



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2026

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Heart of Longmont Family,

Before I look ahead to all that's coming this fall, I first want to say thank you. Russ and I are incredibly grateful to everyone who celebrated Micah's baptism with our family in worship on Sunday, July 5th. Having Bishop Kristin Stoneking baptize Micah was a tremendous gift, but what moved me even more was looking out and seeing all of you vowing to help raise Micah in the Christian faith.

One of my favorite parts of the United Methodist baptismal liturgy is the reminder that faith is never meant to be lived alone. We become part of a church family that promises to surround one

and I hope you'll join us in worship on Sunday, August 16th, as we pray over all of our students, teachers, school staff, college students, and school administrators as they begin a new school year. Whether you're carrying a backpack, a briefcase, or simply the hopes and challenges of a new season, we want to send you into the year surrounded by the love, prayers, and encouragement of your church family.

One of the questions I hear most often is, "What does it really mean to be Methodist?" It's an important question, and this fall we're going to spend some time exploring the answer together. Beginning Sunday, September 13th,

God is always reaching toward us before we ever reach toward God. God's grace meets us where we are, transforms us over time, and calls us into lives of love, justice, mercy, compassion, and holiness.

Throughout this series we'll explore the foundations of our faith together, including the Wesleyan Quadrilateral, the three stages of grace, the General Rules, and the Methodist understanding of sanctification (which means growing in holiness).

I also have the joy of teaching a six-week adult study that will accompany the worship series. The class will meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:00 PM., beginning September 16th and concluding



another with love, prayer, encouragement, and grace. We are so thankful that Micah gets to grow up at Heart of Longmont, surrounded by people who will help him experience the love of Jesus.

As much as I've enjoyed the beauty and adventures of summer, I have to admit that I'm getting excited for the changing of the seasons. There is something about the arrival of fall that always fills me with anticipation. The cooler mornings, changing leaves, the return to familiar routines, and the beginning of a new ministry season all remind me that God is always inviting us into new opportunities to learn, grow, and deepen our faith.

One of my favorite traditions each fall is our Blessing of the Backpacks,

we'll launch a new six-week worship series called Rooted in Grace, which will continue through Sunday, October 25th. Together we'll discover how the life, teachings, and theology of John Wesley continue to shape who we are as followers of Jesus today.

The Methodist movement was born during a time of tremendous social change and uncertainty. People were longing for hope, purpose, and a faith that transformed everyday life. This resonates with where folks are in the world today. Modern day Christ followers continue to navigate division, anxiety, individualism, and a culture that tells us we must constantly strive to prove our worth.

At the heart of the Wesleyan tradition is the beautiful conviction that

October 21st. We'll be reading Adam Hamilton's excellent book, *Revival*, which traces the life of John Wesley and the birth of the Methodist movement.

I'm very excited to teach this class and hope you'll consider joining me. Whether you're a lifelong United Methodist, someone exploring church for the first time, or somewhere in between, I believe this series will deepen everyone's faith and help you discover the richness of our Wesleyan heritage.

As we move into a new ministry season together, my prayer is that we become even more deeply rooted in God's grace.

Grace and Peace,

— PASTOR ANGIE DORNISCH

TOUR THE BLACK AMERICAN WEST MUSEUM AND HERITAGE CENTER

How many names below do you recognize?

Dr. Justina Ford
Earl Mann
Oliver Toussaint Jackson (O.T.)
Paul Wilbur Stewart
Cleo Parker Robinson

These people played significant roles in Colorado History, past to the present, but their accomplishments are seldom taught in Colorado History classes. IT'S TIME WE LEARN MORE!

You are invited to join members of HOL to

Tour the Black American West Museum and Heritage Center

3091 California St., Denver
Friday, August 28, 2026

Carpool from the church at 12:30 PM, a guided tour begins at 2:15 PM.

Tickets: \$18 – Adults, \$15.90 – Seniors

Sign up at the Connection Center by August 24.

Sponsored by United Women in Faith.

Questions? Contact Marty Allison.

Drivers are needed! Please let Marty know if you would drive.

This tour is in preparation for a study of our United Methodist Church's Charter for Racial Justice later this year. The Charter was created and adopted by the predecessor of United Women in Faith's national office in 1978. In 1980 the women successfully recommended adoption of the Charter by the whole denomination. The Charter is an urgent call for study and action on the principles and goals of its vision. Watch for further notice of this study.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Micah's Baptism!
- The youth are back from their mission trip in Alaska!
- We have some exciting new and returning offerings, including: the Connection Fair, SUNDAY FUNDAY, Midweek at the Heart, and a Family Faith Workshop for kids and families!
- Our Hiking Group invites you to join them!
- Wild Plum School Supplies Drive and Chef Hearty RETURNS!
- Heart of Community and Finance updates from our Treasurer.
- Some updates from our community partners.

CYBERSECURITY REMINDER

Summer is here — time for sunscreen, sunglasses, cold drinks and a healthy dose of skepticism about suspicious emails and texts.

Phishing scams targeting clergy, church staff, and members continue to circulate across the Mountain Sky Conference. These messages may look like they come from Bishop Stoneking, Conference staff, your pastor, church staff, or another trusted leader and often ask for urgent help, gift cards, money, personal information or access to a "church directory."

Before you click, reply, or send anything, take a little summer

pause. Suspicious messages can wait. If something feels unusual, verify it directly by phone or in person before responding.

Phishing scams change constantly and do not necessarily mean an email or phone account has been breached. Your best protection is much like sunscreen: apply caution generously and reapply often.

Learn more from the Federal Trade Commission: [How to Recognize and Avoid Phishing Scams](#)

Adapted from Mountain Sky Conference's Newsletter.

CONGRATULATIONS HOL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

Congratulations to the recipients of Heart of Longmont Scholarships for the 2026-2027 school year. We wish you all luck in your future endeavors!

Recipients for the Margret Patterson Scholarship
 Cyfrin Blackburn, University of Northern Colorado
 Brayden Landers, Colorado State University

Recipients of the General Scholarship (including the Roger & Gloria Hinz Scholarship)
 Avery Baucom, Nebraska Wesleyan University
 Brayden Tate, Colorado State University
 Cyfrin Blackburn, University of Northern Colorado
 Brayden Tate, Colorado State University

WORSHIPFUL MOMENTS

MICAH DORNISCH'S BAPTISM



The Dornisches and Bishop Kristin Stoneking

Pastor Angie and Bishop Stoneking

Pastor Angie and District Superintendent Rev. Andy Dunning

WORSHIPFUL MOMENTS

HOL'S HIKING GROUP



I once heard a minister say that Colorado is one of the hardest places to be a pastor "because they must compete with God's great outdoors." My happy place is in the mountains: On a trail with the smell of hot pine needles wafting in the air, trees providing me shade, and water babbling in a small or large creek making its way to the ocean! We are in the 4th year of our Heart of Longmont Hiking Group and I would love to invite you to join us on any of the following Saturday mornings: August 15, September 19, October 17, November 21. Below are a few opinions from some of our most frequent hikers as to why they love going hiking with other HOL people.

—Tricia



"Joyce and I love hiking with the HOL group because it gives us an opportunity to meet new people and learn more about them. We love hiking with "younger" people and enjoy seeing them motivate us." —Jamie Bowland

"I love getting to know folks better while exploring new trails." —Cameron McKay

"I love hiking with Heart of Longmont because it's a great way to connect with our community while taking in the beautiful Colorado landscape. It's food for the soul!" —Dawn Desai

"I love hiking with the Heart of Longmont family because I get to explore trails I've never been on, get to know people outside the church building, and soak in the natural beauty of Colorado. I am always looking forward to the next hike with the HOL fam." —Angie Dornisch



"Few activities bring me as much joy as hiking! Getting to do it with others from the Heart of Longmont just doubles the fun." —Tricia Grafelman

"We are fortunate to live in a place where God's handiwork is on such prominent display and the HOL hiking group provides a way to experience that beauty while spending time with friends and making new ones!" —Kevin Donovan

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

We are blessed to welcome new members into our HOL faith community. Please make sure you introduce yourself to Katie, Beau, and Joe in the coming weeks.



Katie Rupp, and her daughters Piper, Elliott and Charlie (and their friend Ivy Cook)



Beau Forte



Joe Winn, and daughters Felicity and Elizabeth

WILD PLUM SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

Due to extreme budget cuts, the Wild Plum Federal Headstart Program has had to let go 11 staff members leading into this new school year. Not only will they be understaffed, but they will have no budget for school supplies.

Our congregation is full of former and current educators who know all too well how much harder it is to teach when you are not fully supported. What generally happens is that the teachers end up paying for supplies out of their own pockets. This is where the Heart of Longmont can help.

Below is a list of supplies and snacks that would really help the WP staff located here at Heart of Longmont. You can place your donations in the round bin in the gallery! Thanks for your help! School will be here before you know it.

- 25 Children's size Backpacks (ages 3-5)
- Snacks: cup o' noodles, granola bars, variety of chips, spicy chips/hot Cheetos, electrolyte packets, vitamin C packets, juice boxes, sodas, water bottles, crystal light, bubbly water, dried fruit, candy
- Supplies: Pens, sticky notes/Post It notes, paper clips, sharpies (black), Kleenex, menstrual pads, tampons, playdough, markers, dry erase markers, crayons, composition books, cornstarch, baking soda, flour, kinetic sand, food coloring, sand toys for the sandbox (shovels, scoops, buckets, etc.), butcher paper in various colors

Blessing of the Backpacks

Are you a student, educator, or have kids heading back to school? Mark your calendars for August 16! Bring your backpacks, lunchboxes, or work bags to church for a special blessing for an amazing start to the new school year. The blessing will be during children's time on Sunday, August 16.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS



Sunday, August 16

Bring your backpacks to worship service at 10:00 AM on Sunday, August 16 for a special blessing from Pastor Angie!

PODCAST PONDERINGS

Each summer, the Adventurers Adult Ministry group likes to change things up and instead of doing a Bible or book study, they pick a podcast to listen to each week. The podcast will be linked in the WEEKLY PULSE each week, so anyone in the church can listen. If you would like to discuss it, we invite you to join us at 8:45 on Sunday mornings in the Parlor. Check in the PULSE for the current podcast for discussion!

HEART OF COMMUNITY: PLANNING THE NEXT PHASE TOGETHER

July 19th's Town Hall included several thoughtful questions about the next phase of the Heart of Community campaign, particularly regarding the proposed interior and exterior improvements. We appreciate the questions and the genuine interest in how these decisions will be made.

Over the past several months, a small planning team has been working to review project priorities, refine the scope of work, evaluate contractor estimates, and develop recommendations for the next phase of the campaign. No final decisions have been made regarding the overall scope of the renovation projects or several of the individual design concepts that have been discussed over the past year.

One of the realities we've encountered is that current cost estimates for the full list of desired improvements exceed the funds currently available. As a result, the planning team is carefully evaluating

priorities, seeking opportunities to reduce costs where appropriate, and developing recommendations that balance our long-term vision with faithful stewardship of the generous gifts entrusted to this campaign.

The project schedule has also become clearer. Beginning major construction this fall would create significant disruption during one of the busiest seasons in the life of our church. For that reason, we are evaluating a revised timeline that would begin major interior work after Christmas, allowing worship, ministries, and holiday events to continue with minimal interruption.

Once the planning team has completed its work, those recommendations will be presented to Leadership Council for review and consideration. Before any major work begins, we also plan to hold another congregational conversation to share the proposed priorities, explain the recommendations, answer questions,

and receive additional feedback before moving forward.

In the meantime, there is much to celebrate. During the first year of the campaign, your generosity has already made a visible difference. Together we have:

- Retired our building loan.
- Installed three new air conditioning units.
- Completed our new parking lot.
- Unexpected replacement of a damaged sewer line.
- Collected nearly \$750,000 toward campaign commitments.

The Heart of Community campaign has always been about more than improving our building. It is about creating spaces that support worship, welcome, fellowship, and ministry for years to come. Thank you for walking with us as we continue this journey together.

MIDWEEK AT THE HEART: METHODISM 101

One of the things I (Tricia) LOVE about our church is that we have such a wide range of religious diversity in terms of the way each of us were raised. Some of us were raised from the cradle as Methodists; some were raised as Catholics, Baptists, Lutherans, Mormons, Presbyterians, atheists, or agnostics. Today, we are in a big mixing pot called The Heart of Longmont.

John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, understood the importance of experience and knew that we all come to religion differently based on our own lived experience. Because of our different lived experiences, we understand Scripture differently and as each of us were raised with different traditions, it's important then to use our intellect, logic, and critical thinking to understand our faith. That may be my favorite part of John Wesley's four-part theological framework: Reason.

People have shared with us that they don't know a lot about what being a Methodist really means. We want to provide a way for you to learn more and to be able to embrace this denomination because it works for you, because it makes sense to you, and because it will help you grow in your faith.

If you want to learn more about Methodism, join us for our "Midweek at the Heart", a new offering starting on Wednesday, September 2 at 5:30-7:30 PM in Wesley Hall for dinner and break out sessions. There will be an adult session and a family session, including activities for kids of all ages.

CHEF HEARTY IS BACK!

We are BACK for our fifth year of Chef Hearty meals!

This is a favorite program for many of the Wild Plum families that have children attending preschool and daycare at HOL five days a week. The program was "born" when our Adventurers Adult Ministry class volunteered at the Rocky Mountain Food Bank during COVID. The food bank was just kicking off a pilot program for healthy meal kits for all the kids in one elementary school. We thought "Hey, we replicate that here at HOL for our Wild Plum kids!"

Once a month during the school year (usually the first Sunday of the month), we gather in the Gallery or Wesley Hall to pack special bags with fresh, healthy food for the WP kids to take home for their families. A recipe in both English and Spanish is also provided. This gives parents one night where they don't have to think about what to cook and a chance for the kids to help their parents in the kitchen. We try to keep the cost between \$7-\$10 per bag.

Our August Compassion offering will be going to Chef Hearty. If you would like to donate money, time, or recipes please let Tricia or Amy Mann know! Join us on September 6 after worship service for the first Chef Hearty Build Day of the school year!

HEART OF LONGMONT
INVITES YOU
TO OUR ANNUAL

CONNECTION FAIR

★ CONNECT AT CHURCH
AND IN THE COMMUNITY! ★

SUNDAY
AUGUST 16
AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE

TAKE A WALK AROUND THE GALLERY AND
DISCOVER OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT AT
CHURCH AND SERVE IN OUR COMMUNITY!

Midweek at the HEART METHODISM 101

Join us for a multi-generational gathering to learn about our denomination, where Methodism got started and what it means to be Methodist. We will have dinner and fellowship time together followed by breakaway sessions.

All ages welcome!

1st Wednesdays each month
starting Wednesday, September 2
5:30 PM to 7:30 PM in Wesley Hall

GROWING MINISTRY THROUGH FAITHFUL GIVING

June 2026 Financial Update

Category	YTD 2026 Actual	YTD 2026 Budget	YTD 2025 Actual
Income	\$248,776	\$266,475	\$245,975
Expenses	\$293,433	\$302,805	\$283,736
Income less than Expenses (Deficit)	(\$44,657)	(\$36,330)	(\$37,761)

Overview

The first half of 2026 has presented both opportunities and challenges. Giving has remained slightly ahead of the same period last year, but it has not kept pace with the budget established for 2026. This does not reflect a decline in generosity; rather, giving has not grown as quickly as we had anticipated when preparing this year's budget.

At the same time, expenses have remained below budget despite intentional investments in key ministry priorities. Compared to last year, our largest increases are in pastoral compensation and additional support for our Children and Family Ministry Director, along with ministry opportunities such as the Family Camp and Vacation Bible Camp.

These expenditures reflect deliberate choices by Leadership to invest in ministries that strengthen discipleship,

support families, and build community while continuing to manage church resources responsibly.

Our year-to-date deficit of \$44,657 is larger than budget, driven primarily by slower-than-anticipated growth in giving rather than overspending.

Ministry Impact

Those investments are already bearing fruit. We're seeing encouraging engagement through children's and family programming, strong participation in special events and retreats, and continued opportunities to welcome and connect new people to the life of Heart of Longmont. These are meaningful signs that our financial resources are being directed toward ministries that are making a difference.

Looking Ahead

Historically, giving strengthens during the

second half of the year, particularly in the fall and at year end. We will continue to monitor both giving and expenses carefully while remaining committed to wise stewardship and strategic investment in the ministries that matter most.

We remain confident in the overall financial health of Heart of Longmont and are grateful for your continued partnership in the ministry we share together.

Thank You

Thank you for your continued faithfulness and generosity. Every gift helps us nurture faith, welcome all, and serve our community in meaningful ways.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Blessings,

— ROD EDMONDS, TREASURER

ROOTED IN GOD'S LOVE IN ALASKA



YOUTH MISSION TRIP UPDATE

from Emily Farrenkopf

This July, 18 teens and three adults from our BASIC Heart of Longmont Youth Group had the incredible opportunity to spend a week serving in Alaska alongside Praying Pelican Missions. While the breathtaking mountains, glaciers, and wildlife drew us north, we quickly discovered that God had already been at work long before we arrived.

Throughout the week, we partnered with several local ministries in Eagle River and Anchorage. At a Presbyterian church food bank, our team sorted canned goods and pet food to help stock shelves for families in need. At the camp where we stayed, Little Beaver, we deep cleaned facilities, removed and rebuilt a rotted stairway, and cleared branches and overgrown vegetation along the long

entrance road to prepare the property for the coming Alaskan winter.

One of our most meaningful partnerships was with a church in Anchorage that serves the local unhoused community. We spent time playing with children at a neighborhood park, mowed lawns for nearby residents, painted a hallway in transitional housing that provides shelter for 48 families, organized games with the children who live there, and ended one evening by serving a hot dog dinner to the residents. As we gathered together after the meal and sang "Jesus Loves Me," it became clear that something much bigger than a meal or a work project had taken place. We had shared not only our time, but the love of Christ.

One lesson echoed throughout

the week. In ministry, we rarely know exactly where we fit into someone's story. Sometimes we are planting seeds of God's love. Sometimes we are watering faith that someone else has already planted. Occasionally, we may even witness the harvest. While we may never know which role we played in the lives of the people we met in Alaska, we do know this: God's love was shared more freely because we were there, and every one of us returned home changed by the experience.

Of course, mission trips aren't only about work! They're also about building relationships and appreciating God's creation. We were blessed with a rare glimpse of Denali as the rain cleared just long enough for the mountain to

SUNDAY FUNDAY

5th Annual All Church and Community Potluck Picnic

**SEPTEMBER 13
SUNDAY**

**11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
in Collyer Park**

Bring your camp chairs and a side dish to share! Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided by the church. Ice cream sundaes will be available, too!

Some people have asked me: "why do you do the fall kick-off picnic in the Park and not at the church?" One of the reasons we step outside of the walls of our church to celebrate the upcoming fall season is so we can invite the community to join us! It's not easy to "break in" at a church, especially if you haven't been before and you have no ties to the church or congregation. We all think we are incredibly welcoming—and we are!—but sometimes it's easier to step into a community while on neutral ground. Like at the park.

We hope you will join us again this year for our 5th annual All Church and Community Potluck

picnic at Collyer Park right after worship on Sunday, September 13, from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM. I encourage anyone reading this to challenge yourself to invite one person who isn't a current member of our church family. This could be a neighbor, someone you know might be lonely, or a friend. We will, of course, have a bouncy castle, face painter and balloon twister as well as all-time favorite: BINGO!

The church will provide hamburgers and hot dogs, so just bring a side dish to share as well as your camp chairs so we can spread out under the shade! Ice cream sundaes will be available, too.

—TRICIA GRAFELMAN

reveal herself. We visited the Alaska Native Heritage Center, where we learned about Alaska's Indigenous cultures through traditional dances, tribal games, and stories that deepened our appreciation for the people who have called Alaska home for generations. Everywhere we looked, we were surrounded by breathtaking landscapes, from towering mountains to peaceful lakes. We even spent an afternoon kayaking on the lake at camp, taking in the beauty around us. Another highlight was driving the winding roads of Hatcher Pass, where we explored the remnants of historic gold mines and marveled at the spectacular mountain scenery. We

also visited a reindeer farm, where we had the chance to meet these gentle animals up close—a favorite experience for many in our group. Every adventure reminded us of the creativity and majesty of our Creator and gave us countless moments of joy, wonder, and laughter together. Some of our favorite memories came from the simple moments together. Fierce (but friendly) ping pong tournaments became a nightly tradition. We laughed often, encouraged one another, and grew together as a team. One thing that always amazes our leaders is that our students leave their phones and electronics at home for

the entire week. What begins as a challenge quickly becomes a blessing. Without screens competing for their attention, conversations become deeper, friendships grow stronger, and they discover just how much joy can be found in being fully present with one another. As we reflect on this week, we are incredibly grateful for everyone who prayed for us, supported us, and made this trip possible. Thank you for investing in these students and in the work God is doing through them. We returned home with tired muscles, full hearts, stronger friendships, and a renewed desire to continue sharing the love of Christ, wherever He sends us next.



KIDS CORNER

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES UPDATE

Hello, Heart of Longmont family,

Summertime may seem quiet, but we are in a full planning mode to have an exciting school year!

Starting September, we will implement one big change: **there will be no Children's Church on Communion Sundays** (the first Sunday of the month). We will move the lesson to our new event: Midweek at the Heart (read more below!).

Important points to remember:

- There will still be nursery for children 0-5
- Children over 5 will have the opportunity to experience "big church" with their family
- There will be extra activities for kids to help them enjoy and understand the "big church" experience

If you think this will be difficult for your child, please let me know. We will find something that works for you.

—JANA YODER, CFM DIRECTOR

Midweek at the Heart

Midweek at Heart is a multigenerational event that will take place every first Wednesday of the month. It will consist of a dinner and fellowship, followed by breakaway sessions.

The children's session will be similar to what we do in Children's Church: there will be a Bible story, game, craft, and other activities. Parents are welcome to join their kids and learn together, or attend the class for adults. If needed, we will have separate sessions for preschoolers and preteens/early teens. Nursery will be available upon request. Please reach out to me with any questions or concerns.



We are excited to announce our first Family Faith Workshop! This one will be on communion. We want our children to understand what communion is, what the different elements mean, and how it can help them grow in faith. It will be held on Sunday, August 23, at 4:00 PM. It is geared towards elementary school aged children.

SEND A MESSAGE FROM LEONARD!

Would you like to send a short video message to that special someone who is a big fan of our friend Leonard E. Gator? Leonard will record a personalized message and text or email it to them for a small donation to CFM. To learn more, email leonard@heartoflongmont.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

August

- ½ **Faith Day at the Rockies**, 1PM. Sign up in the Gallery.
- ⅓ **Pool Party** 2PM-4PM Mark Vancura's house. Email jana@heartoflongmont.org for the address.
- ½ **Parents Night Out: Movie Night** 5:30PM to 7PM Drop off your kids with their favorite blanket, stuffed animal, pillow, or all of it. We will have dinner and watch Paddington 2. Suggested donation \$5. Register here: <https://heartoflongmont.breezechms.com/form/6ce2d923>
- ⅓ **Blessing of the Backpacks** Bring your school backpack to church to receive a blessing.
- ⅓ **Family Faith Workshop: Communion** 4PM—5:30PM Chapel

September

- **Every Monday 10AM—12PM:** Parents & Tots Parents and children 0-5 are welcome to join us for a fun playtime and fellowship.
- ½ **Midweek at Heart** 5:30PM—7PM
- ⅓ **Sunday Funday** (see page 8!)
- ⅓ **Pizza Playtime** 4:30PM—6:30PM Parents and children 0-8, siblings are welcome! Join us for a fun playtime and pizza dinner

Children's Church Resources

Are you interested in following what the kids learn in Children's Church? Check out [our weekly playlist that includes the Bible verse and a Bible story video](#). You will be asked for basic information to create an account. This information is used for verification purposes only, you will not receive any spam. Find the playlist here: <https://heartoflongmont.church-amazing.com/>

SUPPORT OUR MINISTRY BE THE LIGHT FUNDRAISER

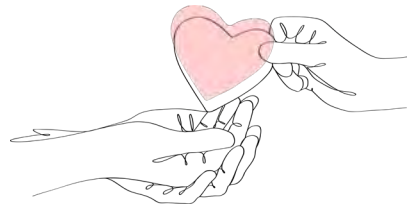


We only have a few shopping bags and frisbees left! You can still receive a gift with your donation. Once they are gone, they are gone.

- Donation of \$25 or more: you get a beautiful reusable bag
- Donation of \$5 or more: a fun frisbee is all yours!

You can write a check to HOL, with CFM in the memo line, donate cash, donate via the QR code at right, or [online](#).





MISSION DESIGN UPDATE

from Amy Mann

As summer gives way to fall, the needs within our community continue to grow. The Mission Design Team invites you to join us as we put our faith into action by supporting our neighbors through service, generosity, and advocacy. Together, we can make a meaningful difference.

Wild Plum Backpack & School Supply Drive



Throughout August, we are collecting 25 child- and toddler-sized backpacks for the children at Wild Plum's Heart of Longmont location. We are also gathering classroom supplies to support Wild Plum's dedicated teachers as they prepare for

a new school year.

A complete list of requested supplies is available in the gallery. Thank you for helping children and educators start the school year with the tools they need to thrive.

HOPE Jeans Drive

Beginning in September, we will once again collect gently used or new jeans for our neighbors served by HOPE. The greatest need is for waist sizes 30-36 and lengths 29-35.

As you clean out your closets—or if you happen to find a great sale while shopping—please consider donating a pair or two. Donations may be placed in the purple collection box in the gallery beginning in late August.

Latinx Heritage Month Educational Event

In celebration of Latinx Heritage Month, the Mission Design Team will host an educational session focused on how we can become stronger allies for our local Latinx community.

Please watch The Pulse and your Sunday bulletin for the date, time, and additional details. We hope you'll join us for this important conversation as we continue learning, listening, and building a more welcoming community.

OUR Center Monthly Meal Partnership

Heart of Longmont's Leadership Team and Mission Design Team are proud to partner with Longs Peak United Methodist Church to provide a monthly meal at the OUR Center through both financial support and volunteer service.

Each month, Heart of Longmont contributes approximately \$150, matched by Longs Peak UMC, helping provide meals for the 80-100 individuals typically served. The OUR Center relies on community partners to provide weekend meals when staffing is limited, making this ministry especially meaningful.

There are several ways to participate:

- Sponsor all or part of a meal through a donation or gift card.
- Volunteer for a fun and rewarding two-hour shift on the second Saturday of each month.

To volunteer or learn more, contact the Heart of Longmont office, contact Amy Mann, or sign up online:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040d4da5ad28a1fe3-ourcenter#/>

CRISIS RESOURCES

THE NATIONAL SUICIDE HOTLINE

1-800-SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433) or visit 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 Find a walk-in crisis center: 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 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 or 720-815-2885

Visit Recovery Café's website recoverycafelongmont.org for information on how to support their work, information on becoming a member, and other resources.

FROM OUR PARTNERS

From El Comité



I am not a terrible receptionist... July 23

A week or so ago, we were short staffed and, because we are a lean nonprofit where we all do all the things, I got to fill in for our receptionist. I'm not as good at the job as

our regular receptionist, but honestly, I'm not bad.

And as I sat at our front desk, responding to phone calls and greeting our participants as they walked through our doors, my brain lit up with new perspectives and information.

For starters, when I started at El Comité two and a half years ago, everything was on paper. Now, we do intakes on tablets and keep everything in a database. As the receptionist, I was amazed to see how far we have come, and how creatively adaptive our team has been to make it all work.

It was also a more stressful seat than I imagined: I had to juggle the phones, intakes for walk-ins, scheduling appointments, and providing basic information – and I had to do it all in two languages.

A participant called from GEO detention center in Aurora to say he was waiting for our attorney to visit, so I had to track down the attorney, who was in GEO,

From OUR Center



Aspen Center at Hover Crossing is Taking Shape

Exciting progress continues at Aspen Center at Hover Crossing as we prepare to

welcome children and families to our second preschool location! Last week, volunteers from Pennrose, the developer of Hover Crossing, joined volunteers from the Longmont Housing Authority and Aspen Center staff for a day of preparing the new space. The community's support didn't stop there. Members of the Kiwanis Club of Longmont also stopped by to deliver beautifully quilted nap blankets

to connect them. Another was looking for resources on how to handle her own divorce. Someone else needed help to stop constant scam texts on their phone, and another person was looking for financial assistance.

I was amazed, as I often am, by the complexity and diversity of people's needs, and by the range of support El Comité can – and does – provide. I felt proud of our team and grateful to be doing this work.

As a reminder, El Comité de Longmont is a social justice and human service organization that supports, educates, connects, and advocates to eliminate barriers and empower Latino and immigrant community members. We serve approximately 3,000 participants each year, 90+% of whom are monolingual Spanish speakers, and 70% of whom live in Longmont. We offer:

- case management and resource navigation,
- an on-staff immigration attorney who specializes in defensive representation,
- access to low-cost consults with immigration, criminal defense, and civil attorneys,
- community outreach and education, and
- adult education.

At one point during my "shift," after fumbling to find the resource I was searching for, I apologized to two participants about my lame receptionist skills. I told them that I am the Director and don't know how to do

and build custom furniture that will help make our classrooms feel like home!

Help Nourish Every Child's Potential

Because if every kid always had enough to eat, imagine how far we'd go.

Every child deserves the opportunity to learn, grow, and reach their full potential—and it all begins with having enough nutritious food to eat.

That's why, today through July 7, the OUR Center is joining Nourish the American Dream, a nationwide campaign uniting communities to help end childhood hunger. Throughout the campaign, every donation designated to the OUR Center's Food Program will be doubled, up to a nationwide match of \$2.5

anything so useful as running the front desk. They laughed. Then they got curious. They asked me where our funding came from, and I told them the truth – that 50% of our funding comes from individuals from across the community, just like you!

And so today, wearing both my ED and sometime-receptionist hats, I am writing to ask you to help us with a financial gift. Will you please give today to support El Comité – our participants and the amazing team that is here to do the work?

And in a fun, mid-campaign twist, we have an anonymous donor who wants to entice your support with a \$10,000 matching gift. Anything you give will be matched dollar for dollar up to that \$10K.

Your gift helps us keep the doors open (literally!) and the team paid for our participants and all their requests. Your gift helps us serve our community by connecting our folks with resources, helping them to navigate hard systems, solving problems – and always, always ensuring their dignity.

I appreciate your consideration, and I appreciate you!

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 to sign up. [Know your rights.](https://elcomitedelongmont.org)

million.

Every gift helps provide nutritious food for local children and families while contributing to a nationwide effort to ensure every child has the nourishment they need to thrive.

Make your donation today through our online donation form at ourcenter.org/donate, PayPal, or by check, and be sure to designate your gift to OUR Center's Food Program. Together, we can help nourish every child's potential.

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.

From Longmont Food Rescue

New Summer Program Partnerships

We are thrilled to be partnering with [Brújula Comunitaria](#) at the [Growing Gardens Food Project Farm](#) on their Brújula Dorada 2026 program! This year, LFR is providing local meat and eggs alongside the Food Project Farm's fresh produce for Brújula Comunitaria's summer food access program. We are grateful for funding from the [Provecho Collective's](#) Community Food Grant and the [Food Security Network's](#) Collaborative Purchasing Grant that make this partnership possible!

We are also partnering with [Growing Gardens](#) to offer supplementary food at their weekly Longmont farm stand. We are so excited to be part of these programs to increase local healthy food access!

Celebrating our Senior Center 1-Year Anniversary!

According to the National Council on Aging, roughly 7.4 million older Americans (or 1 in 11 of those age 60+) faced food insecurity in 2023. Just one year ago, Longmont Food Rescue launched its newest program, in partnership with The Senior Citizens Advisory Board, to help support food access for some of our most vulnerable neighbors.

In our first year of this monthly food access program, we have distributed nearly 16,000 lbs. of nutritious food to our seniors, feeding on average 170 people each month across more than 75 households. Dozens of volunteer hours go into making each Senior Center food distribution a success!

Thank you to everyone who helped us celebrate our 1-year program

anniversary at our June distribution! We hope you'll consider making a birthday gift to help us continue this critical work in our community.

Free Clothing: 3rd Sundays at Collyer Park

[Vulture Collective](#) is back this month, and will be offering free clothing at our July 19 Produce in the Park distribution, and at every 3rd Sunday Collyer Park food distribution through the fall!

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 Casa de Paz



Statement regarding Tuberculosis outbreak at the Aurora GEO facility

July 14

For several weeks, we had been trying to confirm alleged reports of a Tuberculosis (TB) outbreak at the Aurora GEO facility. While we heard first-hand allegations from our guests, we did not have concrete

evidence to openly speak about it. Today, several trusted outlets

- Guests released reports not receiving results for their tests.

- Released guests reported people detained are being transferred between Bravo and Charlie due to AC issues and there are no clear signs of quarantine for folks who might have been exposed.

- We observed guards wearing masks at the facility starting the week of 7/6/2026.

We appreciate your support during all that we are dealing with.

You can read [an article from The Denver Post here](#).

Casa Guests in June

For the month of June, our volunteers handed out 282 snack bags to families and we had 19 pizza donations. We welcomed 92 individuals being released from Aurora GEO!

Among the guests there were 28 countries represented: Afghanistan, Angola, Brazil, China, Colombia, Cuba, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Palestine, Russia, Romania, Serbia, Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, Venezuela, Vietnam

[Check out our complete Welcome Team Monthly Report here.](#)

Your Donations Matter

With \$25 or \$50 gift cards, our guests are able to purchase meals while en route to reunite with their families during their 40-60 hour bus ride. Since guests are turned away at airports, a 4 hour flight is now a multi-day trip.

Tracphones and unlimited 30 day plan cards allow our guests to stay connected to their families during those multi-day bus rides. Recently, most buses have had significant delays or no wifi. Sugar Free Snacks allow us to give our pre-diabetic and diabetic guests snacks to travel with or munch on while they are at Casa.

[Find accepted donations here.](#)

From Casa de Paz's email newsletter. If you want to receive their newsletter and support their work, visit their website casadepazcolorado.org.

UW FAITH CIRCLES

Lydia Circle

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

**Will start meeting again in September!*

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!

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

Find out how meditation can help you deepen your connection to your faith journey, as well as help you stay present, focused, calm, and able to act rather than react in "real life!" Our first fall meeting will be September 18 at noon in the Chapel. Meetings will be every first and third Friday of the month through the end of the year.

You don't need to come to every class to achieve benefits! We will review the basics of how and why to meditate and practice in class. Those who can only stay an hour will experience these two components. Those who wish to stay 30 minutes longer are welcome to share experiences, ask questions, and continue building community! Everyone is welcome—no experience necessary!

Pack and UnPack

Join Pastor Angie 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 twice a month. Contact the church office for more information.

Parents & Tots Group

Returning on September 7!
For parents and their kids ages 0-5. Mondays, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Heart of Longmont.

Midlife Meetup, Heart & Humor

A new offering for women in their 40s-50s meeting in homes the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Starts August 18 at 6:00 PM at Tricia Grafelman's home.

WE ARE A COMMUNITY THAT PRAYS

Send your prayer requests to 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!



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 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.

Serving Meals at the OUR Center

To serve a meal shift at the Our Center with our friends from Longs Peak UMC on the second Saturday of the month, please sign up by [clicking here](#) or contact Amy Mann.

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



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

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

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.