

NOVEMBER 2026

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR





Dear Heart of Longmont Family,

What a wonderful October we had at Heart of Longmont! As I reflect on the past month, my heart is filled with gratitude for the beautiful ways our church family continues to grow together in ministry, mission, and discipleship.

We had more than 60 people gather for Midweek at the Heart on October 7th, sharing an evening of fellowship, fun, and learning. I especially enjoyed our John Wesley Family Feud game in the chapel! Emily Farrenkopf and I spent a wonderful weekend with our 12 confirmands at Buckhorn Camp, October 23rd to the 25th, strengthening relationships, exploring Wesleyan theology, and discovering what it means to follow Jesus. And, of course, we had an incredible Trunk-or-Treat event on October 25th, complete with costumes, candy, and delicious spooky soup! It was wonderful showcasing our brand-new parking lot to the wider community. A big thanks to everyone who donated candy, made soup, and volunteered that afternoon!

These moments remind me that the church is so much more than a building or Sunday morning worship service. It's a community of people who show up for one another, invest in the next generation, create spaces of belonging, and put faith into action. And the truth is, none of the life-changing ministry we do would be possible without the generosity of our congregation.

Increasingly, researchers are discovering something our faith has taught us for centuries; that generosity is good for us! Studies suggest that generosity positively impacts our physical health, emotional well-being, relationships, and sense of purpose. For Christ followers, however, generosity is more than just feeling good. We worship a God whose love and grace are abundant, and because we are created in God's image, we reflect God's character when we practice generosity. Generosity doesn't just change the lives of those who receive. It changes the hearts of those who give.

Throughout the month of November, we'll explore this truth in our stewardship series, Generous: The Beauty in Giving. This worship series will begin Sunday, November 1st and conclude on Sunday, November 22nd. My prayer for this series is that we'll discover how generosity opens our lives to greater joy, contentment, and purpose.

There are countless things I love about the Heart of Longmont, but the generosity I get to witness on a daily basis is my favorite. Because of this congregation's giving, children and youth are experiencing God's love, neighbors in the Longmont community are receiving housing, food, and care, and our lives are being changed through our discipleship ministries and transformational worship.

Every year I get excited about stewardship season. Because it's just the time of year we talk about money. It's an invitation for all of us to participate in God's life changing work. It's about investing in a shared vision of what God's love can accomplish in and through us! I can't wait to begin this series with all of you on All Saints Sunday, November 1st and I can't wait to see the amazing things God will do in the month of November.

Our annual Church Conference is Sunday, November 15th, at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary, with District Superintendent Rev. Andy Dunning. Childcare will be provided for this important all-church meeting. Church conference is the time we celebrate our 2026 ministry year and vote on important matters such as leadership roles and teams as well as my pastoral compensation. We'll also discuss goals for the 2027 ministry year and hear a message from our Bishop. I sincerely encourage everyone to attend this important meeting as it's an opportunity to celebrate all God's done, vote on important church business, and dream about the future. I hope to see you there!

Secondly, Sunday, November

22nd is Celebration Sunday! During worship, we'll celebrate our collective financial pledges for 2027 and the ministry those commitments will make possible. Following worship, we'll enjoy a congregational potluck in Wesley Hall. Please know that Russ and I are prayerfully discerning our household's financial pledge for the 2027 ministry year alongside all of you in this season of stewardship. We are in this together, and it's exciting to know the grace-filled impact we make together as a church family.

Before I close, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the cards, gifts, kind words, and thoughtful gestures you shared during October's Pastor Appreciation Month. I felt incredibly loved and appreciated, and your love, prayers, and support mean more to me than words can express.

Pastoring in the 21st century sometimes feels like trying to ride a unicycle while juggling bowling balls in the middle of a tornado. Ministry is complex, challenging, and, at times...very discouraging. The needs of the congregation and wider community are great, the world is constantly changing, and there are days when the work feels overwhelming. But even on the hardest days, I genuinely cannot imagine doing anything else. I love being a pastor, and I am especially grateful that God has called me to serve this congregation.

Pastoring is more than a job. It is a sacred calling and an incredible privilege. Thank you for your trust, encouragement, prayers, grace, and partnership. It is truly an honor to walk alongside you as we all strive to follow Jesus together.

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving, please know how deeply grateful I am for each one of you. Thank you for the countless ways you give, love, and serve.

With Gratitude and Love,

—PASTOR ANGIE DORNISCH







Generous: The Beauty in Giving
New Worship Series - November 1 to November 22

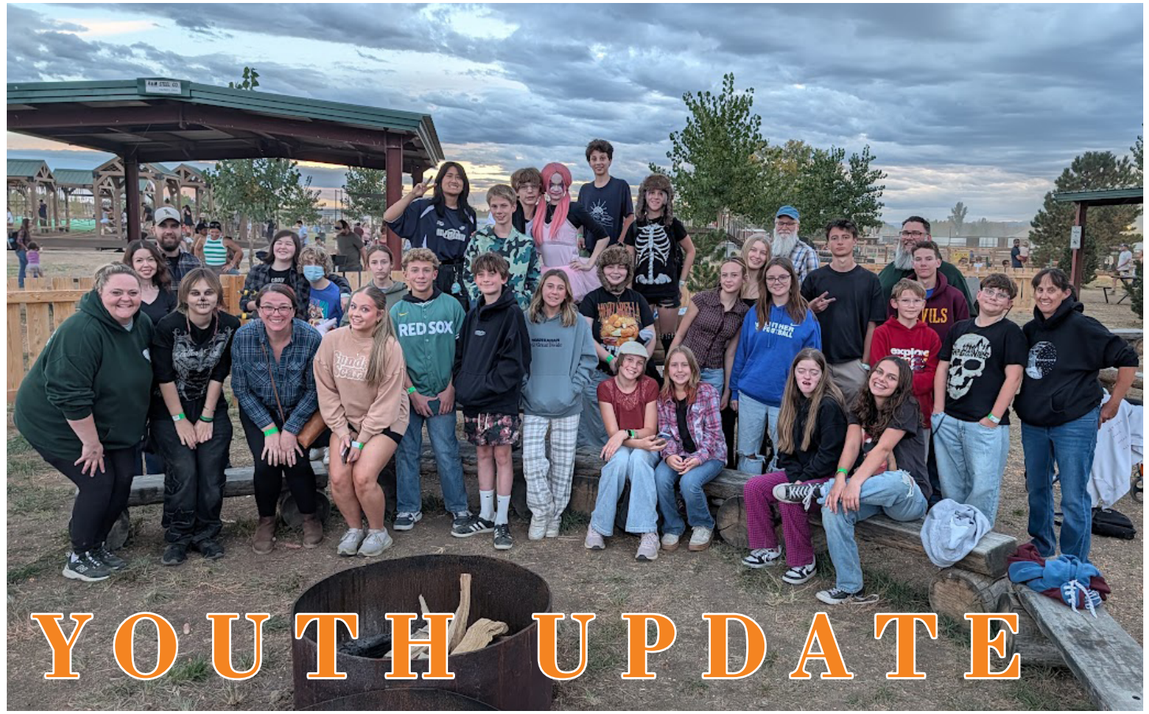


Every day, we receive messages about what matters most, what the "good life" is supposed to look like, and everything we must do or own to achieve it. Yet even when we acquire more, accomplish more, or carefully plan for more, many of us remain restless and unsatisfied. Generous invites us to listen for a different message: God desires lives marked by contentment, freedom from worry, deep trust, and abundant joy. Jesus shows us that this kind of life is not found through endless accumulation, but through seeking God first and allowing God's grace to reshape our priorities.

Across these four Sundays, we will explore generosity as a spiritual practice and a way of life, not simply as a financial obligation. As we learn to find our contentment in God, money can take its proper place as a tool rather than the source of our security or happiness. God's grace then flows through us to bless our neighbors, strengthen our church, and bring more of God's love into the world. The series will conclude on Celebration Sunday, November 22, when we consecrate our pledges for 2027 and celebrate our shared ministry with a potluck in Wesley Hall.

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- THE HOLIDAYS ARE AROUND THE CORNER!
- UW FAITH HOLIDAY FAIR
- RECOVERY CAFE THANKSGIVING DINNER
- SANTA'S WORKSHOP
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- November is our Stewardship Season
- Youth and CFM Updates including ways to support these ministries!
- Heart of Community Update
- Worshipful Moments—including Trunk-or-Treat and Confirmation Weekend!
- And more!



YOUTH UPDATE

from Emily Farrenkopf, Youth Co-Director

FALL FUN AT ANDERSON FARMS!

Fall wouldn't be complete without our annual trip to Anderson Farms! This year, we had 33 people join us for a wonderful evening of fellowship, laughter, and fall fun. It was a great opportunity to spend time together, strengthen friendships, and enjoy the beauty of the season.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make this annual tradition another memorable one. We are already looking forward to next year, whatever that may look like!

DECK THE HALLS & SUPPORT US!

Our annual Heart of Longmont BASIC Youth Christmas Wreath Fundraiser is here! When you purchase a wreath or holiday greenery, you're doing more than decorating for Christmas. You're helping our youth experience life-changing mission trips where they grow in faith, serve others, build friendships, and make memories that last a lifetime. Every purchase helps make these opportunities possible and keeps costs affordable for our youth families!

To have a look at what's on offer, check out the wreaths and centerpieces in the flyer on page 4!

Local Pickup:
Order by November 7
Pick up December 6

Direct Delivery: Available through the first week of December!

Shop here: https://omt.sffwa.com/shop/heartoflongmontyouth

Don't need a wreath? A share is just as appreciated!

Thank you for investing in our kids and helping them make a difference in the world!





CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MINISTRIES

Hello, Heart of Longmont family!

Can you believe we are already stepping into November? As we head into this season of gratitude, I am so incredibly thankful for each and every one of your children. They bring so much joy, laughter, and energy to our church every single week! We have some super fun family events lined up this month to help us celebrate together.

Advent
Yes, Advent starts in November! We are working hard to prepare for Jesus's birthday.

Chrismons
Chrismons are a beloved tradition we brought back last year. The word Chrismon stands for Christ Monogram. It is a type of a Christmas ornament that carries a special meaning and is always white and gold.

We make different Chrismons each year. We will use them to decorate a dedicated Christmas tree during the Hanging of the Greens service.

How to make a Chrismon

- *After church service on Sundays in November*: we will have craft kits set up in the gallery
- *Hanging of the Greens service*: we will have a few easy Chrismon designs you can make on the spot

If you have any questions or would like to help, please reach out to me at jana@heartoflongmont.org.

CFM Planning Team
Are you interested in helping shape our children and families ministry? Join our planning team! For more information, contact jana@heartoflongmont.org.

Children's Church Resources
Are you interested in following what the kids learn in Children's Church? Check out our weekly playlist at https://heartoflongmont.church-amazing.com/ 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.

Blessings,

—JANA YODER
CFM DIRECTOR

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, or online.

SPECIAL MESSAGES 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

Mondays 10 AM to 12 PM
Parents & Tots
Parents and children 0-5 are welcome to join us for a fun playtime and fellowship

Sundays 3 PM to 4 PM
NextGen Music
3 PM to -3:30 PM
Tone Chimes
3:30 PM to 4 PM
Choir
Sign up: https://heartoflongmont.breezechms.com/form/40960f

November 4
Midweek at Heart
5:30 PM to 7 PM
We will have classes/activities for preschoolers, elementary school kids and preteens

November 19
Pizza Playtime
4:30 PM to 6:30 PM
Parents and children 0-8, siblings are welcome! Join us for a fun playtime and pizza dinner

November 23
Hanging of the Greens
6 PM — For all ages!
We will share a beautiful, family-friendly service while decorating our sanctuary for Christmas

SAVE THE DATE!

Children's Christmas Program
Christmas Eve, December at 4 PM

Vacation Bible Camp
The week of June 7, 2027

WORSHIPFUL MOMENTS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Heart of Longmont continues to grow, grow, grow! We want to introduce you to some of the new names and faces that are calling Heart of Longmont their new faith family! Be sure to introduce yourself to them and welcome them yourself. (Not pictured: Alma Biachi)



Barb Teicher



Emilio Esparza



Drea Smith



The Jensen Family
Matt, Diane, and Natalie



The Van Roekel Family
Luke, Heidi, Noah, and Ellie



WORSHIPFUL MOMENTS

DAYS FOR GIRLS BUILD DAY





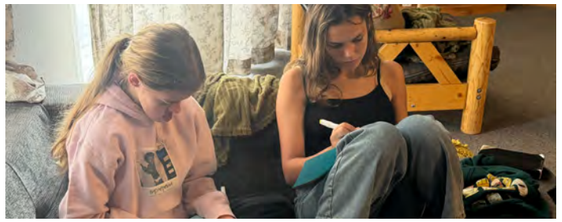
PASTOR APPRECIATION





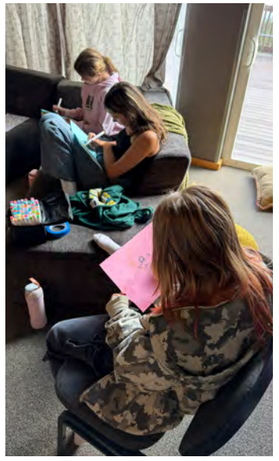
WORSHIPFUL MOMENTS

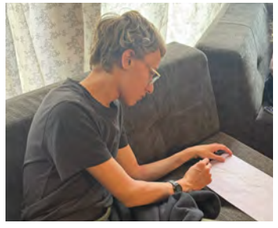
CONFIRMATION WEEKEND



















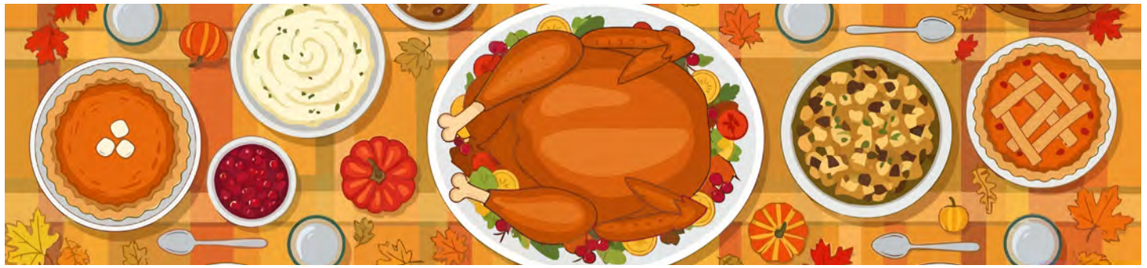


WORSHIPFUL MOMENTS

HALLOWEEN TRUNK-OR-TREAT!







NOVEMBER MISSION DESIGN NEWS

from Amy Mann

What an amazing year it has been for Missions at Heart of Longmont! Through generous Compassion Offerings, countless volunteer hours, meals served, and partnerships with local organizations, our church family has made a real difference in our community. From supporting our unhoused neighbors to helping families in need, we've shared kindness, compassion, and hope throughout Longmont and beyond. Thank you to everyone who gave their time, talents, and resources. Together, we continue to put God's love into action!!

Volunteers Needed!
The generous Heart of Longmont family is once again coming together to serve a memorable Thanksgiving dinner to the wonderful clients of Longmont's Recovery Café on Wednesday, November 25, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

This marks our third year of sharing more than just a delicious Thanksgiving meal. Together, we are creating a warm, welcoming space where our guests can relax, feel valued, enjoy wonderful food, and celebrate the spirit of community and connection.

We need YOU to help make this special evening possible!

There are plenty of ways to lend a hand, including donating food, setting up tables, serving dinner, bussing tables, washing dishes, and cleaning up afterward. Whether you have an hour or an entire evening to give, every helping hand makes a difference!

Want to join us? We'd love to have you! Simply sign up using the link below or stop by the Connection Center to volunteer in person.

Click Here to Volunteer for the Recovery Café Thanksgiving Dinner

If technology isn't your thing, you can also contact me (Amy Mann) via the church office. Let me know what you can bring—I'll plug you in!

Food Drop-Off
Wednesday, November 25 for hot food at Recovery Café (402 Kimbark) between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

If this time doesn't work, please reach out to arrange a pickup. If you're sharing china place settings, please bring them to Heart of Longmont by Tuesday, November 24 (by 11 a.m.) or directly to Recovery Café between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Food Items Needed
- Mashed Potatoes
- Sweet Potatoes
- Stuffing
- Green Bean Casserole
- Broccoli Casserole
- Cranberry Sauce (fresh or canned)
- Turkey Gravy
- Rolls and Butter
- Salads
- Other Items
- Sets of China
- Table Centerpieces
- Linen Napkins

People Power
We will need hands and feet to make this event successful. If you can spare even an hour on Wednesday we can use your help.

Tuesday, Nov. 24 (1–4 p.m.): 5–10 people to set up tables, decorate, and arrange place settings.

Wednesday, Nov. 25 (1–4 p.m.): 5–7 people to set up the buffet and charcuterie board, get the food ready.

Wednesday, Nov. 26 (4–8 p.m.): 10–12 people to serve, wash dishes, bus, and clean up.

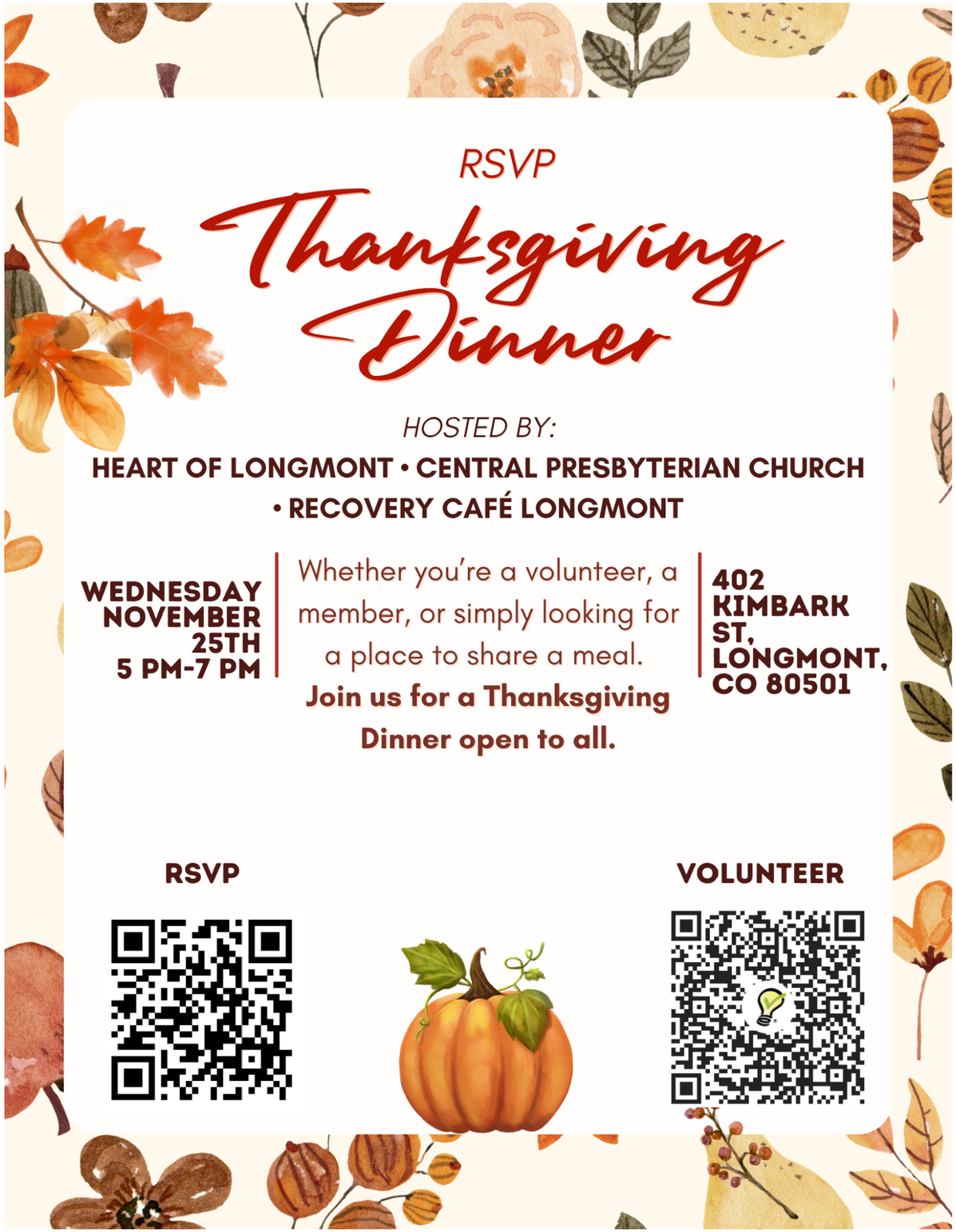
Thanksgiving is about gratitude, generosity, and coming together. Let's make this year our most meaningful celebration yet!

SHARE YOUR GENEROSITY!
This November, instead of having a formal Compassion Offering, we invite you to share your generosity in ways that meet some of the needs this busy holiday season. You are invited to:
- Volunteer for the Recovery Café Thanksgiving Dinner on Wednesday, November 25 (sign up at the Connection Center, or click here for the Sign Up Genius)
- Donate your time to help during Santa's Workshop or bring new or gently used gifts for community children to shop for their families on Sunday, December 6 (click here to sign up to help at Santa's Workshop)
- Ring bells for the Salvation Army (be on the lookout for the sign-up sheets at the Connection Center!)
- Help provide Christmas gifts for Wild Plum Holiday Baskets by adopting an entire family, donating money towards gift purchases, or providing gift cards for parents (Walmart, Target, and Amazon).

There are many ways to give, and each one helps make the season brighter for our neighbors!

BE THE SOURCE EVENT
In July, our Compassion offering went to the non-profit organization called Be the Source. They are a Foster Care support organization and they do amazing work with the families and children navigating all that comes with being in the Foster family community.

Besides sending them $1,765 in July, we are preparing to be a host site for some of the Boulder County Foster families as they gather for their parent meetings. Saturday, November 14, from 5 PM to 7PM, will be the first time we will be sharing our space with Be the Source. If you have interest in learning more about their organization or how you can help, contact Tricia Grafelman at tricia@heartoflongmont.org.





CHEF HEARTY

Last month, our Wild Plum families got to make a Sweet Potato Harvest Salad with chicken breast. The Wild Plum kids get so excited when they see their bags filled with delicious, fresh food on a Monday afternoon as their parents pick them up from school!

We will be sending Chef Hearty Bags home two times this month. The first build day will be the first Sunday of the month per usual on Sunday, November 1. Due to Santa's Workshop and the Holiday Baskets going home to Wild Plum families in December and the fact that November has 5 weeks, we will do a second build day the last Sunday of the month, November 29. We will not be packing another kit for December.

Thank you to so many of you who have contributed to the Chef Hearty compassion fund so we can continue to provide fun, healthy meals for our Headstart families that have classrooms in our building! If you have an inexpensive, healthy meal recipe you would like to share, send it to Tricia Grafelman at tricia@heartoflongmont.org.

GUATEMALA ADULT MISSION TRIPS IN APRIL 2027

Have you always thought about doing a mission trip? We have just the opportunity for you! Heart of Longmont's Adult Mission Team will be returning to Lake Atitlan in April of 2027 to continue our relationship with ODIM (Opportunities for the Development of the Indigenous Maya). Interest is so high we are planning to run TWO Heart of Longmont Adult Mission trips back-to-back.

The dates are set for April 9 to 17 and April 16 to 24. The cost is approximately $2,000 plus airfare (around $700). People who are currently signed up to attend are Pastor Angie Dornish, Tricia Grafelman, Rod Edmonds, Dawn Desai, Brad Cook, Bobby Pannone, Kevin Donovan, Richard Jones, Steve Dudley, Gretchen Walker.

If you would like to learn more, please reach out to Tricia or Pastor Angie. The decision deadline is set for December 1 with the first installment of payment. (The second half of payment will be due February 15).

ADVENTURERS ADVENT STUDY: *A THRILL OF HOPE: THE CHRISTMAS STORY IN WORD AND ART*

Advent begins on November 29 and we will be approaching the season a little bit differently this year in our Adventurer's class.

This 6-week study invites us to combine scriptures with art and to look—really look—at how the artist John August Swanson depicts the Christmas story. We will be looking at other pieces of art as well and inviting participants to bring some of their own Christmas art to share with the class.

Waiting is rarely easy, but as we await the birth of Christ it is easier to do together! If you want to learn more, you can reach out to Tricia Grafelman at tricia@heartoflongmont.org.

JOIN US FOR THE HOLIDAY FAIR!

Mark your calendars! The annual Holiday Fair is coming up on **Saturday, November 7 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**. Sponsored by the United Women in Faith, this is the perfect opportunity to kick off your seasonal shopping and enjoy a wonderful day with the community.

Here is what you can look forward to:

- A Wide Variety of Vendors! Explore unique crafts, gifts, and holiday items.
- Get your picture made with Santa! Santa Claus will be here all day long to visit with the kids—and the kids at heart!
- Delicious Pulled Pork Lunch: Take a break and enjoy a full lunch for just $13. The meal includes a pulled pork sandwich, coleslaw, a pickle spear, chips, dessert, and a drink.

How to get your lunch tickets:
Buying your tickets in advance is highly appreciated so our team knows exactly how much food to prepare! See Jean Malchow after church to buy your tickets. Tickets will also be available at the door to Wesley Hall on the day of the event.

We accept cash, checks, and Venmo.

We can't wait to see you there!





Category	YTD 2026 Actual	YTD 2026 Budget	YTD 2025 Actual
Income	$387,942	$409,300	$351,977
Expenses	$442,144	$454,262	$418,722
Income Less Expenses (Deficit)	($54,202)	($44,962)	($66,745)

SEPTEMBER 2026 FINANCIAL UPDATE

GROWING GIVING SUPPORTS EXPANDING MINISTRIES

Overview

The third quarter brought encouraging financial progress for Heart of Longmont. Through September, income is 10.2% higher than the same period last year, reflecting continued growth in congregational support. While giving remains below our 2026 budget expectations, the year-over-year improvement is encouraging.

Expenses continue to be managed carefully, coming in approximately $12,000 below budget. Compared with last year, expenses are higher primarily because of intentional investments in pastoral compensation, our Children and Family Ministry Director, and expanded ministry opportunities.

These investments include Family Camp and Vacation Bible Camp, along with new fall programs such as Revival 101, Midweek at the Heart, and NextGEN music ministry for students in grades 3 through 12. These programs reflect our continuing commitment to strengthening discipleship, supporting families, and creating opportunities for connection and community.

Perhaps one of the most encouraging signs of the vitality of Heart of Longmont is our continued growth as a congregation. On October 18, we welcomed eight new family units into membership—a wonderful reminder of why we continue investing in ministries that nurture faith, build relationships, and create a welcoming church community.

Our year-to-date deficit of $54,202 is approximately $9,200 larger than budgeted, but more than $12,500 smaller than at this point last year. This improvement reflects both increased giving and careful management of expenses.

Looking Ahead

As we enter the final quarter of 2026, we are encouraged by the growth in giving and our progress in managing expenses. Historically, the final months of the year have been our strongest period for giving, and we are hopeful that this pattern will continue.

At the same time, we recognize the importance of bringing operating income and expenses into better balance. As we begin planning for 2027, our focus remains on responsible stewardship while continuing to support the ministries that are helping Heart of Longmont grow and thrive.

Thank You

Thank you for your continued faithfulness and generosity. Your support makes it possible for Heart of Longmont to nurture faith, welcome all, and serve our community in meaningful ways. If you have questions or would like additional information, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Blessings,

—ROD EDMONDS
TREASURER

HEART OF COMMUNITY: MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

Thank you to the 60–70 members and friends who joined us following worship on October 18 for an update on the next phase of our Heart of Community capital campaign. The thoughtful questions and lively discussion reflected the congregation's continued interest in how we are investing in our church's future. During the meeting, we reviewed the significant accomplishments of the campaign to date, including retiring our building debt, replacing three aging air conditioning units, and completing the parking lot. We then shared the direction for Phase 3, which focuses on improvements to Wesley Hall, the parlor, and the connecting hallway.

Over the past several months, our project team has worked closely with the architect, designers, and contractor to refine the plans, evaluate costs, and prioritize improvements. Some projects originally envisioned have been deferred, allowing us to concentrate available resources on spaces that are heavily used for worship-related activities, fellowship, ministry, and community gatherings.

The current construction estimate is approximately $434,000, with potential cost-saving changes that could reduce that amount to approximately $398,000. That remains above the $350,000 currently available for Phase 3. We are working to address the difference while continuing to make thoughtful decisions about costs and priorities.

Our goal remains to begin construction shortly after the Christmas holidays and complete the work by mid-March, ahead of Easter. This timetable is dependent on final costs, permitting, and construction preparations.

An important next step will be working with the ministries and community groups that use Wesley Hall and the parlor to identify alternative arrangements during construction. We recognize that these are some of our busiest gathering spaces, and minimizing disruption will be a priority.

Sunday's discussion also included questions about future improvements, accessibility, furnishings, and other projects that have been deferred. Questions ranged from construction costs and scheduling to accessibility, future improvements, and how we will accommodate ministries during construction. We appreciate the thoughtful input and will continue addressing these matters as planning moves forward. While we don't have answers or timelines for every item, these remain important considerations as we look ahead.

If you were unable to attend, copies of the October 18 presentation are available in the church office.

Thank you for your continued generosity, engagement, and trust. Heart of Community has always been about more than improving our building. It's about creating welcoming, functional spaces that support our ministries and strengthen our connection with the Longmont community for years to come.



EL COMITÉ de Longmont

COMMUNITY TEACH-IN

Why Can't They Just Come the Right Way?

Is there a Right Way? Immigration Myth Busting With a Focus on Asylum & DACA

Nov. 10
6-8 PM

Central Longmont Presbyterian Church - Fellowship Hall, 402 Kimbark St, Longmont

Speaker: Mary Jo Highland, Immigration Attorney with Meyer Law Office & El Comite de Longmont Board Member



RSVP Here. RSVP helpful, but not required

See you there!

455 Kimbark St., Longmont, CO 80501 • elcomitedelongmont.org

WILD PLUM HOLIDAY BASKETS

Imagine being a single parent living in Colorado, leading up to the Christmas and holiday season, unsure how you are going to give the child you love even one gift.

Wild Plum has several parents in this exact situation and fortunately we have some of the most giving and generous church members to help them out. It has been our tradition in the last few years to invite those that are able, to "adopt" a family from our Wild Plum headstart program and to purchase gifts for their entire family.

Typically, we ask that you buy one fun toy and clothes item for the Wild Plum student and then one gift for each sibling and a gift card for the parents. Please wrap each gift in secular wrapping paper and place them in a basket or box with the NUMBER of your family taped to the basket.

We will have information on the children and families soon, so be on the look-out so you can select a family! Jean Malchow and Diane Elder will be collecting and organizing the gifts. All gifts and baskets will be due Friday, December 13.

If you have questions please reach out to Jean and Diane on Sundays or contact Tricia Grafelman.





Volunteer for

Santa's Workshop

Sunday December 6 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
at Heart of Longmont UMC

Wrap gifts, serve hot cocoa, and help kids find gifts for their loved ones!

We need translators! We would love your help if you speak Spanish!

Thank you for helping make Christmas brighter for our Wild Plum families!

Scan here to sign up!

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO HOL!

Santa's Workshop is almost here! This is the largest event we put on at the Heart of Longmont each year. 5 years ago, we piloted a program where the children of the Wild Plum headstart program come to the church to pick out gifts for their family members. This is NOT the parents choosing gifts for their children! The children choose gifts for their parents, siblings, grandparents, cousins or Aunts and Uncles.

It's a festive, chaotic day of joy and we are inviting you to be a part of it! There are many ways you can contribute.

- You can bring new or gently used gifts (toys, games, Dad's gifts, Mom's gifts, teenage gifts, balls, Lego sets, candles, bags, etc.) to the church starting on November 29
- You can sign up to wrap presents
- You can sign up to be a personal shopper
- You can sign up to bring cookies and serve hot chocolate
- You can help set up Santa's workstation in Wesley Hall anytime December 2 to December 5
- You can help clean up after the event
- You can be a Spanish translator. We need many!

This is an all hands on deck kind of event and you won't want to miss being a part of it. So many families thank us and tell us Christmas just wouldn't happen without this offering.

December is coming—and we will be ready! We will have camels in the courtyard, Santa in the chapel, hot chocolate and cookies as well as Heart of Longmont shining at its best!

CLICK HERE TO VOLUNTEEER or scan the QR code above.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER AS A PARTICIPANT or scan the QR code on the next page (page 20).

This way to

Santa's Workshop

Sunday
December 6 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

at Heart of Longmont UMC

350 11th Avenue Longmont

Kids shop for their parents, siblings, or other loved ones!

Personal shoppers help kids pick out their gifts.

Gift Wrapping / Hot Cocoa / Activities for Kids
Petting Zoo with Camels / Face Painting
Balloon Twisting

And Santa will be there!

Open to the public / Free of charge
Limited slots available
Please register to attend!

Note: No drop-offs.
Parents must wait on the
premises for their child.

Scan here
to register!





Thank You For Celebrating 40 Years With Us!

What an incredible celebration! On Saturday, September 26, we had the opportunity to celebrate 40 years of OUR Center surrounded by so many of the people who have supported, shaped, and been part of our community throughout the years.

It was a wonderful afternoon and evening filled with families, friends, familiar faces, and new ones coming together to mark this milestone. From the activities and local food to live music from Charted Territory and a walk through four decades of OUR Center history, it was incredibly special to see our campus filled with people celebrating alongside us.

Forty years is a milestone that belongs to so many people. OUR Center has grown and changed tremendously since 1986, but throughout those years, our community has continued to show up — giving their time, supporting our work, and helping us respond as the needs in our community have changed.

We are so grateful to all of the vendors, partners, volunteers, performers, staff, supporters, and community members who helped make our 40th Anniversary Celebration such a memorable day. We also want to extend a special thank you to the Stewart Family Foundation for sponsoring the celebration and helping make this event possible.

Thank you for an incredible 40 years, and for celebrating this special milestone with us!

Take a Look Back at 40 Years of OUR Center

For 40 years, OUR Center has brought people together to support our neighbors and respond to the changing needs of our community. As we celebrate this milestone, we wanted to capture some of the stories, memories, and people that have shaped those four decades.

In celebration of our 40th anniversary, we created a history video looking back at the people, partnerships, and milestones that have shaped OUR Center since its founding in 1986. Through interviews with those who helped build our organization and those continuing its work today, the video tells the stories behind four decades of serving the St. Vrain Valley.

We're so grateful to everyone who contributed their memories, photographs, and stories to help bring this video to life, and we're excited for our community to see it! Watch the 40th Anniversary History Video below, or click here to watch it on YouTube.

SAVE THE DATE! – Empty Bowls March 13, 2027 at Longmont High School Join us for one of OUR Center's most beloved community events. Stay tuned for more information!

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.

Happy Fall? (Oct 1)

I want to tell you about the whiplash and horror that some of our immigrant neighbors go through – as well as some local superheroes who are all in on their support.

Here's the story: Last week a friend shared bad news with me about an immigrant friend who was taken at an ICE check-in recently. We will call him M. M had been freed from the ICE prison in Aurora after 15 months by the great work of the DU Law School Immigration Law Clinic (Yay for student heroes!). Their attorneys-in-training filed a habeas petition to get him out. He was given withholding of removal, which came with freedom and the opportunity to obtain a work permit.

A Longmontster opened their home to M, where he lived for months until he was financially stable enough to move out on his own. M got his work permit and ended up with two full-time jobs in Longmont, and (of course!) his own business as a barber on the side. His host recruited and wrapped him in a village of supportive friends and neighbors.

The Friday before last, he went to his ICE check-in feeling hopeful because he received a message from ICE indicating that they would remove his ankle bracelet that day. But, when he showed up (Whiplash Alert), ICE didn't take off his ankle bracelet. Instead, they detained him and then quickly transferred him out of state. Their plan was to put him on a plane to Burundi. Which is absolutely problematic because M is from Morocco, which is over 5,000 miles away across the Sahara.

His village launched into action. They hired attorneys in multiple states, enlisted the help of the Colorado delegation, and engaged in a full-on advocacy campaign. This small group of friends and neighbors leveraged their networks and resources. Their efforts coincided with a decision by judge in Massachusetts federal court that required the Administration to tell people in advance where they were being sent and to give them the opportunity to say whether they would be in danger there, and M's flight to Burundi was stopped from taking off. But, this week the US Supreme Court, in response to an emergency request from the Administration, revived third country removals until they review the issue in December.

What happens next for this sweet person from Morocco, is yet unwritten. But his village continues to fight.

People with withholding of removal, like M., are the primary target for third country deportations right now. This practice is so inhumane that it is hard to think about, to look at.

El Comité has a legal client from Ecuador who was also granted withholding of removal and has already been deported to the Central African Republic. We are trying to figure out how to help him. This client, however, is from outside Boulder County. Someone needed to take his very compelling case, so we did. I will write more about all this later.

When the news of our friend from Morocco reached me, I was gutted. M is the first person living in Boulder County that I know of who is facing deportation to a third country so drastically different than his own. This inhumane practice has now touched us in our own community.

But today I really want to recognize the Longmonsters who make up M's village. Their tremendous efforts and show of love have been heroic, and their grief has been heavy. They gave him a safe place to land, helped him to build a life, and are actively problem solving in the face of the worst thing

LONGMONT FOOD RESCUE

Free Food, No Questions Asked
Comida Gratis, Sin Preguntas.

Food for Seniors 55+ / Alimentos para Personas Mayores 55+

Longmont Senior Center
@ 910 Longs Peak Ave
2nd Saturdays 10-11:30am

En Longmont Senior Center
@ 910 Longs Peak Ave
Segundo Sábado del Mes 10-11:30am

Free Food, No Questions Asked
Comida Gratis, Sin Preguntas.

Produce in the Parking Lot / Mercado en el Estacionamiento

YMCA
2nd & 4th Sundays 1-2 pm

YMCA
Los Segundos & Cuartos Domingos 1-2 pm

Free Food, No Questions Asked
Comida Gratis, Sin Preguntas.

Produce in the Park / Mercado en el Parque

Collyer Park
1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays 1-2 pm

Collyer Park
Primer, Tercer y Quinto Domingos 1-2 pm

Recovery Café
LONGMONT

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.

imaginable action by the government. The Longmonster who opened their home to this stranger and built the network around him said to me, "I just want every immigrant in Longmont to have the same support that my friend had."
Today I am just sitting with that. What might that take? El Comité is the village for many immigrants in Boulder County, but we could always use help! I'd love to hear your thoughts!

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.

Casa Guests in September

For the month of September, our volunteers handed out 331 snack bags to families, and we had 24 pizza donations. We welcomed 214 individuals being released from Aurora GEO, with 98 coming to Casa!

Among the releases there were 35 countries represented: Afghanistan, Argentina, Belarus, Brazil, Chad, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Mauritania, Mexico, Nepal, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Russia, Senegal, Somalia, Turkey, Ukraine, Venezuela, and Vietnam!

Check out our complete September Welcome Team Monthly Report here.

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





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.

UW FAITH CIRCLES

Lydia Circle
Jean Malchow and Linda McDaniel (co-chairs)
Second Tuesday 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!

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!" Join us November 6 in the library and November 20 in the chapel. 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 For parents and their kids ages 0-8. 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.

The Chosen Season 5 Discussion Group The Chosen Discussion Group will be meeting again to discuss Season 5. Join them in the Chapel on Sundays starting September 27 at 3:30 PM for a viewing of each episode with a time for discussion to follow.

NextGen Music Calling all musicians in 3rd to 12th Grade! You are invited to join one or both of our NextGen Music offerings: Chimes at 3:00 PM to 3:30 PM and Choir at 3:30 PM to 4:00 PM on Sunday afternoons. Click here to sign up or contact DeAnna Clink. Let's make a joyful noise together!

Spanish Class Learn and practice Spanish with the Spanish Class Mondays 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM in Room 104. To sign up contact the church office.

WE ARE A COMMUNITY THAT PRAYS

Send your prayer requests to prayers@heartoflongmont.org

SUBMISSIONS?

Do you have something to share with our community? Send it 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!

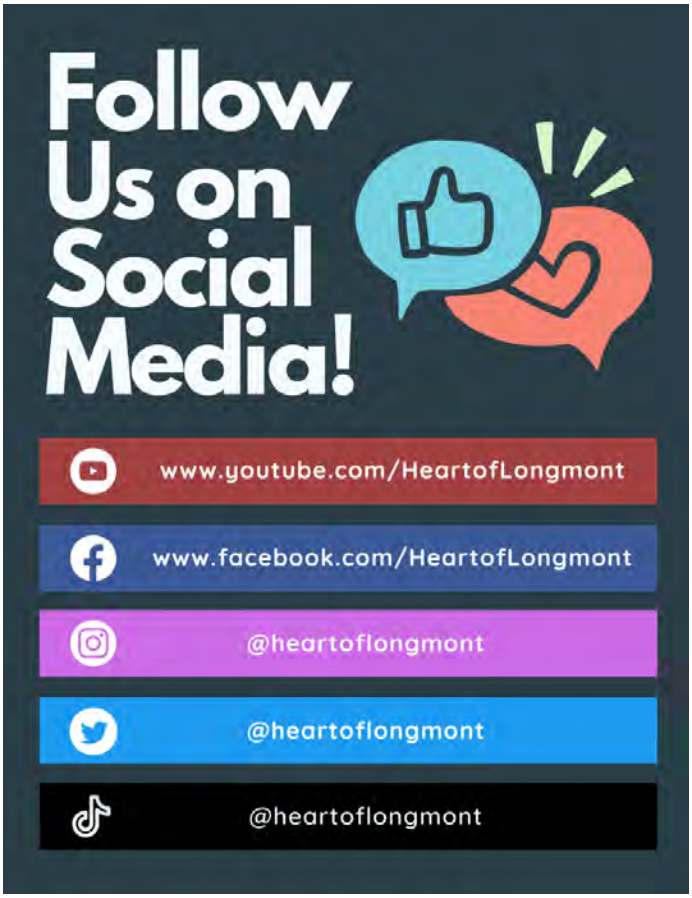
Serving HOPE Meals
Help serve meals to HOPE's clients! Meals are served at The Journey on Pike Road. Sometimes we need substitute meal servers on the second and fourth Fridays from 5:30 to 7:00pm. If you are interested in being on the sub-list, please contact Marty Allison.

Serving Meals at the OUR Center
Join us for a two-hour shift on the second Saturday of each month to help serve a meal to OUR Center clients. You can sign up to prepare the meal (9:30 AM to 11:30 AM) or serve and clean up (11:30 AM to 2:00 PM). To volunteer, contact Amy Mann via the church office or sign up at the Connection Center.



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!



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.