



MARCH 2026

# NOTE FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Beloved Church Family,

We are currently in the midst of the Lenten season, which is one of the most sacred times of the year. The forty days of Lent invite us to slow down,

reflect, and prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter. The Lenten season is not about perfection or performance. It's not about doing everything "right" or feeling bad about ourselves. It's a time for transformation and honesty. A season when we turn our hearts back to God, meditate on our priorities, and experience the wonder of God's grace.

This year at the Heart of Longmont, we are journeying through Lent with the worship series **Wandering Heart** from the creators of *A Sanctified Art*. This series follows the life of Peter, one of Christ's disciples. In my opinion, I believe Peter is the most relatable disciple because he's so human. He is brave and afraid, faithful and uncertain. He loves Jesus deeply, and yet he struggles to fully understand Christ. Peter reminds us that faith is a journey where we grow in our relationship with God. Peter models how discipleship is a life spent learning to trust the Lord, the One who never stops loving



us. One of my favorite stories of Peter and Jesus is in chapter 5 of the Gospel of Luke. In the story, Peter's fished all night on the Sea of Galilee and caught nothing. He was exhausted, discouraged, and ready to give up. And in the midst of his disappointment, Jesus steps onto his boat and encourages Peter to try again. Christ invites him to let down his nets once more.

I love how Peter responds. He says, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets."

And when Peter does this, the nets fill beyond what he imagined.

It's important to remember that this story is not about "earning" God's blessing or following some kind of formula to get what we want. Peter's life was not easy or perfect—before or after his decision to follow Jesus. The Gospels show us that Peter experienced immense failure, grief, and uncertainty. But what I love about this story is that it reminds us that Jesus meets us right in the middle of our disappointment and heartache and encourages us to try again. This story highlights how Christ brings us His presence, peace, and abundant grace in the moments we need it the most.

This season of Lent is particularly sacred for me because I'm on parental leave. Instead of preaching on Sundays, attending committee meetings, and providing pastoral care, my days have been filled with feeding, changing, and playing with our sweet son, Micah. And in this new season of parenting a newborn, I find myself reflecting on the ways Christ has been so faithfully present on my own journey.

Russ and I spent years waiting to become parents, walking through seasons of hope and heartbreak. And through it all, Jesus was always with us "in our boat" just like he was with Peter on the Sea of Galilee. As I reflect on the past six years, I

give thanks for the countless times Christ sustained us, encouraged us, and gently guided us forward.

Because of the loving and courageous decision of Micah's birth mother, Russ and I have the joy of being parents. Micah is the love of our lives and we hold the honor of being his parents with gratitude and humility.

Lent reminds us that Christ meets us in every season. In our wandering, our waiting, our joy, our heartbreak, and our uncertainty. Lent reminds us that God's grace is expansive and Christ's love is unwavering. Most of all: Lent reminds us that resurrection is always unfolding, even when we can't see it.

Beloveds, wherever you find yourself this season, please remember that Christ is already with you, "in your boat", bringing you encouragement, guidance, and abundant grace.

I am holding you all in prayer this Lent, and I look forward to being back with you in April.

With Gratitude and Love,



—REV. ANGIE DORNISCH

# WORSHIPFUL MOMENTS

## CHEF HEARTY



*Chef Hearty Italian Sausage Pasta Bake! Yum!*

## CHILI COOK-OFF



*The Annual Chili Cook-off was another huge success. Congratulations to our chili and dessert winners!*



*Chili Winners  
Scott Yoder (First Place)  
Debbie Howard (Second Place)  
Bob Milner and Amy Mann (Third Place)*



*Dessert Winners  
Marty Allison (First Place)  
Gooney and Yummy Dessert and Eileen VanPernis (Second Place) Triple Berry Pie*



# MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



**Exploring White Supremacy**  
Lecture and Discussion with  
**Dr. Catlyn Keenan**  
**SUNDAY MARCH 1** 11:00 AM  
in the Heart of Longmont Chapel

**CHEF HEARTY BUILD DAY**  
Sunday, March 8 after worship service



**INTERGENERATIONAL GAME NIGHT**  
**SUNDAY MARCH 8** 4:00 PM TO 6:00 PM  
ALL AGES ARE INVITED FOR OUR ANNUAL INTERGENERATIONAL GAME NIGHT! COME, LAUGH, PLAY, AND SNACK! BRING A SNACK TO SHARE! HAVE A GAME YOU'D LIKE TO PLAY? BRING IT WITH YOU!

**BIG BAND CONCERT**  
FRIDAY, MARCH 13  
3:00 PM TO 5:00 PM  
WESLEY HALL  
JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF BIG BAND MUSIC FROM THE '30S AND '40S!  
Heart of Longmont  
350 11th Avenue  
Longmont, CO



**Pizza Playtime**  
Thursday, March 19  
4:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
in Wesley Hall  
Open to ages 0-5. Siblings welcome!! Bring yourself and your littles for an easy dinner and some playtime!  
Pizza and snacks provided!



**BASICS OF BIBLICAL GREEK**  
Class Introduction  
**SUNDAY MARCH 22** AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE  
IN THE CHAPEL

**WONDERFULLY MADE Faith, Nature, and Us Family Camp**  
Two nights of fun, fellowship, and connecting in the great outdoors just west of Fort Collins!  
Families will be staying in fun cabins. Hotel rooms available if needed. Food is included.  
Cost will be approx. \$200 per family (scholarships available)  
**May 29 - May 31**  
Buckhorn UMC Camp



United Women in Faith

**Soul Care**

Heart of Longmont's United Women in Faith will be hosting a Soul Care Retreat for everyone who could use some self-care and spiritual rejuvenation!

March 28, 2026 from 8:30am to 12:00pm at Heart of Longmont Church

\$2 Registration fee requested  
Light breakfast included.  
Look for more info coming soon to The Pulse.

**WORTHY**  
Living Into Our Calling for Such a Time as This  
**WOMEN'S RETREAT**  
June 19 - June 20  
at Buckhorn UMC Camp  
A ONE NIGHT GETAWAY WITH A FULL DAY OF WORSHIP, CONVERSATION, REFLECTION, AND REST. FOOD IS PROVIDED. "HOTEL LIKE" ROOMS.  
ALL WOMEN OF ALL AGES AND ALL STAGES OF LIFE ARE INVITED!



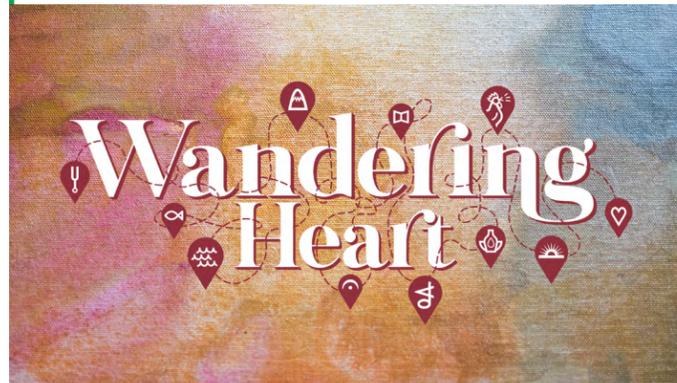
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## WANDERING HEART

**LENT AND EASTER SERMON SERIES**  
**Sunday, February 22 through Sunday, April 19**  
**Sundays at 10:00 AM - Join us in person or online!**

Like many of us, Peter has a wandering heart. His journey is not polished, or linear, or perfect, but he is always tethered to the love of God. When you look closely at Peter's story, you find Jesus at each step along the way—offering him abundance, catching him when he begins to sink, challenging him when he stands in the way, washing his feet, predicting his betrayal, and offering him agapē love. This Lent, we're joining Peter in figuring out faith. We're not idolizing or vilifying him; instead, we're hoping to wander alongside him, open to what we might learn about Jesus (and ourselves) by stepping in his shoes.



## CHEF HEARTY MARCH 8

Chef Hearty is a unique program HOL has been running for four years. We supply all the ingredients for a healthy meal once a month to our Wild Plum Headstart families. This program has not only been fun for the kids, who take home a bag filled with delicious ingredients for a family meal, but a boon for the parents in that they don't have to purchase or think about the details of at least one meal a month. We also invite the kids to help their parents prepare the meal. The instructions are simple and provided in English and Español.

Last month we filled Chef Hearty bags with all the fixings for a delicious Italian Sausage Pasta Bake. (Check out one WP parent's photos, shared with permission on page 2 in Worshipful Moments!)

Join us this month on Sunday, March 8, after worship service in the gallery to fill bags for a stir-fry meal. If you would like to donate time or money towards this important ministry, please reach out to Tricia Grafelman.

## INTERGENERATIONAL GAME NIGHT SUNDAY, MARCH 8

Do you remember what board and card games you played as a child? If you part of the Silent Generation (born ~1928-1945) maybe you remember Bridge, Rummy, or Checkers. If you're a Baby Boomer (born ~1946-1964) maybe you played: Monopoly, Scrabble, or Yahtzee. Gen-Xers (Generation X) might remember Risk, Clue, Spades, or Uno. If you are a Millennial (born ~1981-1996), you might remember Settlers of Catan, Apples to Apples, or Cards Against Humanity. Generation Z (born ~1997-2012) might know Exploding Kittens and Uno. Our newest generation (sometimes called Alpha, born ~2013-present) might be enjoying some old favourites to some of us: Guess Who? and Candy Land (yes, they're cool again!), and Pokemon Trading Card game.

No matter your age, we invite you to join us on Sunday, March 8 in Wesley Hall anytime from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Bring your favorite board or card game and a snack to share! There is something special about setting aside a little time to play some old-fashioned games and getting to know others who may be older or younger than you. You probably have more in common than you think!

## MEET OUR LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The Heart of Longmont Leadership Council (LC) oversees many of the administrative, staff relations, and facilities stewardship functions of the Church. Many long-time United Methodists will remember committees known as the Trustees, Staff Parish Relations Committee, and Finance Committee. In 2023, HOL joined a growing trend of combining these functions into a Single Board Governance Model. For HOL, the single board is the LC.

The LC sets the overall direction for the near- and long-term success of HOL's ministry and mission. Serving as the church's trustees, the LC is the legal and property steward of the church, making sure the church's assets, facilities, and legal obligations are handled faithfully and wisely. The LC is responsible for staff parish relations, ensuring the staff is cared for, is meeting the needs of the congregation, and is performing efficiently and effectively.



*Back row: Cameron McKay, Owen Chamberlain (Lay Leader), Tracy Landers, Sue Shipp, Kevin Donovan (Vice Chair)*  
*Front row: Keith Watson, Becky Vancura (Secretary), Francine Berkey (Chair), Sara Morgan, Rod Edmonds (Treasurer)*  
*Not Pictured: Ethan Shipp (Youth Representative)*

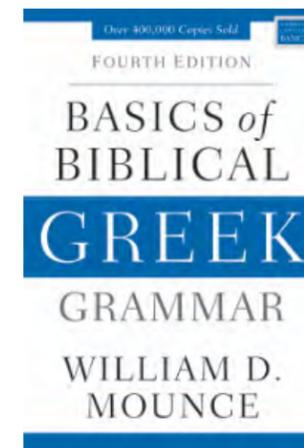
Finally, the LC is responsible for the budget of the church, ensuring that we continue our vibrant ministry, mission, and discipleship activities in furtherance of our vision of putting more of God's love into the world.

The LC, led by Chair Francine Berkey, consists of 8 voting members, including a Vice Chair (Kevin Donovan), a United Women in Faith representative (Sara Morgan), a Youth representative (Ethan Shipp), the Lay Leader (Owen Chamberlain), and 4 at-large members (Tracy Landers, Cameron McKay, Sue Shipp, and Keith Watson). Pastor Angie, our Treasurer (Rod Edmonds), and our Secretary (Becky Vancura) also serve as non-voting members of the LC. The members serve staggered 3-year terms and are approved by the congregation at the annual Church Conference.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to reach out to any LC member.

## HEART OF LONGMONT T-SHIRTS

If you want a regular Heart of Longmont cotton "Where Faith and Reason are Compatible" or a polyester "Love God, Love People" shirt, find Tricia and ask about what sizes are left. These shirts are free of charge, but we would happily accept a donation. See the photos below for examples of the t-shirts we have left. We are trying to clear our t-shirt stash in preparation for our NEW Heart of Longmont MERCH coming soon! Get your historic HOL t-shirt today and be on the lookout for ways to get some new Heart of Longmont merch in future editions of the Heart.



## BASICS OF BIBLICAL GREEK CLASS

How much can a single comma change your theology? In Luke 23:43, punctuation choices in translation can shift our entire understanding of Christ's promise of Paradise. We read the New Testament through faithful translation today but, understanding the original Greek could offer a whole new perspective on who Christ was, his ministry, and his message for the world.

Deepen your encounter with the life of Jesus by joining Becca Marsing for a meeting regarding a potential group study using *Basics of Biblical Greek* by Bill Mounce (cover pictured at left). We'll discuss the curriculum, time commitment, and gauge interest in forming a cohort.

If you're ready to challenge yourself and go deeper into the Word, join us in the chapel after church service on Sunday, March 22.

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Once again, we would like to introduce you to our latest cohort of new members who joined the Heart of Longmont on February 8:

- Jennie, Mike, and Aveyrey Baucum
- Becky Furuta
- Laurell Richey
- Alex Davis
- Genah Burditt
- Raeann and Bob Larsen
- Pete Johnson

- Debbie and Tim Howard
- Abby and Josh Miller

We are thrilled to welcome each and everyone of you as a part of our Heart of Longmont faith family.

Please don't hesitate to introduce yourself to them on Sunday mornings. If you are interested in joining our church, reach out to Tricia Grafelman and be on the lookout for our next New Member Orientation.



Becky Furuta



Bob and Raeann Larson



Mike, Jennie, and Aveyrey Baucum



Tim and Debbie Howard



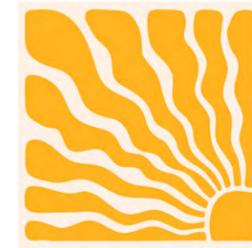
Nick Thompson



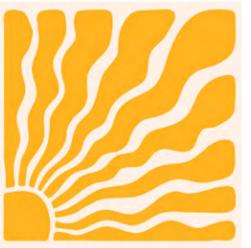
Josh and Abby Miller



Alex Davis (he/him)



# GUATEMALA REFLECTIONS



The morning after I returned from my mission trip with Heart of Longmont and ODIM to Guatemala, I was notified that my neighbor and friend had died while ice climbing. The resounding comment I heard from our friends as I notified them of his death was, "At least he was doing what he loved." I am grateful for my trip to Guatemala with the Heart of Longmont, "I was doing what I love."

Mission work to me is about the people. It is about finding a group of like-minded friends that love God and all His people. The Heart of Longmont opened its heart to me, enveloping me with love and friendship without

question. I instantly felt a connection with each person on the trip. We were all there with a common purpose: to improve the lives of families in San Pablo, Guatemala.

The children of San Pablo stole my heart. They managed to grasp my soul with their laughter as we played. They reminded me that we are all children of God. Dirty faces, a complete language barrier, and appalling living conditions, but hearts of gold. My prayers go out to their futures.

The last connection that I wasn't expecting was the staff of ODIM. Each

of the staff members that spent time with us were genuinely happy that we were there, and I felt a connection, even if language was a barrier. Their doctor, who only spoke Spanish, was loving with a dazzling smile. When I asked him a question, he eagerly searched for an interpreter and his love for his people was evident. ODIM staff members demonstrated their pride for their country and people. If you want to feel love, connection, and purpose, go to Guatemala or donate to ODIM.

—KATIE LINK



## GIVING BLOOD TO SAVE LIVES

A huge thank you to everyone who came to our annual winter Vitalant Blood Drive. Taking the time out of your Sunday to donate blood has a real effect on the world!

If you weren't able to give blood this February, don't worry! There will be another opportunity later in the year. Keep an eye on the Weekly Pulse and the Monthly Heart for scheduling announcements.



Serving in Guatemala for a second time with ODIM was just as fulfilling as the first. Providing stoves to Guatemalan families who requested them created a sense of doing meaningful work without imposing my own values. It was an action guided entirely by what the families themselves said they needed.

Given how pervasive respiratory illnesses are, it was especially meaningful to know that the children in these households would no longer be inhaling harmful carcinogens from indoor cooking fires.

I feel that ODIM is an organization that truly walks alongside the families they serve. They offer health education with deep respect for the community's culture. They empower their clients

rather than creating dependency, offering support without handouts. This service matters to me because I know I am contributing in a way that is welcomed and aligned with Mayan culture, not driven by my own biases or sense of entitlement. The people are among the most hospitable and generous I have ever met. They deeply value personal connection, carrying themselves with humility and pride. It is an honor to interact with them.

I was profoundly inspired by the goodness reflected in Mayan culture and the generosity they show despite having very little. It is a culture rooted in respect and in caring for one another.

—JOAN EDMONDS



# REFLECTING ON HOL YOUTH

by Brant Davis, Youth Ministries Co-Director

This is more a reflective and observational article about the HOL youth group and less informational in nature.

I wanted to take this opportunity to share one of my favorite things about your HOL youth group! If you've had the pleasure of being around these kids, you may have noticed it yourself. Simply put, we don't have a "type."

It's a crazy, beautiful, eclectic, and wonderful group of amazing kids who don't fit into anyone's stereotypical box. We have athletes, mathletes, gamers, and goofballs, short kids, tall kids, and kids who climb on rocks—sometimes on the side of a busy highway (you know who you are!). None with chicken pox, thankfully!

Yeah, yeah, I'm getting to my point! What I'm saying is that they don't fit into any mold, aside from the Divine Hands that molded each one of them in His image, fearfully and wonderfully! They're all messy and different and perfect!

More to the point, it's a

reminder that the good things in this world don't belong to one side or the other. They don't belong to one opinion, one ideology, or one belief. The good and beautiful things belong only to God and what He created. Our differences make us better, not worse. If you've been tricked into believing anything else, put down your phone, turn off your TV, and be a part of the world God created. Stop participating in the one people are trying so hard to destroy. Any hatred toward any group of people—and I mean ANY group—is not rooted in conviction or Biblical values; it comes from something sinister trying to ruin what God created.

We spend our time as a youth group doing things together. Playing together, learning together, eating together, and loving each other, no matter what! We know we're different and that we don't all agree on the same things—except maybe that sloppy joes are no longer at the top of the preferred dinner list, am I right, kids? But, we don't hold that against each other. We show up to

our amazing church and join together in the amazing space that we have to feel safe and loved.

It's a beautiful thing, and the HOL congregation is why it exists. Thanks to this church, we've served as part of so many amazing mission trips, and we've always been a little different than the rest. Of course, all of the groups are filled with really awesome kids, but ours is just a little different, and we love it!

Thank you for continuing to support the HOL youth in everything you do, from your financial generosity to feeding 25 grateful mouths every Sunday night. Even sloppy joes make us happy!

I guess I will add a little information and shamelessly plug our next youth fundraiser: chocolate bars are coming soon! One of life's greatest pleasures and worth every penny! Much better than those cookies they're slinging on the streets! Get a bunch! I know you don't need them, but you do want them!

- Prayers
- Group Leaders
- Station Leaders - Crafts, Missions, Games, Snacks, Worship (music and dance)
- Backup

- Before the event, June 6-7
- Decorate the classrooms, set up the main stage
  - Lots of last minute tasks as they pop up
  - Prayers

- During the event, June 8-12
- Prayers

Mornings - 8:30-12:30  
Safe Gatherings training required (we will provide)

All the lesson plans are provided. All you need to do is be there, follow the lesson and have fun!

- Afternoons - flexible, after 12:30
- Clean up, next day set up and prep as needed

Please let me know which one of these roles

will bring you the most joy! I will have a sign-up sheet and electronic form available in the gallery.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Pizza Playtime  
March 19, 2026 at 4:30-6:30  
Open to parents with children ages 0-8. We provide pizza and snacks

Easter Egg Hunt  
After church on Easter Sunday, April 5



# CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

an Update from Jana Yoder, CFM Director



Hello Heart of Longmont family,

As we journey through Lent together, may this month be a time of gentle reflection and steady hope for each of you.

Lent can be a difficult

topic to discuss with young children. We will focus on how to learn from our mistakes to be the best versions of ourselves and how to care for others. I believe it is crucial to approach this season in a way that is age-appropriate and not confusing or scary. Here are some resources to help you have those conversations at home.

- Sunday Children's Bulletins follow the Wandering Heart series. They offer a short reading and questions to reflect on.
- Weekly devotionals: you can pick

them up after Children's church every Sunday. If you miss a Sunday and would like the devotional, please email me at [cfm@heartoflongmont.org](mailto:cfm@heartoflongmont.org)

- Coins for Lent: you can still join! This is an activity suitable even for very young children, with a focus on gratitude and caring for others. We will donate all the money collected to our very own Blessings Box.
- You will continue hearing the weekly prayer every Sunday during Children's Time. You can pick up the calendars on Sunday or find them by [clicking here](#).

Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns.



## KINGDOM QUEST VBC

This VBC will be super fun! We will discover how to defeat the darkness monster with the light of Jesus.

If you haven't registered yet, you can do so [via Breeze](#) or pick up the registration form in the Gallery.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Parents and Tots Group

- Help greeting the parents, manage the snack table, and mingle
- Requirements: weekday morning availability Thursdays 9:30AM to 12PM

### VBC

We need people of different talents!

Before the event, flexible time

- Builders, painters, and designers to help with the space realm, cardboard castle, light lab, and others. We need ideas as well as people who can execute them
- Planners and organizers to help with registration forms, gathering supplies, etc.

# SERVING WITH PURPOSE: EXPANDING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT HEART OF LONGMONT

At Heart of Longmont, service is one of the most visible ways we live our mission in the community. In 2026, the Mission Design Team is focused on providing more concrete, accessible volunteer opportunities for our congregation while increasing participation in Mission Design Team-supported events by December 31, 2026. We will measure participation through volunteer sign-in data, partner organization reporting, and tracking both first-time and returning volunteers.

Several recurring opportunities make it easy to get involved. Our Monthly Our Center Luncheon, in partnership with Longs Peak UMC, serves neighbors experiencing food insecurity. By the end of 2026, we hope that at least four of the nine monthly volunteers will be connected to Heart of Longmont. The Mission Design Team has committed \$140 per month to support this meal and will continue sharing sign-up links for volunteers.

Through our Monthly Service with HOPE (Homeless Outreach Providing Encouragement), we aim to grow volunteer leadership and encourage at least five members to help serve meals each month. We will also continue supporting the Soup

Angel program by providing at least two meals monthly, serving 20 people each time.

Our team also supports Chef Hearty meal builds for the Wild Plum Head Start program, with a goal of exploring expansion to additional sites by the end of 2026. In June, Heart of Longmont will host a booth at Longmont Pride Fest (June 6, 2026) and organize an additional Pride-related community event in partnership with Rocky Mountain Equality.

Our monthly Compassion Offerings invite congregants to give both financially and through service, supporting organizations such as UMCOR, HOPE, Habitat for Humanity, Recovery Café, and Casa de Paz throughout 2026.

We will also host special events, including a March 1 talk with Dr. Catlyn Keenan examining Christian Nationalism and White Supremacy, and expanded Latine/Hispanic Community Outreach, including Spanish-language communications and a Hispanic Heritage Month event in September.

Together, we are building a culture of service where everyone can participate.

## UPCOMING COMPASSION OFFERINGS

March — UMCOR

April — Gun Safe

May — Be the Source

June — RM Equality





**Heart of Community Campaign Update**

Thank you for the strong and faithful support of our Heart of Community capital campaign. As of the end of January, 94 households have committed \$1,171,749, and we have received \$630,162 in collections. Your steady generosity continues to move this campaign forward in meaningful and tangible ways.

Planning remains actively underway for several major projects in 2026, including

parking lot improvements and replacement of aging A/C units in May, followed by an interior refresh and upgrades in late June/July. Potential work on the Gallery roof is still under evaluation. Designers and our architect are refining plans based on congregational input and gathering updated cost information to ensure both quality and stewardship.

We look forward to a congregational update and review of refreshed design

concepts on March 8. This will be an important opportunity to see progress, ask questions, and continue shaping the spaces that support our worship, welcome, and ministry.

We are deeply grateful for the ways this congregation continues to invest in spaces that nurture community and sustain the unfolding ministry God is calling us into together.



**The Power and Impact of Legacy Gifts**

In 2025, the generosity of those who remembered Heart of Longmont in their estate plans tangibly strengthened our ministry in transformative ways.

Through distributions from our Endowment Funds and the 2024 Mary Blue bequest, we were able to invest deeply in the next generation, expand our justice-centered witness, and strengthen the long-term sustainability of our church.

**Supporting Youth and Young Adults**

- \$9,300 from the Paula Johnston Scholarship Fund helped make our youth mission trip to West Virginia possible, ensuring that cost was not a barrier for students wanting to serve.
- \$20,000 in college scholarships supported our students as they pursued higher education, easing financial burdens and affirming our commitment to their growth beyond high school.

These investments reflect our long-standing commitment to children and youth as central to our mission—not peripheral to it.

**Strengthening Children and Family**

**Ministries**

Funds from the Mary Blue bequest allowed us to support continued growth in our children's and family ministries. These resources provided stability and expansion at a time when many congregations are struggling simply to maintain programming. Instead of asking what we must cut, we were able to ask what could flourish.

**Deepening Our Social Justice Engagement**

Mary Blue's lifelong passion for justice continues to shape our congregation. Bequest funds supported special guest speakers and programming that expanded our understanding of current social justice issues and strengthened our reconciling and advocacy commitments. These opportunities enriched our discipleship and encouraged thoughtful, faithful engagement with the world around us.

**Strengthening Our Long-Term Foundation**

Legacy gifts also strengthened our broader financial and strategic future.

- \$34,000 from the Mary Blue bequest supported our Heart of Community capital campaign by funding our consultant advisor—an investment

recommended through our long-range planning process.

- \$13,229 distributed from our General Endowment supported growth in our operating budget, much of it aligned with initiatives identified through long-range planning.

These funds allowed us not only to sustain ministry today, but to thoughtfully prepare for tomorrow.

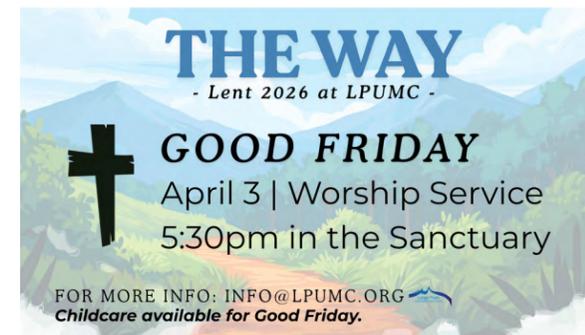
**Legacy Gifts**

Legacy gifts are not abstract financial instruments—they are expressions of trust and faith in the future of this community. In 2025, those gifts helped our youth serve, our students thrive, our children grow, and our congregation deepen its commitment to justice while building a stronger foundation for the years ahead.

Because of those who planned ahead, Heart of Longmont is better equipped to live into God's call—today and for generations to come.

If you would like to learn more about including Heart of Longmont in your estate planning, we would welcome that conversation.

—ROD EDMONDS, TREASURER



# HOLY WEEK AT HEART OF LONGMONT

## PALM SUNDAY MARCH 29

Join us in person at Heart of Longmont (350 11th Avenue Longmont CO) or online via our YouTube channel ([youtube.com/HeartofLongmont](https://youtube.com/HeartofLongmont)) for Palm Sunday worship service at 10:00 AM on March 29!

## MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 2

Our Maundy Thursday service is designed to be a deeply engaging and multi-sensory experience, reminiscent of a Seder meal but firmly rooted in the Christian tradition. This service invites participants to journey with Jesus through his last night with his friends, exploring the themes of strength, submission, love, forgiveness, and gratitude. We will do this by engaging all our senses— seeing, hearing, touching, tasting, and smelling—allowing us to connect with the familiar story of Jesus' final hours in a fresh and profound way.

The service follows the narrative of that pivotal night, from the symbolic tasting of figs representing Jesus's strength; to the intimate act of hand-washing mirroring his humility; the shared meal echoing the Last Supper, the communion of bread and wine;

and finally, the fragrant herbs evoking Jesus's prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane. Each element is designed to prompt personal reflection and small group discussion, creating a space for intimate sharing and contemplation as we remember the significance of Maundy Thursday.

Join us for this special service on Thursday, April 2, in Wesley Hall at 6:30 PM.

## GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 3

Heart of Longmont and Longs Peak UMC are coming together for a special Good Friday service. Join us on Good Friday, April 3, at 5:30 PM at Longs Peak UMC (1421 Elmhurst Drive Longmont, CO). Childcare is available. For more information, contact LPUMC at: [info@LPUMC.org](mailto:info@LPUMC.org).

## EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 5

Join us for Easter Sunday worship service in person at Heart of Longmont (350 11th Avenue Longmont CO) or online via our YouTube channel ([youtube.com/HeartofLongmont](https://youtube.com/HeartofLongmont)) at 10:00 AM on April 5. If you're at the church, HOL CFM is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt after worship service for the kiddos!

Our former pastor, Rev. Claire McNulty-Drewes, will be leading Easter service while Pastor Angie is on parental leave. Rev. Claire McNulty-Drewes served in parish ministry for nearly 30 years, including serving at the Heart of Longmont, from 2022 to 2025. In 2025, Pastor Claire stepped away from parish ministry to live more fully into an original call to chaplaincy and now serves as a staff chaplain within the Intermountain Health system,

as well as a PRN chaplain at UHealth.

Outside of ministry, Pastor Claire is an avid horsewoman who rides and shows her horse whenever possible, and treasures time spent with family—her husband of almost 30 years and their three sons. They live on a farm in Berthoud, Colorado. It is a great privilege for Pastor Claire to preach on Easter Sunday and to fill the pulpit while Pastor Angie and her husband, Russ, welcome their baby boy and enjoy this sacred season of becoming a family of three.

## BE SUNDAY APRIL 12

There will be no formal worship service on the Sunday after Easter, April 12, because we will be the church in service to our community for BE SUNDAY, our annual service Sunday. Mark your calendars and look for more information about this special event in the April edition of the Heart Newsletter.



## From Casa de Paz



### FEBRUARY 2026

As we enter February, communities across the country are battling with rapidly escalating immigration enforcement. Over the past month, a significant surge in these operations has sparked intense debate, protests, and legal challenges nationwide. It's important that we come together as a community and continue to support one another.

In the month of January, our volunteers handed out 194

snack bags to families and we all welcomed 72 people being released from GEO, with 43 coming to Casa! Seventeen countries were represented: Canada, Chad, Colombia, Cuba, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Palestine, Peru, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine, and Venezuela.

From Casa de Paz's email newsletter. If you want to receive their newsletter and support their work, visit their website [casadepazcolorado.org](https://casadepazcolorado.org).



**Casa's Statement surrounding the murders of U.S. citizens at the hands of Immigration Enforcement Agents.**

There are no words. The U.S. as a country is no stranger to agencies killing civilians out of fear and lack of training. Alex Pretti, Keith Porter Jr, and Nicole Good should be alive today.

We offer our condolences to those that loved these individuals.

No one should die at the hands of armed officials.

Civilians out in our communities should not die at the hands of the government that should be protecting them.

We want to make clear is that no one should be dying at the hands of Immigration Enforcement. If we include the eight deaths that we have already seen in detention centers, we are at eleven lives lost in just a little over a month in just 2026. This is unacceptable.

No one else should lose their lives. May we continue to find hope in each other.

Rest in power.

## From Rocky Mountain Equality



The following is from Rocky Mountain Equality's newsletter and blog. If you want to receive their newsletter, visit RMEQ's website [rmequality.org](https://rmequality.org) to sign up. If you or loved one are LGBTQIA+ and need resources, visit <https://www.rmequality.org/resources> and reach out.

Every person has constitutional rights, regardless of immigration status. [The Boulder County District Attorney's Office has created a Know Your Rights in Colorado guide](#). Share this resource with your community. Click here to learn more.

If you see ICE activity, call the Colorado Rapid Response Network (CORRN) to report it so it can be confirmed:

1-844-864-8341. Add this number to your contacts in case you need it.

Reporting helps prevent rumors and false claims that only stir fear in our community. CORRN confirms ICE presence, documents what is happening, and helps protect immigrant families across Colorado.

**See ICE activity?**  
**Call 844-864-8341**  
 Colorado Rapid Response Network

## From Longmont Food Rescue

**PRODUCE IN THE PARK** Collyer Park Free walk-up distribution 1 - 2 PM on the odd (1st, 3rd, and 5th) Sundays of each month. No forms to fill out or questions asked. Food is a variety of fresh fruit, vegetables, prepared deli foods, dairy, and bakery items, depending on that week's donations.

**PRODUCE IN THE PARKING LOT** Longmont YMCA Free drive-up food distribution 1 - 2 pm on the even (2nd and 4th) Sundays of each month. No forms to fill out or questions asked. Food is a variety of fresh fruit, vegetables, prepared deli foods, dairy, and bakery items, depending on that week's donations.

We will distribute from the south side of the parking lot along 9th Ave. If you

enter from the Lashley side, turn right to line up along the south side of the parking lot. If you enter from 9th Ave turn left to get to the southwest parking lot, in front of the YMCA preschool. All vehicles/bicycles will form a line, and food will be bagged ahead of time. Please do not exit your vehicle or approach volunteers; food will be brought to the vehicle.

**SENIOR CENTER FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION** Longmont Senior Center Free, indoor walk-up food distribution on the 2nd Saturday of each month 10 - 11:30 AM at the Longmont Senior Center. No forms to fill out or questions asked.

Food is a variety of fresh fruit, vegetables, prepared deli foods, dairy, and bakery items, depending on that week's donations.

We strive for equity at all our distributions. Please bring your own standard size reusable bag to fill and join the line when you arrive. To help us ensure that everyone in our community has the opportunity to shop, limit is one bag at a time per household. If you would like an additional bag, we ask that you return to the back of the line. We will distribute food as long as supplies last.

From Longmont Food Rescue's email newsletter. If you want to receive their newsletter and support their work, visit their website: <https://www.longmontfoodrescue.org>



From HOPE Longmont's newsletter. If you want to receive their newsletter and support their work, visit their website: <https://hopeforlongmont.org/>. You can also volunteer to help serve meals through HOPE at Heart of Longmont. See the Opportunities to Serve section below.

## From HOPE Longmont

### SOCKS! Donations Needed

Winter weather keeps coming and going here in Longmont, and our clients are in urgent need of new or lightly used, warm socks, especially crew-cut socks for cold days.

For many people we serve, access to fresh, clean socks isn't a daily reality. Something as simple as a new pair can make a huge difference in comfort, health, and confidence in our clients' lives. Donations are accepted M-Th 12-4 pm at 804 S Lincoln St., Longmont, CO. 80501



## From OUR Center

From OUR Center's newsletter. If you want to receive their newsletter and support their work, visit their website: <https://www.ourcenter.org/>. You can also volunteer to help serve a meal for OUR Center through Heart of Longmont.

### Empty Bowls Season Is In Full Swing!

Empty Bowls season is officially underway — and there's so much to look forward to! Each year, Empty Bowls brings our community together around art, food, and connection. Hand-painted bowls created by

community members are paired with soups donated by local restaurants and a silent auction filled with generous contributions. Every ticket and every bowl supports OUR Center's Community Café, helping ensure warm, nourishing meals are available daily for our St. Vrain Valley community.

**Food donations help keep shelves stocked** and ensure neighbors have reliable access to healthy meals when they need them most.

- Dried Pasta
- Protein (Canned Tuna, Chicken, & Ham)
- Beans (Kidney or Garbanzo)
- Canned Vegetables (Corn, Peas, etc.)
- Canned Fruit (Peaches, Applesauce, etc.)
- Canned Tomatoes (Diced or Sauce)
- Menstrual Health Items
- Hygiene (pads, tampons, liners)

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**  
**23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL EMPTY BOWLS**  
**EVERY BOWL TELLS A STORY**

**SATURDAY MARCH 14** **DOORS 10:30 LUNCH 11-1PM** **1040 SUNSET ST LONGMONT, CO**

# From El Comité



This week I totally forgot that I had gone to Costco and left my groceries in the back of the car for five days. Luckily, it was cold this week. Can you relate?

We feel this way for a reason.

There have now been over 618 changes to immigration law and policy since January 20, 2025. And it is changing so quickly that by the time we send this, that number will be even higher. That on top of the tragic news from Minnesota, a changing world order, threats to voter rights, the list goes on and on. It is enough to make everyone's brain glitch.

Twenty five percent of the people seeking services from El Comité are looking for legal support. Also, 50% of the cases in crisis that we had in December were because someone's loved one was taken by the government. In 2025 we had about 30 people report that someone in their household or family had been taken, and all but three of these cases were reported in the last six months.

Eight were in December. As a reminder, our staff immigration attorney is available to help people on a sliding fee scale whose annual income is under 80% AMI. He just started in October and has already handled 33 cases. Twenty of those were defensive cases, representing people facing detention or deportation. He also has 15 more cases lining up for his attention.

Make no mistake: The numbers of the people reporting to us that their loved ones are gone are increasing. One quarter into 2026, we are already talking about focusing his time exclusively on defensive cases, and that we need a paralegal.

It feels like we are preparing for a storm that may or may not come. But, action is our friend right now.

And, I am so inspired by the types of action that people are taking. We are each other's antidote to glitching brains and broken hearts. Community is the cure.

If you haven't found the place to plug in, here are 9 things you can do right now:

1. Donate. Help us grow our legal services and keep up with community needs. Your support in these times enables us to keep going.
2. Host a House Party for El

Comité. Gather your friends to learn about El Comité and amplify your impact.

3. Do Not Spread Unverified Rumors! If you see ICE activity, call the Colorado Rapid Response Network (CORRN) as soon as possible. Their number is 1-844-864-8341. If you aren't sure if what you are seeing is ICE, you can first call local law enforcement and ask them if the officers you see are theirs. Our local law enforcement will tell you if they have officers at your location. Then you can call CORRN with confidence. Even if you only get a voicemail, leave a message on the hotline. CORRN will send out trained confirmers to verify and document any ICE activity.

4. Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser has created a place to file complaints of abuse by federal agents. <https://coag.gov/file-complaint/>

5. A new website has popped up to provide info to help neighbors in Longmont organize their neighborhoods. <https://noicelongmont.com/>

6. We will soon have a Longmont Immigrant Protection Team (IPT), which is a group of volunteers who will be trained for a variety of roles from accompaniment and confirmers to teaching know your rights and organizing businesses.

7. Habitat for Humanity of the Saint Vrain Valley is organizing around the principles of nonviolence and Beloved community. They have a speaker series planned for February. 8. Sundance Film Festival and Longmont Museum have joined forces to provide an opportunity to learn and reflect on the historical fact that oppression isn't new. The showing of the documentary film, American Pachuco: The Legend of Luis Valdez on February 18, may provide us all with images of how to persevere in the face of it. Tickets are \$10 and proceeds go to El Comité.

9. The Colorado Immigrant Rights Coalition (CIRC) and Colorado Rapid Response Network (CORRN) are hosting a DocuTeam training, which is for volunteers to document the stories of individuals directly impacted by the immigration system.

Warm Regards,  
Lisa Moreno

*From El Comité's email newsletter. If you want to receive their newsletter and support their work, visit El Comité's website [elcomitedelongmont.org](http://elcomitedelongmont.org) to sign up. [Know your rights.](#)*

## UWF CIRCLES

**Lydia Circle**  
Jean Malchow and Linda McDaniel (co-chairs)  
Second Monday of the month at 6:00pm in the Gallery.

**Sarah Circle**  
Ann Yoder (chair)  
3rd Thursday of the month at 9:30am in various homes.

**Elizabeth Circle**  
Linda Morris (chair)  
3rd Monday of the month at 1pm in Room 104.

**Deborah Circle**  
Sara Morgan  
Contact the church office for dates! Little ones are welcome! Child care will be provided.

## HOL GROUPS

### Faith and Reason Adult Study Group

We watch videos and discuss topics like Comparative Religion, the New Testament, and Early Christianities. Sundays from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM in person and via Zoom. Contact Sandy Rabenhorst for more information.

### Adventurers Adult Ministry

Talk about tough and meaningful topics in a safe environment while at the same time growing in your faith journey! Members in this group range from 40 to 90 years old. Sunday mornings 8:45 AM to 9:45 AM. Contact Tricia Grafelman for more information.

### Men's Fellowship Group

Men of all ages are invited to join this discussion group. Meetings are typically at the organizer's home. A meal is provided followed by a time of discussion. Contact the church office for more information.

### Monthly Meditation Class

The meditation class will be returning in April. April 10 and April 24 at noon in the Chapel! No experience necessary!

### Pack and UnPack

Join Cameron McKay to discuss last Sunday's sermon or other special topics Tuesdays at 12:00 PM. Bring your lunch!

### Brotherhood and Brews

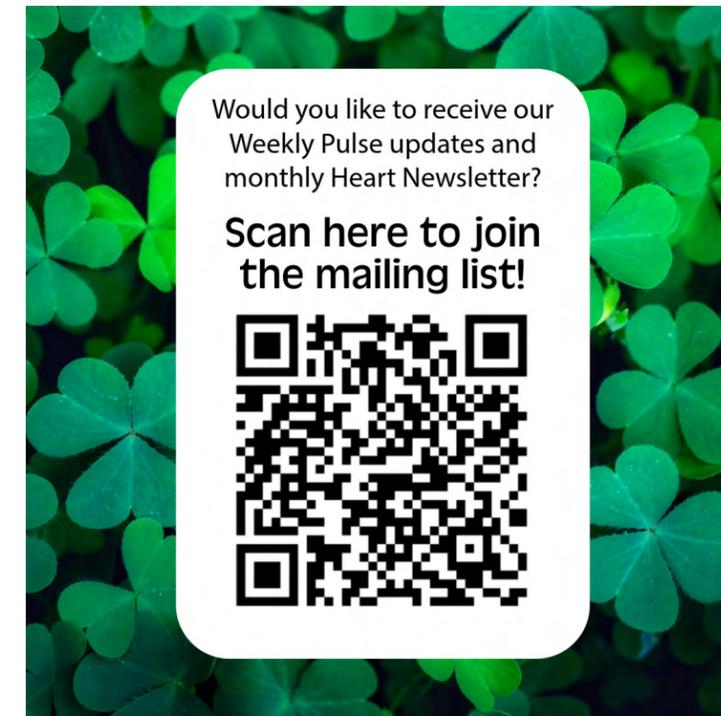
A relaxed space for guys in their 20s through 50s to connect over conversation, life, and a cold drink. We meet once a month. Contact the church office for more information.

### Parents & Tots Group

For parents and their kids ages 0-4 to build connections in a welcoming environment. Thursdays, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Heart of Longmont.

### The Chosen Season 4

Final meeting of this discussion group is Sunday, March 1 at 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM, in the HOL Chapel.



## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

### Meals for Youth Group Meetings

If you can help provide, serve, and clean up meals for the youth group on Sunday evenings this year, sign up in at the Connection Center or contact the church office!

### Blessing Box

The Heart of Longmont's food pantry, the Blessing Box, would be happy to receive any of your non-perishable, still in date food items! You can drop them off just inside the side door of the church in the "Blessing Box" cabinet.

### Days for Girls

For our continuing project of providing menstrual health kits for girls in developing countries, we are

in need of Girls' Underpants in sizes 10, 12, and 14. Brief style and 100% cotton only! Please put them in the Days for Girls drawer in the Gallery. Thanks for helping us keep the girls in school!

### Are You Interested in Helping Out on Sunday Mornings?

There are opportunities to serve Sunday mornings during and after worship! We need greeters and folks to help out with hospitality and coffee hour/fellowship time. Contact the church office if you are able to help!

**Serving HOPE Meals**  
Help serve meals to HOPE's clients! Meals are served at The Journey on Pike

Road. Sometimes we need substitute meal servers on the second and fourth Fridays from 5:30 to 7:00pm. If you are interested in being on the sub-list, please contact Marty Allison.

### Readers Needed!

We have started our third year of reading to our Wild Plum little learners and we need more readers! We read to toddlers on Wednesdays and PreK on Thursdays! Please consider joining our quest to create avid readers and spend time with our little plums! There is a sign-up sheet on the Connection Center, or if you have questions contact Lynn Greenhalge.

# CRISIS RESOURCES

### THE NATIONAL SUICIDE HOTLINE

1-800-SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433) or visit [suicide.org](http://suicide.org)

### TRANS LIFELINE

877-565-8860  
Peer support service run by trans people, for trans and questioning callers. Available 7am - 1am PT / 10am - 4am ET

### 988 COLORADO MENTAL HEALTH LINE

Call or text 988 for free, immediate, human support for emotional, mental health, or substance use concerns 24/7. Live chat also available. English and español. [988colorado.com](http://988colorado.com) Find a walk-in crisis center: [988colorado.com/en/walk-in-centers](http://988colorado.com/en/walk-in-centers)

### TREVORLIFELINE

866-488-7386  
A crisis intervention and suicide prevention phone service for LGBTQ+ young people under 25, available 24/7.

### TREVORTEXT

Text "START" to 678678. Standard text messaging rates apply. A crisis intervention and suicide prevention phone service for LGBTQ young people under 25. Available Monday through Friday between 3pm -10pm ET / Noon - 7pm PT

### NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE

Call 988  
The Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential

support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals. También en español.

### VETERANS HELPLINE

Call 988 and press 1  
You're not alone—the Veterans Crisis Line is here for you. You don't have to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care to call.

### FIND A HELPLINE

If you need help in any state or country, you can use [findahelpline.com](http://findahelpline.com) to find a help or crisis line that serves your area.



Recovery Café Longmont is a community of refuge and healing for people in recovery. Recovery Café Longmont supports adults as they rebuild their lives and recover from substance and/or alcohol use disorder, mental health challenges, trauma, and other life challenges. They strive to stand in the gap between crisis and stability by fostering community-building and life-empowerment.

If you or a loved one need help and support in recovery, contact Recovery Café at [info@recoverycafelongmont.org](mailto:info@recoverycafelongmont.org) or 720-815-2885

Visit Recovery Café's website [recoverycafelongmont.org](http://recoverycafelongmont.org) for information on how to support their work, information on becoming a member, and other resources.

## WE ARE A COMMUNITY THAT PRAYS

Send your prayer requests to [prayers@heartoflongmont.org](mailto:prayers@heartoflongmont.org)

## SUBMISSIONS?

Do you have a worshipful moment, memorable experience, story, photo, or other interesting Heart of Longmont tale you'd like to share with our community? Send them to [digitalcontent@heartoflongmont.org](mailto:digitalcontent@heartoflongmont.org)!

# Give Online



Scan here to give to HOL programs and compassion offering.  
Thank you for your generosity!

## Worship With Us!

Join us for worship every Sunday at 10:00 AM in person or online on our YouTube channel! We look forward to seeing you there!

# Follow Us on Social Media!



[www.youtube.com/HeartofLongmont](http://www.youtube.com/HeartofLongmont)



[www.facebook.com/HeartofLongmont](http://www.facebook.com/HeartofLongmont)



[@heartoflongmont](https://www.instagram.com/heartoflongmont)



[@heartoflongmont](https://twitter.com/heartoflongmont)



[@heartoflongmont](https://www.tiktok.com/@heartoflongmont)

## HOL Cares About Your Health

This is a precarious time for public health, especially for our friends and neighbors who are immunocompromised, disabled, or otherwise at risk.

Please continue to show love and respect for all our friends, neighbors, and siblings in Christ and stay home if you are experiencing symptoms of respiratory or other illness in order to curb the spread of disease. We still encourage you to wear a mask and practice social distancing.



## CONTACT US

Heart of Longmont  
350 11th Ave  
Longmont, CO 80501  
303-776-3523  
[office@heartoflongmont.org](mailto:office@heartoflongmont.org)

The Heart of Longmont office is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

[www.heartoflongmont.org](http://www.heartoflongmont.org)

## OUR MISSION

Putting More of God's Love Into The World; Helping all persons find deeper meaning and God's purpose for their lives as committed Christ-followers.

Serving as the Heart of Longmont means:

We will welcome all persons, without reservation or judgment, just as Jesus Christ would do.

We will work tirelessly by entering into intentional acts of compassion and social justice to make our community a place where God's love is known by all, where poverty and deprivation are unknown by any, and where respect for the worth and dignity of each person is the norm.

We will respect and honor other religious traditions while choosing Christ as our way of knowing God best.

We will emphasize life-long learning so that we may engage our world from a dynamic and creative perspective.

We will work to protect God's creation.

We will practice stewardship of all aspects of our lives, including time, talent, financial resources, and spiritual gifts.