

*Where faith
and reason are
compatible.*



Pulse
of the Heart of Longmont

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From the Heart - by Pastor David Burt



Advent is here. It is a time of waiting and anticipation. The four Sundays that lead us to Christmas allow us to reflect on how we are preparing ourselves for the coming of Christ. The great Carol "Joy to the World" has a wonderful line "Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing!"

Preparing our hearts for Christ is important. Here is what is happening here at Heart of Longmont during Advent:

December 2: Our Annual Children's Christmas Program 10:00 am followed by the Great Chili Cook-off.

December 9: Sermon – *Let Every Heart Prepare*, with a Prospective Member Luncheon following worship

December 16: Christmas Music Spectacular – with performances from all of Heart of Longmont's musical groups: *Chancel Choir, Joyful Noise Choir, Handbell Choir, God's House Band and Soul Singers*

December 23: Sermon – *Let Every Heart Prepare Him Room*

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December 24: Christmas Eve: Family Worship 4:30 pm, Traditional Worship 7:00 pm

Plus, on **Friday December 14** and **Saturday December 15**, the Longs Peak Chorus will present their 2018 Christmas Concert "Merry and Bright" at our church. Many members from our church sing in the Chorus. Performances will be at 7:00 pm on Friday evening and 2:30 pm on Saturday afternoon.

My prayer is that you will find peace in the midst of the shopping chaos, hope in the midst of the tensions in our world and joy in the grace of God. Let every heart... Let the Heart of Longmont... Let your own heart prepare him room.

Blessings
Pastor David

Student Care Packages



Each year our United Methodist Women like to remember students in our church family who are pursuing post high school training and undergraduate degrees with a care package. These

packages are sent out in late February. Parents – please submit your student's name and address to Becky Vancura no later than January 4th, [720-771-7746](tel:720-771-7746), becky.vancura@gmail.com.

Are you looking to sell?

Tricia and John Grafelman are looking for a car/small SUV for their daughter Leslie. If you are looking to sell your vehicle or know someone who is, please contact Tricia at [303-506-3678](tel:303-506-3678) or grafsanatomy@gmail.com.



Safety Team Update



The Heart of Longmont has formed a Safety Team with the intent of helping make our church as prepared as possible in case of any emergency. Members of the Safety Team have taken CPR/First Aid and are willing to step up to make sure that our church surroundings are safe and secure. We have met with the fire department and will be meeting with the police department to discuss ways to continue our preparedness.

The members of the team are Bernie DeVault, Butch Howard, Kathy Bradley, Tricia Grafelman, Karl Scott, Clint Schahrer, Kerri Hickman and Bobbie Tabert.

You might begin to notice these safety team members wearing a RED lanyard around their neck. The lanyard is a way for anyone in the congregation to recognize a trained helper. If you need help during the service or notice anything out of the ordinary please do not hesitate to approach one of the Safety Team.

If you have any questions about the Safety Team or if you are interested in being a part of this team, please contact Tricia Grafelman at **303-774-8585** or email her at grafsanatomy@gmail.com.

Christmas Music Spectacular



Join us on **Sunday, December 16**, for our Christmas Music Spectacular from 10 to 11 am. There will be performances from all of Heart of Longmont's musical groups (Chancel Choir, Handbell Choir, God's House Band and the Soul Singers). Come join in the fun and sing-a-long to all your Christmas favorites!

FEEDING OUR SOULS - Spaghetti Dinner

Please join us for our first **monthly** spaghetti dinner sponsored by UMW (United Methodist Women), **Wednesday, November 28, from 5 pm to 7 pm.** The menu will include:

- Spaghetti with a rich vegetarian tomato sauce
- Meatballs
- Fresh Salad
- Italian Bread
- Brownies with Peanut Butter Icing
- A gluten-free entree will also be available



Please stay after dinner to help decorate the Sanctuary and Gallery for Advent. Children are welcome to help with decorating, or there will be a fun Advent craft project for the kids.

Dinner is FREE!! – there will be a free-will offering to offset the cost of food and supplies. All are welcome, see you soon!

Decorating for the Holidays



Please consider helping for about 2 hours, on **Wednesday, November 28**, after the UMW “Feeding Our Souls” Spaghetti Dinner (around 7 pm) to decorate our church in preparation for Advent. This will be a unique way to

present your talents in helping to prepare for Jesus’s coming. Questions? Call Kathy Bradley at **720-352-0757**.

Children's Christmas Program



Come one, come all and be a part of our no fuss, no stress, Children's Christmas Program! During the service on **December 2** the children will lead you on an exploration of the history of some of our favorite Christmas tunes, and maybe introduce you to a few new ones. What better way to get into the holiday spirit than watching the fantastic kids of the Heart of Longmont explore the TRUE meaning of Christmas?

Don't forget, the Annual Chili Cook-off is after the Children's Christmas Program!

Contact Misty Bone with any questions at kidsofhol@hotmail.com or text/call at **720-628-7261**.

Annual Chili Cook-off



The year's most anticipated event is almost here! Heart of Longmont's Annual Chili Cook-Off is coming **December 2**. Get your best chili or homemade dessert to Wesley Hall by noon on Sunday, December 2, and prepare to enjoy food, friends and fun! Will anyone be able to oust last year's champions?

Winners receive trophies as well as bragging rights.

Prospective New Member Luncheon



On **Sunday, December 9**, right after the worship service, we will have an informational luncheon to learn more about the United Methodist Church and Heart of Longmont, up to and including

membership. You will be able to meet some of our team leaders, and Pastor David will share his faith story and answer any questions. Pizza and salad from Abos will be served, and childcare will be provided. You may sign up at the Hospitality Center, or feel free to make last minute plans to attend.

November Compassion Offering - The Inn Between



Sadly, homelessness is a fact of life. One can suddenly become homeless, or find himself struggling to keep his home, due to unfortunate circumstances. The Micah Project, with six units for deserving residents, is a big step in helping with those struggles.

A May 31 groundbreaking on a parcel of land donated by United Church of Christ began a building project that would have cost up to \$1.8 million. But, thanks to a collaboration of city, county, businesses and non-profits, the anticipated cost is \$460,000.

But, there is still more that we can do by making The Inn Between, the non-profit organization leading this project, the focus of this month's Compassion Offering. You can drop a specially-marked check in the collection plate, or help in another, unique way.

The Hospitality Desk has a list of construction materials you can help purchase for construction, from wood studs, drywall and windows, to towel bars and kitchen appliances.

If you are in the church this week, stop by the Hospitality Desk and pick up a Micah Homes flyer and use the form on the back to donate. Monetary donations can also be made by making a check payable to The Inn Between of Longmont or by paying online at www.theinnbetween.org. Every donation is matched so that means if you donate \$10, they receive \$20. If you donate \$20, they receive \$40 and so on!

Remember the good work of The Inn Between during our November Compassion Offering.

Habitat for Humanity Build Day - Dec. 8



An opportunity to give hope to a family in need has come up again on **Saturday, December 8, from 9-4 pm**. It's Habitat for Humanity Build Day and, if you've participated in this event before, you know what it's all about. If you haven't, it's a day of working to build a home with other volunteers. You just need the will to give of your time and whatever

talent you may bring to the build site. We have a job for everyone and all are welcome! If you are thinking about volunteering on Build Day, please make sure to email Terry Monroe at terrymonroe00@gmail.com or **303-587-1064**. You will receive additional information via email.

Have you finished your holiday shopping?

As you shop for your holiday meal or a Christmas gift card, may we suggest coming in and purchasing grocery gift cards that give back to the church?

\$10, reloadable grocery cards are available for King Soopers and Safeway, while \$50, non-reloadable grocery cards are available for Sprouts and Lucky's Market. Grocery cards can also be used to purchase prescriptions and gas.

Heart of Longmont receives 5% of the purchase amount from King Soopers and Safeway, and 7% from Sprouts and Lucky's Market. What a great way to support Heart of Longmont! If you need to purchase grocery cards, come visit us in the church office or stop by the Hospitality Center on Sundays. The church office will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and the Friday after.

Also, while you're shopping online for Christmas gifts on Amazon, use the link below and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to our church. Make sure to bookmark the link!

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-0444737>

Thank you for all you do to support our church, we are so blessed!



It's time to RING those Christmas Bells again!



Each year our church folks help to ring the bells for the Salvation Army red kettles! I've already heard requests "Are we going to ring the bells again?" Well YES we are!! Saturdays **December 8** and **December 15** are our opportunity to help support this worth while project where all the funds raised stay in Longmont.

With the money earned last year, the OUR Center has been able to help 285 people with rental assistance, utility assistance and emergency shelter. The needs for support just continue to increase throughout the community.

Please sign up for a 1 hour shift for either or both days at the Hospitality Desk in the Gallery. Our hours will be from 9:00 am until 8:00 pm. We will be at the Hover Street Safeway store (1632 Hover Rd, Longmont, CO 80501). We will be staffing BOTH doors so extra help is needed. It is a wonderful family event! Bring the grand-kids to help out. And Youth bring your parents along for the fun.

For questions, please contact Marty Allison at [303-772-7816](tel:303-772-7816) or martyallisonco@gmail.com. Thanks a bunch!!!

Peaks Subdistrict Lay Ministry Council

Leadership Training

Saturday, January 19 at FUMC Loveland, 9:00 to 11:00 am

Training designed for incoming chairpersons of these church committees:

- SPRC
- Church Council
- Finance
- Lay Leaders

Please let us know if your committee chairs are interested and/or have questions. **Please**

include name, church, leadership position, email address and phone number.

Respond by **December 1** to Bill Cosbey at bcos7@outlook.com or Judy Stout at jstout@lpbroadband.net so we can make adequate plans.



Christmas Eve Services



We will have our regular service at 10 am on **Sunday, December 23**, and then on Christmas Eve, **Monday, December 24**, we'll have a 4:30 pm family oriented worship celebration and a 7:00 pm traditional worship service featuring vocal choirs and a bell choir. Each service will conclude with a traditional candle-light singing of Silent Night. All are welcome, please join us!

"Merry & Bright" - Longs Peak Chorus

On **Friday, December 14, and Saturday, December 15**, the Longs Peak Chorus will present their 2018 Christmas Concert "Merry and Bright" at our church. Many members from our church family sing in the Chorus. Performances will be at 7:00 pm on Friday evening and 2:30 pm on Saturday afternoon.



The Longs Peak Chorus is a cappella singing organization of the Longmont Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, the world's largest all-male singing Society, with 22,000 members across North America. Through active programs in music education, publishing, performance, and outreach, the Society preserves and extends the reach of a uniquely American close harmony musical art form whose roots lay in African-American improvisation and European harmony traditions.

Tickets are on sale NOW! \$15 in advance, \$17 at the door, kids 12 and under are FREE. To purchase go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/longs-peak-chorus-annual-christmas-show-merry-bright-tickets-51346041392longspeakchristmas2018.eventbrite.com>, <http://longspeakchorus.org>, or call **720-675-8247**. \$2 of each ticket sold will go to "HOPE for Longmont" (<http://hopeforlongmont.org/>). Featured on the show will be "Landlocked," a top 10 regional quartet from Denver, and the "5280 Youth Chorus," also from Denver.

It's that time of year again!

Angel Tree ~ We are blessed once again to have the honor of sponsoring Head Start families. Starting this **Sunday, November 25:**

- Take a tag (or a few!) from the tree in the Gallery
- Purchase and gift wrap the item requested on the tag. Be sure to attach the tag to the package!
- Bring the gift, with tag attached, to the church and place it in the barrel in the office NO LATER than **Sunday, December 16**



Know that you made a difference in our community by showing these families the generous love of Christ! Call, text or email Misty Bone at [720-628-7261](tel:720-628-7261) or kidsofhol@hotmail.com.

Mitten Tree ~ As the Angel Tree is emptied of tags, please fill the same tree with new gloves, mittens, hats, scarves, undies and/or socks for our Head Start children (sizes 2T-5T) who attend preschool in our church building. This is a special UMW (United Methodist Women) project.

SERMON *videos*

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