

Longs Peak United Methodist Church

February Connection

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

FEBRUARY 2024

Pastor's Pen:

Sunday Worship Schedule:

9 a.m. - Contemporary
10:45 a.m. - Traditional

And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love -1 Corinthians 13:13

Beloved LPUMC Family,

Happy Valentine's Day (Ash Wednesday)! It seems that we just celebrated Christmas, and now we're already onto February! With the short advent season and now with Lent beginning on February 14th, I am not sure if the donkey is headed to Bethlehem or Jerusalem and if it's carrying Mary or Jesus! In either case, LPUMC is along for the ride, so come join us for the Lenten Season! Lenten observances will begin with an Ash Wednesday service on Feb 14th, followed by a weekly Wednesday night potluck at 5:30 and a book study beginning at 6:15 p.m. This Lent we will be studying Tom Berlin's new book, *The Third Day: Living the Resurrection*.

Winter is a hard time with the darkness and cold. With the excitement of the holidays behind us, we can easily fall into a post-holiday funk. One suggestion for a pick-me-up is to pursue activities that connect with Mind, Body, and Spirit. These pursuits may look something like this...

- Pursue someone or something to love (passion)
- Pursue something worthwhile to do (purpose)
- Pursue Something to look forward to (hope)

Another great way to deal with the winter doldrums is to remember that "*the greatest of these is love.*" As a part of the LPUMC family, you matter and you are loved! Be sure to stay connected within the LPUMC family, and go to a fellowship group or book study. Come early or stay late to enjoy coffee in the fellowship hall between Sunday services. Come to the potlucks. Sing in the Choir. There are many ways to engage the congregation, and as your spiritual family, you don't have to face the winter alone. Your church, pastor, and staff are here for you!

Yours in Christ,
Jeremiah



News from the Leadership Board

Hello, Longs Peak UMC, from your new Leadership Board. On January 10, 2024, the New Leadership Board officially began the exciting transition from the “legacy model” to the new and improved Simplified Accountability Structure (SAS) and after completing the training materials and background readings we agreed that the challenges that face us are significant (communication, redefinition of teams, Leadership focus on governance, not management, and accountability to a God-sized vision) but so very exciting.

The first steps for the transition will be to determine new church goals, commit ourselves to the Board Covenant, and compose the Guiding Principles.

Goals will be God-Focused/Sized visions that we can work towards. Re-assessing what is working and what is not for our true mission which is to “make disciples of Jesus and make a transformational Kingdom impact in individual lives, our communities, and the world”.

The Leadership Board will all engage in a covenant to keep ourselves focused through the year, accountable to each other and the congregation, and to work together to accomplish the mission and goals for Longs Peak UMC.

Guiding Principles are set up to allow the day-to-day duties of the church to run smoothly with the individual ministry teams being responsible for their resources and the Leadership being accountable for outlining those responsibilities well.

All board meetings are open to anyone who wants to attend (cookies, candy, or popcorn are always welcome too). The only time that we will be in closed sessions is when there are staff or delicate matters that need to be addressed – so, hopefully, rarely if ever! Along with attending our sessions, you are invited to attend the quarterly Town Halls – watch for those dates to be determined soon. This is the best way for us to keep you informed of the workings of your board, staff, and ministry teams.

Here’s to an amazing transition and year ahead of us. Please hold us up in prayer as we embark on this very exciting but unknown journey, and we will hold you all in our prayers as well.

Your Leadership Board.

Barb Huner (Chair), Caren King, Phil Wilson, Susie Sisson, Blaise Stephanus, John Mees, Bruce Richardson, Stacy Dewitt, Roberta Shanahan, and Rev. Jeremiah Harris





Mission Collections in February

Our collection focus for February is Mountain View Elementary School (MVES). MVES is a nearby Title 1 elementary school, and it does not have a parent organization (e.g. PTA) like many of the local St. Vrain Valley District schools. Longs Peak UMC has long supported MVES through our Reading Buddies program, teacher appreciation, and provision of meals for the teachers on Parent/Teacher Conference days.

During February, we will collect boxes of tissues (e.g. Kleenex) and pre-portioned dry snacks (e.g. goldfish, granola bars, crackers). If you would like to participate, please place your donations in the barrel near the sanctuary doors.

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 February 10th (Saturday) we will provide lunch at the [OUR Center](#) Community Café, and on February 29 (Thursday) 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](#)

[HOPE Meal](#)

The remaining dates for our 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 and we will reserve the spots for you.

The Missions Team will meet Tuesday, February 6, 5:30 pm at the church, in God's Harbor. This [Zoom link](#) is available, if you prefer to attend via Zoom. All are welcome.

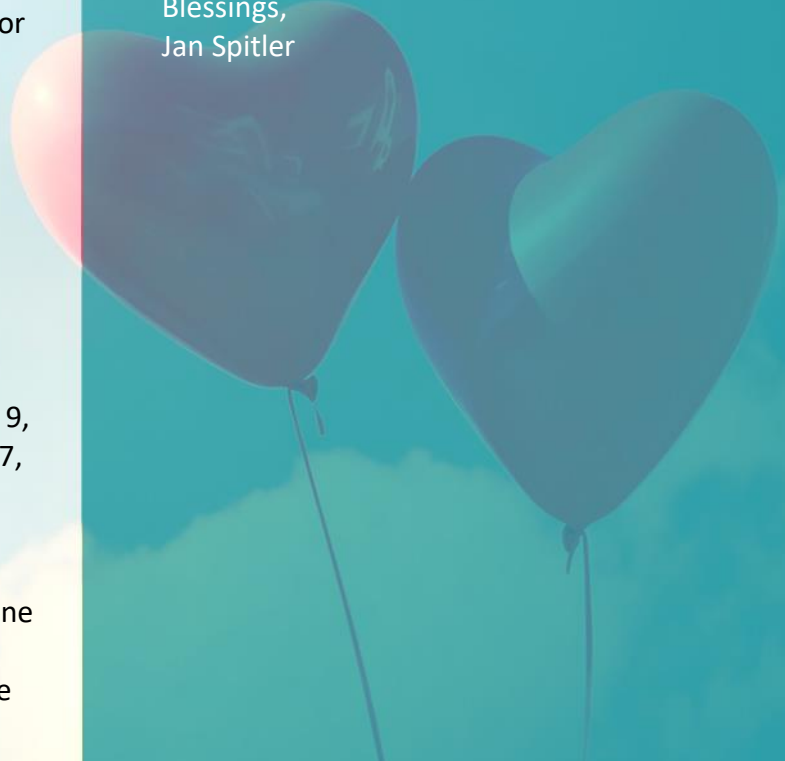


United Women in Faith will have a board meeting on Saturday, February 3rd at 10 a.m. in the God's Harbor room. This is for officers but everyone is welcome.

There will be a meeting on Thursday, February 8th at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are invited. The speaker will be Jennifer Seybold from the Veterans Community Project. A snack will be provided.

A meeting will be held on Thursday, February 15th at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Jennifer Seybold from the Veterans Community Project will also be the speaker at this meeting. A snack will be provided and all ladies are invited.

Blessings,
Jan Spitler

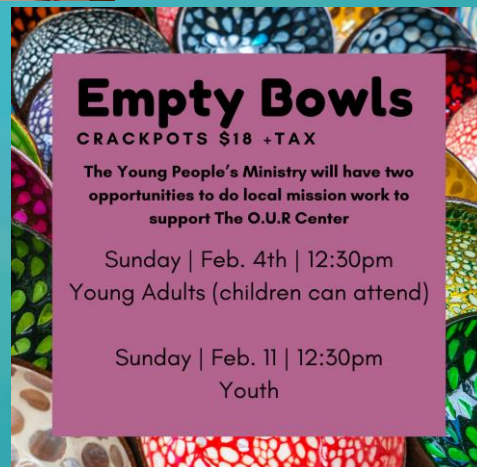
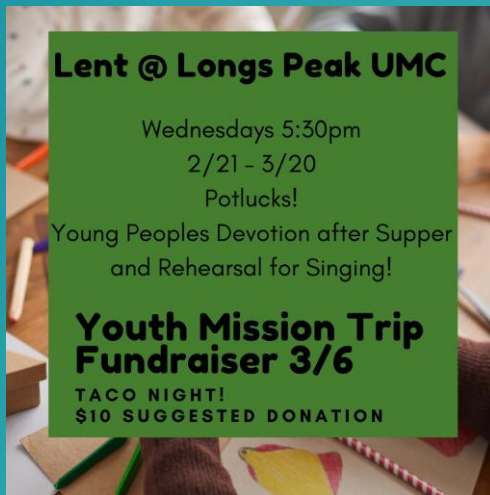


Upcoming Events

Longs Peak will have lots of opportunities to serve and support local and extended outreach these coming months. Check out this month's list of activities for the month. Stay tuned in March and April for:

- Parent's night out
- Youth Mission trip fundraisers
- Children singing in Church
- Easter Egg Hunt

Spread Love and Choose Kind,
Katie Pekarek



Marshall Fire Donation Gratitude

Some of you might remember Stella Pradeau who was one of the recipients of the money raised by the LPUMC congregation after the Marshall Fire. Stella, who is an award-winning pianist, lost her home and her concert piano during that fire and we had the blessing of contributing to a fund for replacing that piano. She thanked us by playing for us one Sunday this summer and now writes that she was finally able to purchase a comparable piano on which her livelihood depends. Please enjoy an excerpt from the letter she just sent to us:

"I continue to be touched and humbled by the generosity and kindness of so many people, both friends and strangers, during those weeks after the Marshall fire. **A little part of each of you is in this amazing new piano that is now in my life.** Thank you!"

Stella

Bible Studies:

Happy Birthday!

Mondays:

7 p.m. (on Zoom) – Ladies Bible Study: Studying the book *Irresistible: Reclaiming the New that Jesus Unleashed for the World* by Andy Stanley. If you would like to join us, please notify Lina at lina.likem@gmail.com.

Wednesdays (2/21-3/20):

6:15 p.m. (Following the Lenten Potluck Meal) – Studying *The Third Day: Living The Resurrection* by Tom Berlin. Led by Pastor Jeremiah.

Thursdays:

10 a.m. – Ladies' Bible Study on *The Book of Matthew*.

Saturdays:

7:30 a.m. – Men's Group. For more information contact Steve Gaffney at stvnffn@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 for information and to get on the weekly email.

Quilt group:

Wednesdays:

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

Feb. 3	Les Hornbaker Ginny Turnquist Gayle Zweck
Feb. 4	Ariel Laman
Feb. 7	Darlene Nemnich
Feb. 8	Sharon McBride
Feb. 11	Rudy Adolf
Feb. 14	Brenda Powell
Feb.16	Richard DelPizzo
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. 28	Archie Pekarek

Worship Attendance

Date:	9 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	Online:
Dec. 31	83 (9:30)	-	70
Jan. 7	90	46	60
Jan. 14	57	25	101
Jan. 21	107	40	57
Jan. 28	100	40	49

Finance:

	Dec. '23	'23 Total:
Income:	\$39,882	\$399,716
Expense:	\$36,131	\$401,067

Staff List

Rev. Jeremiah Harris - Pastor
Pastorjeremiah@lpumc.org

Parker Steinmetz – Music Director
music@lpumc.org

Katie Pekarek – Director of Programs
katie@lpumc.org

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

Angelique Scully – Accompanist

March Newsletter Article Deadline: February 19th. Please send articles to: alex@lpumc.org