

# Longs Peak United Methodist Church

## *January Connection*

1421 ELMHURST DRIVE | LONGMONT | CO | 80503  
303-776-0399 | LPUMC.ORG  
**JANUARY 2024**

### *Pastor's Pen:*

#### **Happy New Year LPUMC Family!**

How has another year already passed? I don't have any data to back up this observation, but it seems to me that each year passes more quickly than the last! In taking a look back over the past year, I can't help but express the gratitude for all the joy and celebrations that we have shared together. As a church family, we have held each other tenderly for the past year observing occasions for both tears and laughter. The overall health of our congregation remains steady, and our welcoming presence to connect new folks is robust and those are great things to be thankful for! Well done church!

In 2024 as we transition into a new model of lay leadership, I must express my gratitude to all of those who have given so much of their time and talents to help in the administration of our church over the past year. Thank you to all who served on committees this year, and a big thanks to our chairs, Barb, Terry, Susie, Joe, Dee, and Tom. Thanks to all of you who volunteered for craft fairs, potlucks, church maintenance, OUR Center meals, and a whole slew of other things that have happened. Thank you all for all the hard work, labor, and love that you have put in, well done! Even as we transition to the Simplified Accountability Structure, LPUMC still needs your help to make all the things happen that make our congregation thrive.

Beloved family of Christ is it my prayer that each of you have a most blessed 2024! May we continue to grow and journey together. Though we may not always think alike, may we be guided by John Wesley to love alike.

Peace and blessings!

Your Brother in Christ,

Jeremiah

#### **Sunday Worship Schedule:**

9 a.m. – Contemporary Fellowship

**10:45 a.m.** – Traditional (new time)



On **January 14**, we join other UMC congregations in observing **Human Relations Day**. A special offering opportunity supports neighborhood ministries through Community Developers, community advocacy through United Methodist Voluntary Services, and work with at-risk youth through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Programs. Our gifts work together for the common good, building community and sharing God's love.

### Mission Collections in January

Our collection focus for January is CEREAL for the [OUR Center's](#) Community Market. Please place your donations in the barrel near the sanctuary doors, or in the blue wheelbarrow which is typically located at the east end of Fellowship Hall.

We will also continue collecting "HUGS for HOPE" through the winter: **H**ats, new **U**nderwear, **G**loves, **S**ocks, 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.

### Missions Meals

On **January 6** (the FIRST Saturday) we will provide lunch at the [OUR Center](#) Community Café, and on **January 29** (Monday) 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](mailto:LPUMCMissions@gmail.com).

**[OUR Center Meal](#)**

**[HOPE Meal](#)**

The remaining dates for the OUR Center meals throughout 2024 are as follows: Feb. 10, March 9, April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 7, Oct. 12, Nov. 9, & Dec. 7. (*note, those in September & December are 1st Saturdays*) If a group you are a part of at LPUMC would like to provide the volunteer helpers for the meal on one of these dates, please let us know at [LPUMCMissions@gmail.com](mailto:LPUMCMissions@gmail.com) and we will reserve the spots for you.

The Missions Team will meet on **Tuesday, January 9**, 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.



We are having our board meeting on **Saturday, January 6th at 10 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Of course, that meeting is for officers but anyone can attend.

Also, in January is **Crackpots**. We will be going to Crackpots on **Thursday, January 18th at 5:30 p.m.** to paint bowls for the Empty Bowls charity for the Our Center. The cost is \$18 plus tax and a snack will be provided. Everyone is invited and we will be reserving a room. Also, anyone needing a ride can contact either me or Judy. My number is 720-204-6583 and Judy's is 303-702-9094.

The District Leadership Development event will be held on **Saturday, January 27th on Zoom at 8:30 a.m.** It will probably end around 12:30 p.m. All ladies are invited. Anyone wanting to register should contact me at [janaspitler@gmail.com](mailto:janaspitler@gmail.com) or at the number above. There is no cost and registration closes on January 25th.



Thank you to our congregation for the donation of coloring books and crayons in August! We were able to deliver 118 sets along with the books the past 2 weeks to area 1st graders. It is much appreciated!!

**Kim Kittilson, My Book Pal Inc**

## Outside the box stewardship

### About Stuff

So, during stewardship time every year do you find yourself or your family coming up short of what you think maybe is your proper level of giving? Or perhaps your resource mix is sort of non-standard. You know, not much money but extra *stuff*. That *stuff* might just be able to help you put your mind at ease.

We live in the most consumer-oriented society on earth. We all have *stuff*. (If you don't have *stuff* let me know I can help you out!) The recycling/repurposing movement might just be a way to provide resources that another family or individual can use. I do not expect each of us to determine that on our own, though. I propose that we initiate an ad hoc group to discover the uses for *stuff* that our congregation has and also discover alternative uses for that *stuff*.

A couple of quick examples might be:

- The no longer viable laptops and desktops that many of us have. You know, the ones that cannot be upgraded to utilize the modern versions of Windows® or Apple® operating systems. Google, (I know ... they're evil to some.) has a version of their operating system called ChromeOS Flex® that can run very well on a large segment of older computers. It is downloadable for free and can run Gmail, Google Meet, Google Docs, and a great many Linux programs. Perhaps those repurposed computers could be used by folks who are stuck at home and have no way to fellowship with their friends or far-away family. We can help them set up video conferencing sessions with those older computers with free apps from Google, Microsoft, Cisco, and others. (Of course, we can help set those sessions up on their sparkly brand-new units, too!)
- Of course, let us not forget the scraps of clothing or other no longer useful fabric that could be turned into shawls or quilts or wiping rags or even redesigned and modernized from what they were to a new style.
- How about the unused - replaced by a newer one - kitchen appliances?
- Replaced furniture? Upgraded tools? Vehicles? Toys?

Of course, actual junk is probably not a resource, *but* often can be recycled for cash. Old extension cords, coaxial cables, and wire left over from house remodeling and anything steel or aluminum can be recycled for cash.

Maybe one of your contributions could be the transportation of someone else's "junk" to a recycler. Or helping set up those repurposed computers for a family.

Additionally, even if you don't have money or *stuff*, you might have time. Perhaps that time could be donated to help figure out how to repurpose some of the *stuff* that other folks have that, after repurposing, might be useful to someone else.

Let's get creative. We can do it! God *will* help!

- Jim Walker

## Worship Attendance

Date:	9 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	Online:
Dec. 3	105	66	80
Dec. 10	120	75	115
Dec. 17	104	32	75

## Finance Committee

	Nov '23	'23 YTD	'22 YTD
Income:	\$27,194	\$359,827	\$386,537
Expense:	\$27,646	\$364,936	\$349,574

We are behind on our budget goal for this year. Please consider LPUMC for your year-end giving.

## Young People's Ministries

LONGS PEAK UMC

### January Events

Jan. 7th | Sunday

School Resumes

Jan. 14th | Youth

Lock-In

Jan. 15th | Young

People Ministries'

Go to Parade in

Denver



**THE  
TIME IS  
ALWAYS  
RIGHT  
TO DO  
WHAT IS  
RIGHT**

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

# Bible Studies:

# Happy Birthday!

## **Mondays:**

**7 p.m.** (on Zoom) – Ladies Bible Study: Studying *Jesus Revealed: The I Am Statements in the Gospel of John* by Matt Rawle. Contact Line Liken at [lina.liken@gmail.com](mailto:lina.liken@gmail.com) for the Zoom link.

## **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 [stvngffn@gmail.com](mailto:stvngffn@gmail.com) or 303-702-9877.

## **Sundays:**

**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. Please contact Bruce Armstrong at [brucearmstrong123@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:judy scrim@gmail.com) for more information.

Jan. 1	Janet Armstrong
Jan. 4	Ree Hauger
Jan. 8	Magnus Henry Mary Jolly John Tarpley
Jan. 11	Debbie Sarlo Jan Spitler
Jan. 15	Jacob Marsing
Jan. 19	Adrienne Maxwell Jerry Orrell
Jan. 24	Mary Ann Hayden Thomas Ritter
Jan. 25	Rick LeBlanc
Jan. 27	Don Davis
Jan. 29	Carla Henderson Irene Lambert
Jan. 30	Grace Holmquist Troy Sanchez
Jan. 31	Bruce Richardson



## LPUMC Staff

Rev. Jeremiah Harris - Pastor  
[Pastorjeremiah@lpumc.org](mailto:Pastorjeremiah@lpumc.org)

Parker Steinmetz – Music Director  
[music@lpumc.org](mailto:music@lpumc.org)

Katie Pekarek – Program Director  
[katie@lpumc.org](mailto:katie@lpumc.org)

Alex Anderson – Office Manager/Treasurer  
[alex@lpumc.org](mailto:alex@lpumc.org)  
[finance@lpumc.org](mailto:finance@lpumc.org)

Angelique Scully – Accompanist

**February Newsletter Deadline:**  
**January 15<sup>th</sup>**

Please send any articles to:  
[alex@lpumc.org](mailto:alex@lpumc.org)