



# April Connection

## LPUMC Info

1421 Elmhurst Dr.  
Longmont, CO 80503  
303-776-0399

Website: [lpumc.org](http://lpumc.org)  
[Lpumc@lpumc.org](mailto:Lpumc@lpumc.org)

### **Office hours:**

Monday – Thursday  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### **Sunday Worship Schedule**

9 a.m. – Contemporary  
10 a.m. – Fellowship  
10:45 a.m. – Traditional

### **Staff:**

Rev. Jeremiah Harris  
Pastor

Parker Steinmetz  
Music Director

Katie Pekarek  
Director of Programs

Alexandria Anderson  
Treasurer/Office Manager

Angelique Scully  
Accompanist

### **May Newsletter Deadline:**

**April 15**

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

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



*“With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all.” – Acts 4:33*

Greetings Church of the Risen Christ,

Although we just observed Easter Sunday, we are only now beginning the celebratory season of Eastertide! During this season, each Sunday is celebrated as if it were Easter Sunday up until the day of Pentecost. During this time, we commemorate Jesus’s resurrection and continued presence before his ascension. It’s a time in which all of the sacrifice and discernment of GODs direction during Lent, gives birth to a season of new life and new beginnings.

It is fitting that during this spring, LPUMC’s leadership board has been in a season of discernment as to the direction of our future vision to better be Christ’s hands and feet. We are clear that the mission of our church is to “make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world,” yet in this post-modern world where more people identify as “spiritual but not religious,” or fit into the ever-growing category of nones” and “dones” (people who do not affiliate with a church), how do we better share the love of Christ?

Thanks to your help with the core values survey, we are seeing some trending community values rising to the surface for our congregation. LPUMC places a high value on quality worship. This includes excellent music, solid biblical interpretation and preaching, and values vitality in prayer. Another principal core value is that of fellowship in community. LPUMC models a church of hospitality and welcome, a community that fosters meaningful small group relationships, as well as being a community that surrounds members in prayer and support. It is through core values such as these that will then shape our missional goals so that we can better live into the overall mission of our church. As specific SMART goals are identified, these too will be communicated to the congregation. It is paramount that the board’s success is built on transparency and the trust of the congregation, and as such, board meetings are open to the LPUMC family to be in attendance.

Last but not least, April 23-May 3 will be the General Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina. This is the 2020 conference, that had been postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. While I can offer very few predictions going into the conference, I anticipate

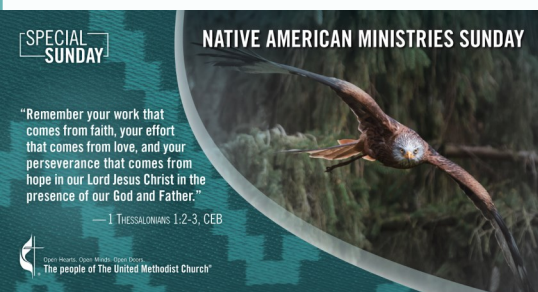
offering a town-hall meeting following the conference to debrief whatever transpires. For those interested in following the General Conference, this link will provide updates throughout the Conference.

Beloved church, it IS a great blessing to be in ministry with you! In this time of Spring, in which all things are blooming, I believe that LPUMC has planted seeds which will soon begin to blossom into a new and vibrant future. Let us be in prayerful discernment and in anticipation as to where GOD is leading us next!

Yours in Christ,  
Jeremiah



**Native American Ministries Sunday:** On April 14th we join other UMC congregations in observing [Native American Ministries Sunday](#) to support grassroots work within Native American churches and Native American outreach ministries. Through designated gifts offered this Sunday, Native American students will receive scholarships to help them complete their seminary education; Native American local churches will offer vacation Bible school and after-school programs to reach children with cultural and Scriptural education; elders will gather to study and learn within their own cultural community; and annual conferences will conduct Native American outreach ministries. If you would like, you may contribute at LPUMC, or online ([click here](#)).



### April Mission Collection Focus

In keeping with April being the month of Native American Ministries Sunday, we are collecting items to be used in Christmas Gift Boxes for Native American elders residing on reservations in South Dakota. This effort is being coordinated by the United Women in Faith. Our local UWinF district works with One Nation Walking Together, a non-profit located in Colorado Springs, to deliver the wrapped boxes prior to the Christmas holidays. If you would like to contribute, you may place your donations in the barrel in the narthex. Any questions, please contact Judy Scrimshire.

The list of suggested items includes shoeboxes, socks, hats, gloves, dishcloths and towels, small fleece blankets, pens, notepads, deck of cards, bandana, small tools (screwdriver, pliers, nails, etc.), small can of protein (ham, tuna, Vienna sausages), small cans/bags of nuts, granola or protein bars, hard candies, sugar free candy, tea bags or hot chocolate mixes, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hotel-size shampoo and conditioner bottles, paperback books, reading glasses, or anything else that you think someone would enjoy.

### Missions Meals

On April 13 (Saturday) we will provide lunch at the [OUR Center](#) Community Cafe; and on April 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](#)

[Agape Safe Haven](#), in north Longmont, has recently restarted their Community Meals for the homeless, every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. For details & if you would like to help, please see their meal sign-up ([click here](#)), or email Jessica at [agapesafehaven.jessica@gmail.com](mailto:agapesafehaven.jessica@gmail.com).

**The Missions Team will meet Tuesday, April 2, 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.



United  
Women  
in Faith

United Women in Faith will have their board meeting of officers on Saturday, April 6th at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This meeting is for officers but everyone is invited to attend.

The daytime general meeting will be held on Thursday, April 11th at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. A representative from Crossroads School will be our speaker. A snack will be provided and all ladies are invited.

We are going to try something different for the Esther Circle Meeting. This meeting will be held on Thursday, April 18th at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be serving dinner. We will have lasagna, salad, garlic bread and Girl Scout cookies. This is not a potluck. UWF will be taking care of the dinner. Also, the representative from Crossroads School will be our speaker at that meeting. All ladies are invited.

We are in the process of planning a tea probably sometime in May as we did last year. Watch for information soon for that event.



### News from the Leadership Board:

On March 11, 2024, your leadership board met again to continue working towards developing and defining what the core values of Longs Peak United Methodist Church would be for this first year. We reviewed our Covenant to each other and to you as your board, and we have started the process of hiring a new permanent pianist. Regretfully, Angelique was not hired for a long-term engagement; she is a graduate student and will be pursuing her goals, but we are very blessed to have her for as long as we can. (We can certainly hope and pray that she will change her mind and decide to stay!)

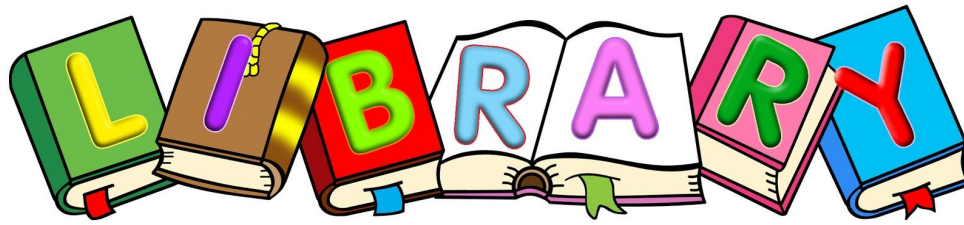
Our Spiritual formation for this month was on situations that may not be pleasant, and you would not want to live them again, but that changed or helped make you who you are today.

For our leadership development, we reviewed the first section of the book *Canoeing the Mountains* by Tod Bolsinger, and it was agreed that this book is timely and will help us as we lead the church through change and “uncharted territory”. Section two will be discussed at the next meeting – April 8, 2024.

Barb and Blaise presented more of what we are doing during the mission moment on Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> of March. Please watch the YouTube video available on-line if you missed that and want to know more.

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



The library has added some new books. They are located on the "New Books" shelf.

### **Biography**

*50 Women Every Christian Should Know* by Michelle DeRusha. DeRusha focuses on 50 incredible women who have left their mark in history and in the Kingdom of God. You will find much to admire in their stories from Corrie Ten Boom to Harriet Tubman and others whose names might be new to you.

### **Christianity & Faith**

*What's So Blessed About Being Poor?* By Susan Slavin. Are those who live in dire poverty really blessed, as the Gospel beatitude proclaims? Two missionary women living among the poor in Kenya tell their shattering and also inspiring stories of how love and friendship reveals the beauty of God in the poorest of Africa.

### **Inspirational**

*Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson. An unforgettable account by an idealistic young lawyer who defends those desperate and needy people who have been wrongly accused. His story is an inspiring argument for passion in pursuit of justice.

*The Reason* by Lacy Sturm. With raw vulnerability, this hard rock star, who was bent on committing suicide and had no belief in God, tells her heart-rending story of her ultimate salvation and the reason she is alive today.

### **Large Print**

*Across Many Mountains* by Yangzom Brauen. Brauen tells a story of love, courage, and triumph lived by her grandmother, Kunsang. Kunsang was a young Buddhist missionary living in Tibet. She lived in peace, harmony and prayer with her family until the Chinese invasion in 1950. This is the story of Kunsang hidden for many years until told by Brauen.

### **Methodism**

*Key United Methodist Beliefs* by William J. Abraham. Deepen your faith and enrich your life through this study of core Methodist beliefs. Written by popular seminary teachers, this book will connect you to the life and ministry of John Wesley, demonstrating relevance for the lives of Christians today in easy-to-understand language.

### **Personal Challenge**

*Not Worth Saving* by Ann L. Joyner. Doctors told a young mother that her unborn child's life was Not Worth Saving. With the determination that mother found through faith, Matthew thrived, and he did live. Ann Joyner shares the story of her son Matthew's twenty-one miraculous and grace-filled years—and, unwittingly, reveals so much more about the number of lives and hearts Matthew changed, simply by being alive.

### **Prayer**

*Help, Thanks, Wow* by Anne Lamott. Lamott explains what these three prayers have meant to her through the years. Help—asking for assistance, thanks—appreciating all we have in our lives, and wow—praising God for all that is beautiful and amazing in this world we live in.

## Bible Studies and other groups

### 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](mailto:lina.likem@gmail.com).

### Wednesdays:

**10 a.m.** - Quilt Group . Meets in God’s Harbor

### 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 [stvngffn@gmail.com](mailto:stvngffn@gmail.com).

**10 a.m.** (third Saturday of the month) Prayer Shawl Ministry. Meeting this month is on 4/20 at Red Frog Coffee.

### Sundays:

**6:30 p.m.** (on Zoom) – We will be starting a new book study beginning on April 21st. The book is titled *Outdoing Jesus: Seven Ways to Live Out the Promise of 'Greater Than'* by Doug Pagitt. It is a great follow-on from the study of the book of John and has some really good discussions on how we can take the teachings of Jesus from John and extend them to what we can do to further the Kingdom of God on earth. Please contact Bruce Armstrong at [brucearmstrong1213@gmail.com](mailto:brucearmstrong1213@gmail.com) for further information and to get on the weekly Zoom link.

## Happy Birthday!

<b>April 1</b>	<b>Seth Hagedorn</b> <b>Katie Pekarek</b>
<b>April 2</b>	Sauvren Reddick
<b>April 4</b>	Nadine Nelson Arlene Stiller
<b>April 5</b>	Brenda Peterson-Pieper
<b>April 6</b>	Linda Cochran
<b>April 8</b>	Susan Cooper
<b>April 12</b>	Stephany Larsen Tami Moin
<b>April 15</b>	Pat Schaeffer Sandy Stewart
<b>April 16</b>	Pat Orrell
<b>April 17</b>	Kevin Osler
<b>April 19</b>	Parker Steinmetz
<b>April 21</b>	Amanda Billow
<b>April 22</b>	Judy Scrimshire
<b>April 26</b>	Joy Long
<b>April 30</b>	Melissa Hornbaker

### Worship Attendance:

Date:	9 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	Online:
March 3	80	38	59
March 10	90	50	62
March 17	90	35	70
March 24	116	52	69

### Finance:

	Feb. '24	Feb. '23	2024 Feb. YTD
<b>Income:</b>	\$40,243	\$31,636	\$72,109
<b>Expense:</b>	\$34,239	\$33,733	\$67,654

### Three ways you can donate to Longs Peak UMC with your normal everyday spending:

1. **Kings Soopers Rewards:** If you shop at King Soopers using their loyalty program, you can link LPUMC with your account. Longs Peak receives 5% back on every purchase you make. In 2023, we made \$1786 in rewards. It's easy to sign up: sign into your King Soopers account. Click on "Community Rewards" and search for Longs Peak United Methodist Church or TW440 and enroll the church as your organization.

2. **iGive.com:** Turn your online shopping and searching into much-needed donations:  
[www.iGive.com/LongsPeakUnitedMethodistChurch](http://www.iGive.com/LongsPeakUnitedMethodistChurch)

3. **RaiseRight** App: if you use egift cards, you can purchase many of them through the RaiseRight™ app. If you sign up with LPUMC, we earn a percentage of your purchase. Scan the QR code to get set up.

