

Longs Peak United Methodist Church

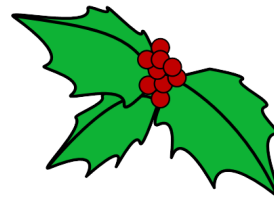
December Connection

1421 ELMHURST DRIVE | LONGMONT | CO | 80503
303-776-0399 | LPUMC.ORG

DECEMBER 2023

Pastors Pen:

*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. -Isa. 9:6*



Sunday Worship Schedule

9 a.m. – Contemporary
Fellowship Time
10:30 a.m. - Traditional

Happy Holidays LPUMC family,

With the Thanksgiving turkey now reduced to soup stock, the holidays are officially in full swing! No doubt that your social calendars will soon be filled with gatherings of family and friends. While this is a time of great joy and family traditions, it's also important that we take moments throughout the season to pause and reflect on the reason for this joyous occasion. My prayer is that LPUMC will help encourage places where you might encounter the divine through "holy" moments this season.

On the first Sunday in Advent both services feature a "drop-in Christmas pageant," so come watch the little ones usher in the season of anticipation. **Sunday, Dec. 10th** will be the favored tradition of **Music Sunday**, so be sure to bring a guest to share and enjoy the sounds of the season. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, or just can't manage to get into the holiday spirit, you might consider the **Blue Christmas service** on **Monday, Dec 11th** at **6:30 p.m.** You might also choose to attend the Wednesday night potluck and book study. The book is based on Walter Brueggemann's advent study *Names for the Messiah*. The book is an easy read, but if you can't make it to all the sessions, or would prefer not to read but come partake in the conversation, you are more than welcome! **Christmas Eve** falls on a Sunday this year, so Sunday morning we will have a brunch pot-luck with a Christmas Carol hymn-sing at 9:30 a.m. That evening we observe Christmas Eve candlelight worship services at 5 and 7 p.m.

Pastor's Pen (Cont.)

Friends, with wars in the Holy land and in Ukraine, it is perhaps even more poignant that we live into the words of the prophet Isaiah we as look towards the promise that *He will be called wonderful counselor, mighty God, everlasting father, and prince of peace.* The Christmas season is a reminder for us that we are to be Christmas people, all year long. May you all find a profound experience of joy, peace, love, and hope in the midst of this season, and share what you have received so that we might be the light of Christ for the world this year.

Merry Christmas,
Jeremiah



Prayer Shawl Ministry and Crafting Group Potluck

Saturday, Dec. 16 - 11 a.m.

At the Scrimshire's:
1717 Drake St.

All crafters are welcome!
Please R.S.V.P to Judy:
[judyscrim@gmail.com](mailto:judy scrim@gmail.com)



United Women in Faith will have their annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 2 at 11 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are invited. This will be a potluck lunch and meat and drinks will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. **Also, there will be an ornament exchange. Please wrap your ornament.** We have a game planned for the exchange. We will also have a sing-along. Join us for fun, fellowship, and good food.

We hope everyone has a safe and blessed Christmas.

Jan Spittler

Names of the Messiah

Wednesdays | 5:30pm-7pm
POTLUCK DINNER AND DEVOTIONS FOR ALL
NOV. 29TH | DEC. 6TH | DEC. 13TH | DEC. 20TH

Come fellowship together with themed potluck and devotions!

November 29th 5:30pm-7pm THANKSGIVING LEFTOVERS WONDERFUL COUNSELOR	
December 6th 5:30pm-7pm BREAKFAST FOR DINNER MIGHTY GOD	
December 13th 5:30pm-7pm TACO NIGHT EVERLASTING GOD	
December 20th 5:30pm-7pm SOUP KITCHEN PRINCE OF PEACE	



So you know...

LPUMC Stephen Ministry *VISION* Statement:

LPUMC Stephen Ministry Vision 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 Stephen Ministry *MISSION* Statement:

The LPUMC Stephen Ministry Mission is to serve God by training lay caregivers who will provide a source of one-to-one emotional and spiritual support to those who are facing life's challenges. This ministry of confidential Christian presence will be available to those in our congregation, as well as those in the broader community, and will result in strengthening our bonds as Christians who care for the world and each other.

If you believe you, or someone you know, may benefit from the support of a Stephen Minister, please call Phyllis Crow at 303-906-5055.



Christmas Gifts for [Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley](#)

Join us in fulfilling some Christmas wishes of residents of Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley and their children. You will find gift tags on the Christmas tree in the narthex detailing the requested gifts. Please take a tag (or tags) of your choice and purchase the requested items. Return the wrapped gifts with the tag attached by December 10th.

HUGS for HOPE & Food for the OUR Center

During December we continue to collect items requested by [HOPE \(Homeless Outreach Providing Encouragement\) of Longmont](#) and the [OUR Center](#). Items requested by HOPE include: Men’s Pants (sizes 30-38), Backpacks, Sleeping Bags, Hand Warmers, Wool Socks, Mens (new) Underwear (sized M/L/XL), Men’s Shoes (sizes 10-12), Hats, Gloves, Razors, Deodorant, Shampoo. Place donations in the blue bins in Fellowship Hall.

The OUR Center’s Community Market needs include canned vegetables (esp. corn), canned meats, and cereals, and **empty egg cartons** (one-dozen size only). Place donations in the Blue Wheelbarrow in Fellowship Hall.

Missions Meals

On December 9 (Saturday) we will provide lunch at the [OUR Center](#) Community Café, and on December 29 (Friday) 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.

[OUR Center Meal – December 9](#)

[HOPE Meal – December 29](#)

Worship Attendance:

Date:	9 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	Online:
Oct. 29	70	31	132
Nov. 5	92	34	62
Nov. 12	107	46	66
Nov. 19	84	48	57
Nov. 26	77	24	66

Finance Committee:

	Oct. '23	'23 YTD	'22 YTD
Income:	\$38,062	\$332,664	\$360,057
Expense:	\$30,126	\$337,290	\$316,635



Advent Happenings:

Wednesday Night Potluck and Bible Study
Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. through Dec. 20th.
Studying: *Names for the Messiah* by Walter Brueggemann.

Sunday, Dec. 3 – Drop in Christmas Pageant
(both services)

Sunday, Dec. 10 – Music Sunday
(both services)

Monday, Dec. 11 – Blue Christmas Service
6:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 24 at 9:30 a.m.
Breakfast Potluck and Hymn Sing

Christmas Eve Services
5 and 7 p.m.

Bible Studies & Small Groups

Mondays:

7 p.m. (on Zoom) – Ladies Bible Study: We are starting a new book: *Jesus Revealed: The I Am Statements in the Gospel of John* by Matt Rawle on December 4th. If you would like to join us, please notify Lina at lina.likem@gmail.com.

Thursdays:

10 a.m. – Ladies Bible Study on *Ecclesiastes: Wisdom for Living Well* by Courtney Joseph and Beverly Wise.

Saturdays:

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

Sundays:

6:30 p.m. – Sundays at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom

We are studying *Christ in Crisis, Reclaiming Jesus in a Time of Fear, Hate, and Violence* by Jim Wallis. This book is an interesting link between Christians and things that are going on both inside and outside the church. It should produce a lot of discussion about how current events are affecting churches and Christianity in general. Jim Wallis is the founder of Sojourners, a group in the Washington, DC area that "...seek[s] to inspire hope and build a movement to transform individuals, communities, the church, and the world." Please contact Bruce Armstrong at brucearmstrong123@gmail.com for information and to get on the weekly email.

Quilt group:

Wednesdays:

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

Happy Birthday!

Dec. 2	Margaret Vann
Dec. 5	Bill Mandry
Dec. 6	Terry Larsen
Dec. 9	Corky Brooks
Dec. 11	Ken Black
Dec. 12	Dolores Hall
Dec. 13	Ed Sobanski
Dec. 16	Pam Ernst Caren King
Dec. 22	Katelyn Lawley
Dec. 23	Bob Henderson
Dec. 25	Glenn Watt
Dec. 26	Tom Hubner
Dec. 27	Alan Dines Nancy Randolph
Dec. 28	Wanda Wilson
Dec. 30	Soleil Reddick

Staff List

Rev. Jeremiah Harris – Pastor:
pastorjeremiah@lpumc.org

Parker Steinmetz – Music Director:
music@lpumc.org

Katie Pekarek – Young People's Ministry:
katie@lpumc.org

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

Angelique Scully – Accompanist

January Newsletter Deadline:

Monday, December 18th

Please send your articles to: alex@lpumc.org