am-12pm

Lip Sync Battle

Saturday May 6th | 5pm

Kids Singing in 9am Service

April 9th | May 14th

YOUNG ADULTS EVENTS WINTER/SPRING 2023

Parent's Night Out

Friday February 17th | 6-9pm
Kids get a Pizza Party and Movie Night while adults go out to dinner at 3 Margaritas!

Crackpots (Family Friendly)

Saturday March 11th | 10am-12pm

Glow Golf Mini Golf in Loveland

Friday March 17th | 6pm

Scavenger Hunt and Happy Hour

Saturday April 22nd | 5pm

Lip Sync Battle

Saturday May 6th | 5pm

YOUTH EVENTS WINTER/SPRING 2023

Confirmation

Select Sundays January-April | 12:30-2pm
If you still would like to sign up, let Katie know ASAP!

Empty Bowls @ Crackpots

Saturday February 18th | 5pm-7pm

Loveland Laser Tag

Saturday March 18th | 5pm

Bowling @ Centennial Lanes

Saturday April 29th | 5pm

Lip Sync Battle

Saturday May 6th | 5pm



The Missions Team will meet Tuesday, February 7 at 5:30 p.m. at the church, in God's Harbor. This [Zoom link](#) is available, if you prefer to attend via Zoom. All are welcome. If you would like to learn more about the committee, get more involved with current activities, or bring ideas for Mission opportunities, please join us.

Mission Collections in February

Our Missions focus for February is [Agape Safe Haven](#). *"As a member of the Longmont body of Christ, as an expression of our faith, Agape Longmont serves our neighbors with shelter, food, jobs, and encouragement in the name of Jesus."*

The Agape Safe Haven House in north Longmont serves as a year-round safe and sober shelter for six homeless men, the operations center for Agape's Street Outreach program, and a Day Shelter twice a week. During their Street Outreach every Tuesday and Thursday, they bring hot meals, snacks, and bottled water to Longmont's homeless. Also every Tuesday and Thursday, they open up the house for Day Shelter services. Anyone experiencing homelessness can come to Safe Haven to shower, do a load of laundry, eat a hot meal, and fellowship with the staff, volunteers, and year-round guests.

We are collecting the following items for their shelter: laundry detergent, cleaning supplies (bathroom & kitchen), ground coffee, and shoes or boots. If you would like to contribute, please place your items in the collection barrel located in the narthex near the sanctuary doors. If you would like to contribute monetarily, you may make your donation to LPUMC (specify "Agape" in the check memo line or on the envelope) and put it in the collection plate or turn it in at the church office.

We will also continue collecting **"HUGS for HOPE"** through the winter: Hats, new Underwear, Gloves, Socks, as well as blankets, backpacks and sleeping bags for [HOPE \(Homeless Outreach Providing Encouragement\)](#). Please place your donations in the "HUGS" bins at the east entrance of Fellowship Hall.

On February 11 (Saturday) we will provide lunch at the [OUR Center Community Cafe](#). Volunteers are needed to help prepare the meal (9:30-11:30 a.m.), and to serve the meal & clean-up (11:30am - 1:30pm). You may come for just one of the 2-hour shifts, or both. [Click here to sign up](#), or call Amy Mann-Miner, 303-931-8429. (Volunteers must be 16 years or older.)



United Women in Faith will have the monthly board meeting on February 2nd at 1 p.m. in either the Fellowship Hall or God's Harbor room. This is mainly for officers but everyone is invited.

The daytime general meeting will be held on February 9th at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be making small heart shaped pillows to give to residents at Hover Manor. There are several tasks to help with these pillows such as stuffing, writing cards, and sewing. A snack will be provided.

The evening meeting will be held on February 16th at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The speaker will be Jessica Bennett from Agape Safe Shelter. Some of you will remember that we had to cancel this meeting in November due to bad weather. We know several of you are interested in coming to this meeting. The men are invited as well. A snack will be provided.

Plans are being made for the Mountain Sky Conference retreat. Nothing has been finalized yet, but it will probably be on Zoom due to the large area covered by the Conference. In the past the retreat has been scheduled around the last weekend in April and that may be the case this year. We should have more information on this for the March newsletter.

If you missed our daytime meeting in January, we learned a lot about the Longmont Public Library from their representative, Denise Young. They offer many services we were unaware of. Please go on their website to check it out. We also had a great time at our January evening meeting at Crackpots. If you were unable to attend, there is still time to go to Crackpots to paint a bowl for the Empty Bowls charity. Also, the OUR Center luncheon will be held on March 11th at Trail Ridge Middle School. Please check out the OUR Center website for details.

Anyone needing more information about United Women in Faith can contact Judy Scrimshire at judyscrim@gmail.com or Jan Spitler at janaspitler@gmail.com.

Blessings, Jan Spitler

Bible Studies:

Sundays:

9 a.m. – Studying the Book of **Luke**: Meets in person in God's Harbor and on Zoom.

6:30 p.m. (on Zoom) –We will be starting a new book study on February 19th online via Zoom. This book provides a serious look at some of our thoughts about what 21st century Christianity really is or pretends to be. This book answers the question "do I stay Christian? A guide for the doubters, the disappointed, and the disillusioned". Brian McLaren answers this question both in the negative and the positive and provides a road for either answer. Please contact Bruce Armstrong at brucearmstrong1213@gmail.com for more information. Hardback, paperback, and kindle versions are available online. This is probably one book I will keep in my library to read many times.

Thursdays:

10 a.m. – Ladies book study. Currently studying 1st and 2nd Peter. Meets in God's Harbor. For more information, contact Linda Orrell or Jan Spitler (lporrell@aol.com or janaspitler@gmail.com)

Saturdays:

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

Quilt group:

Wednesdays:

10 a.m. – Come and join us! Contact Judy Scrimshire at judydscrim@gmail.com for more information.

Happy Birthday!

Feb. 1	Ashley Wisehart
Feb. 3	Les Hornbaker Ginny Turnquist Gayle Zweck
Feb. 7	Darlene Nemnich
Feb. 8	Kimberly Forsgren Sharon McBride
Feb. 11	Rudy Adolf
Feb. 14	Brenda Powell
Feb. 16	Richard DelPizzo
Feb. 17	Bobbi Christensen
Feb. 19	Sean Billow
Feb. 21	Bob Foster
Feb. 22	Brenden Fisher
Feb. 23	Kris Coniway
Feb. 24	Jessica Eklof Jim Walker
Feb. 26	Jim Jones
Feb. 27	Douglas Larsen
Feb. 28	Archie Pekarek

Worship Attendance

Date:	In person:	Online:
Jan. 1	80	66
Jan. 8	145	84
Jan. 15	159	81
Jan. 22	122	63

Finance Committee:

	Dec. '22	'22 YTD:
Income:	\$42,514	\$429,081
Expense:	\$31,945	\$381,518

Staff List

Rev. Jeremiah Harris - Pastor
Pastorjeremiah@lpumc.org


Parker Steinmetz – Music Director
music@lpumc.org

Katie Pekarek – Program Director
katie@lpumc.org

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

Paula Muncy – Accompanist
Rev. Sandy Stewart – Deacon-in-Residence

Lonely? Sad? Discouraged?



Going through a tough time—emotionally or spiritually? Struggling with a crisis in life? Or simply feeling down?

Consider letting a Stephen Minister help. A Stephen Minister is a member of our congregation who is trained to listen, care, encourage, pray, and walk alongside you during difficult times. It's confidential, free, and very helpful.

To learn more, talk with a pastor or Stephen Leader.
Contact: Phyllis - 303-906-5055

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.
— Galatians 6:2

Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!

March Newsletter Article Deadline: February 20th. Please send articles to: alex@lpumc.org