



Longs Peak United Methodist Church

March Connection

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

MARCH 2024

Pastor's Pen:

*Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord.
John 21:12 (NIV)*

Sunday Worship Schedule:

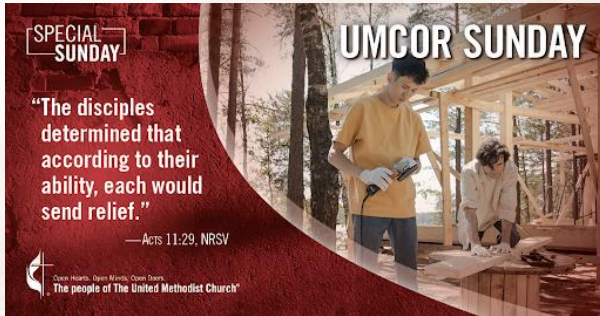
9 a.m. - Contemporary
10:45 a.m. - Traditional

Can you imagine being invited to breakfast by Jesus himself? I am sure the disciples would have been just as astonished by this invitation. They had witnessed his death and the empty tomb, they were probably still reeling with what it all meant and asking themselves the question "Where do we go from here?" Peter, not sure what to do with his life now, returns to his old life as a fisherman. I'm sure that Peter replayed his denial of Christ continually in his head, wishing that he had lived up to Christ's nickname for him as "the rock." For Peter, the joy of Easter Resurrection was not likely found in an empty tomb, rather resurrection came as a surfside fish breakfast. That morning fish probably never tasted so good! It wasn't simply a meal to stave off hunger, this was a sacred act of Jesus to help Peter to forgive himself, for what Christ already forgave.

This is the same invitation that Christ offers us this Easter. Not only are we restored in our divine relationships, but like the fish breakfast, we are invited to *physically* feel the assurance of Christ's presence with us. Throughout this Lenten season, there are many opportunities to break bread together. Come feast at our Wednesday night pot-lucks and book discussion. LPUMC will begin our Holy Week observances with a Palm Sunday celebration on March 24th. Our final Wednesday night meal and study will conclude with a "Maundy Wednesday" Holy Communion. For Good Friday, LPUMC will be joining with The Heart of Longmont, Lyons, and Hygiene UMC congregations for a collaborative service on March 29th at 7 p.m. On Holy Saturday, bring the kids or grandkids to the community Easter Egg hunt at 10 a.m., March 30. Be sure to join us in person or by livestream on Easter Sunday, March 31st, as you will not want to miss the special music of LPUMC's music ministries.

Friends, in this season of Lent, Christ invites each of us to "Come, will you eat at my table?" It is my prayer that each of us will experience a special and meaningful encounter with Christ this season. May that experience of the risen Christ be so profound that our spiritual hunger be filled! Let us gather together this season to celebrate the joy of being Christ's Easter people.

Yours in Christ
Jeremiah Harris



UMCOR Sunday: On March 10th, we join other UMC congregations in observing UMCOR Sunday. The offering for this Special Sunday underwrites UMCOR's administrative costs, allowing the [United Methodist Committee on Relief](#) to use 100% of all funds given to humanitarian response and recovery efforts directly to communities in need. These gifts ensure UMCOR can respond swiftly to disasters around the world and as a source of hope and healing for those left most vulnerable. To give online, go to UMC.org/SSGive



Easter Baskets for Children at the Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley

This Easter we will be making 16-20 Easter baskets for the Safe Shelter kids. We are seeking donations to put in the baskets. Was there a special candy or toy you received in your basket as a child? Stuffed animals, peeps or a special candy, winter gloves, coloring books & crayons, or a children's bible? Join us in putting the baskets together on Palm Sunday (March 24) during Fellowship. Any questions, please contact Cinda Ritter ct_ritter@yahoo.com.



LPUMC is again a sponsor of the March 9th [Empty Bowls](#) fundraiser, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Longmont High School. This awesome local event supports the OUR Center's Community Cafe. Tickets are available at Crackpots, the OUR Center, and online ([click here](#)). There will be bowls from several LPUMC congregants!

Mission Collections in March

For the OUR Center's Community Market: top needs include spaghetti and pinto beans (canned or dry). If you'd like to contribute, please place your donations in the blue wheelbarrow in Fellowship Hall.

For "HUGS for HOPE" through March: Hats, new Underwear, Gloves, Socks, as well as winter coats. Place donations in the "HUGS" bins at the east entrance of Fellowship Hall.

Missions Meals

On March 9 (the 2nd Saturday) we will provide lunch at the OUR Center Community Cafe; and on March 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

Hope Meal

The Missions Team will meet on Tuesday, March 5, 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 & invited.



Wednesday Night Potlucks and Bible Study

5:30 p.m. Runs through March 27

Note: Wed., March 6 is a Youth Taco Night Fundraiser – no need to bring a dish to share.

Holy Week Schedule

Sunday, March 24 – Palm Sunday

Wednesday, March 27 – "Maundy Wednesday" potluck ending with communion after the Bible Study.

Friday, March 29 at 7 p.m.– Good Friday Service

Saturday, March 30 from 10 a.m. to noon – Community Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 31st – Easter Sunday

News from the Leadership Board

On February 12, 2024, your leadership board had our first attempt at the new agenda style proposed for this type of governance board and we were blessed by a devotion by Pastor Jeremiah and have chosen a leadership development study for this group called "Canoeing the Mountains". We are hopeful this will help us navigate this unknown territory.

We went on to discuss the results of the past retreat for goal development as well as the survey that was collected at church services on Sunday, February 11, 2024. A HUGE thank you to all who participated in that survey. Those responses help guide us in developing ways to lead the church to where we as a church want/need to go.

Discussion was held about the possibility of looking into Solar Panels for the church to go more "green" – the decision was made to hold off on this for now. May be reconsidered in the future but not to be undertaken at this time. Instead, the goal is to try to replace lightbulbs and other items as they wear out with more environmentally friendly options.

We will be hosting a Town Hall meeting in either March or April – please be on the lookout for the exact times and location to be announced once they are finalized. If you have any questions or concerns prior to that please do not hesitate to contact Barb Huner or another member of your leadership team.

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



United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith will have the monthly board meeting on Saturday, March 9th at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are welcome to join us.

The daytime general meeting will be held on Thursday, March 14th at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be making greeting cards to put in the Easter baskets that the Mission Team will be preparing to give to Safe Shelter. A snack will be provided.

The evening Esther Circle meeting will be held on Thursday, March 21st at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will again be making greeting cards. A snack will be provided.

UWF is in charge of fellowship on Easter Sunday which is March 31st. Since there will probably be quite a few people, we are asking for help with food. Those who are able to help with either set up, clean up or food should contact Judy Scrimshire at judyscrim@gmail.com. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Blessings, Jan Spitler

Worship Attendance

Date:	9 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	Online:
Feb. 4	81	32	79
Feb. 11	91	41	87
Feb. 18	100	41	63
Feb. 25	92	50	61

Finance:

	Jan. '24	Jan.'23
Income:	\$31,860	\$51,658
Expense:	\$33,415	\$42,435

Bible Studies

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.liken@gmail.com.

Wednesdays (through 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 stvnngffn@gmail.com or 303-702-9877.

Sundays:

Noon (Room 135) – "Light and Times of Jesus and John". The book is *The Gospel of John Volumes 1&2*, by William Barclay (class runs through 3/24). Contact Steven Hershberger for more info and to sign up: slhersh51@gmail.com.

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.

Happy Birthday!

March 3	Carolyn Driver
March 4	Kristin Miller
March 5	Joe Pieper
March 7	Jan Baker Ginny Walker
March 9	Leigh-Ann Black Laurie Faye
March 10	Steve Gaffney Becca Marsing
March 11	Jan Steger
March 12	Brenda Henry
March 19	Dennis Champlin Rebekah Fisher Matt Fisher
March 20	Wes Stiller
March 25	Lauren Billow
March 26	Wyatt Eklof
March 27	Emily Billow
March 28	Kathy Cowley
March 29	Dale Sherrod
March 30	Randy Carlson

LPUMC Staff

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



April Newsletter Deadline:
March 18th
Please send any articles to:
alex@lpumc.org