



# the Pulse of Heart of Longmont

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## Are We Taking Things Seriously?

by Sandi Austin

United Methodist News reporter Jim Patterson penned an eye-opening article recently about the 2019 United Methodist Creation Care, a summit with a somewhat disturbing consensus: We have a short window of time to save Earth's ability to continue hosting human life.

Are we seeing the early signs of global warming happening now, but just not paying attention? Scientists cite extreme heat, heavier rainstorms and flooding, longer wildfire seasons, increased air pollution, and the spread of insect-borne diseases as some of the impacts in the long term.

At the summit, Rev. Pat Watkins, a retired missionary with the United Methodist Board of Global Ministries, stated that recycling and driving electric cars aren't going to be enough.

Sure, we can all change our own behaviors by driving less and using less plastic, but it's going to take the entire world working together to save the environment.

The Rev. Mark Y.A. Davies, a professor and director at Oklahoma City University, said at the summit, "If we take seriously what our best climate scientists are telling us, we have about 11 years to really turn this very large ship around."

He added that we can all do our part individually but,

## Church Events

- **August 6 & 13 – Project Drawdown Workshop, 6:30-8 PM**
- **August 30-31 – All Church Garage Sale, 8 AM - 2 PM**
- **September 18 – Feeding Our Souls Dinner 5-7 PM**

"unless we change the systems – the economic system, the transportation system, energy system, the political system – we're not going to get to where we need to be in the amount of time we have left to get there."

An upcoming workshop at Heart of Longmont entitled Project Drawdown will introduce this issue and educate members about the challenges of global warming and opportunities for solutions. Two featured speakers will address attendees at the two-part workshop. The dates are Aug. 6 and Aug. 13, both from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

See <https://heartoflongmont.org/announcement/project-drawdown-workshop-2/> for further details, or pick up a flyer from the Hospitality Desk.

# HOPE's Most Needed Items



HOPE (Homeless Outreach Providing Encouragement) is running out of deodorant! If you could purchase a few travel deodorants, our clients (and the community at large) would greatly appreciate it. Here are some more details about what we need to get through the summer:

- deodorant, either for men or women; travel or full-size OK
- shampoo and conditioner; travel or family-size accepted

Donated items can be dropped off in the box labeled "HOPE" in the Gallery.

# This Sunday is Youth Sunday



This Sunday, July 28, our Youth will be sharing their experiences and photos from their youth trip to Puerto Rico. You won't want to miss it!

*Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.*

~Proverbs 22:6

# Why go to church?

A churchgoer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the preachers are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals but I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

via Grand Blanc Church of Christ  
Grand Blanc, MI

# PUERTO RICO TRIP A REALITY CHECK

## ***God's work leads to appreciation of home***



by Sandi Austin

After landing in Puerto Rico, renting two vans, and getting lost luggage straightened out, Emily Farrenkopf, Brant Davis, and their youth group started the almost two-hour ride to Ponce, a town in the southern part of the region. For most of those in the group, this mission trip was their first time outside the mainland.

“The Puerto Ricans are beautiful people,” Emily said. “The community members we met were so welcoming and so kind. Even the people at the airport appreciated us for what we were coming to do.”

As the work week began, the boys replaced the flooring in a home's bedroom that had completely rotted through. They pulled out old plywood first in a job that was physically demanding, given that the house sat on concrete blocks.

The girls concentrated on a woman's home of 30 years that was in need of painting. They scraped and cleaned the walls, and then painted, using oil-based paint that holds up best against the weather. It was a slow process that will be completed by the group that arrives after them.

The team packed in some fun during their free time each day, going to beaches, going out for ice cream, snorkeling in a bioluminescent bay, and walking around San Juan on the last day before leaving for home.

During their week there, the teens stayed at the Ebenezer House, a building owned by one of the United Methodist churches in Ponce. When asked if there were certain precautions or certain rules they had to abide by, Emily responded, “Very much so. Safety was a priority. We never left a

neighborhood after dark, and never left alone.”

Even though a lot of the places they visited during their trip were not known to be safe, Emily said they never felt endangered. She added that the people who would otherwise be up to no good believed in them and what they were doing there.

Although they felt relatively safe with a roof over their heads, bars on the windows and porches, and a padlocked driveway gate, the group struggled a bit with lacking the comforts of home. The sleeping arrangements were tough, there was no hot water, and cockroaches and a swarm of bees got into the bathroom.

“The hardest part was adjusting to the bathroom situation,” Emily said. “By the time we left, the kids really saw it from a perspective of what they were dealing with, and that they would get to go home to comfort. They never complained.”

Despite the language barrier, the teens formed friendships with the community members. One in particular was a man named Eduardo, who was a member of the Methodist church.

“He joined us for every chapel gathering and was so interested in talking with us,” Emily said. “Our kids really welcomed him into the circle and, in return, he gave us all keychains before we left.”

Another great friendship experience was the party in the park, during which the teens walked around the neighborhood they were working in and invited everyone to enjoy hotdogs and chips.

“There was quite the language barrier,” Emily added, “but we found ways to laugh and connect.”

The entire mission trip was impactful to the teens in that, after witnessing such a different reality, they became more aware of the comforts they enjoyed at home.

Emily wanted to give kudos to the group's co-leader, Brant Davis, who contributed his own money to pay for everyone's hotel stay in San Juan the night before departure.

“Thanks to Brant, the kids were able to have a good, hot shower and sleep in good hotel beds before the flight back home,” Emily said.

*Photos from the Youth Trip are available for viewing on the Youth board in the Gallery, and during the July 28 church service, the teens will be addressing the congregation with their Puerto Rico experiences. Don't miss it!*

# Thank you from Pastor David

Can you believe we are over six months into 2019? I must be having a blast because time sure is flying. Let me thank you first of all for your prayers and inquiries concerning my father Wayne. After a week in the hospital and two weeks in rehab, he is now at the Balfour Skilled Nursing Center in Louisville. He continues to improve with his strength and dexterity in his right hand, but his right leg is not cooperating as quickly. I have been blessed to share with my family the cards and prayers you have sent. Thank you.

Thank you to Pastor Linda Meyer. This past year she has served as an Assistant Pastor, helping the Care Team and doing visitations, assisting me in leading Bible Studies, sharing leadership for our Ash Wednesday service and some funerals. She has now been appointed to serve as pastor at Community United Methodist Church of Keenesburg, CO. Linda, you will be missed here at Heart of Longmont, but I know you will be a blessing to the people of Keenesburg.

A final big thank you to all of you for your support of the ministries at Heart of Longmont. 2019 has started strong, even with the uncertainty surrounding the larger denomination. Our expenses are tracking very well. We have staff that keeps a close eye on costs. Our giving is better than this time last year. And we have received nearly \$4,000.00 in over and above



Compassion offerings. Through your gifts we are supporting missionaries Ken Cruz and Ken Koome, the OUR Center in Longmont, the Days for Girls personal hygiene project and Restorative Justice. Through your gifts we sent our BASIC Youth group to Puerto Rico to help rebuilt homes following hurricanes. Our church building becomes a supplemental facility for Alcoholics Anonymous, the Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts, and the League of Women Voters, among others.

We participated in a first ever Ecumenical Faith Worship to celebrate PRIDE month in June and also had a presence at the PRIDE parade. Our Facebook page and other social media are spreading the word that we believe God loves you and loves all.

So thank you. Without your continued support through your gifts of time and money we could not do all that we do here at Heart of Longmont. I am so blessed to be able to serve this generous and compassionate church family. We are putting more of God's love into the world.

Blessings,

Pastor David Burt



# Project Drawdown Workshop

Heart of Longmont, in collaboration with the Pachamama Alliance, invite YOU to their Project Drawdown Workshop.

**August 6th and 13th**  
**6:30 PM – 8:00 PM**  
**Heart of Longmont UMC**  
**350 11th Ave.**  
**Longmont, CO 80501**

These workshops offer you an opportunity to learn more about current CLIMATE ACTION solutions and ways that YOU can become involved.

If you are unable to attend the first session, contact [mzmbeth@gmail.com](mailto:mzmbeth@gmail.com) for an alternative introduction to the DRAWDOWN project, and join us for the second session!

PLEASE register by emailing [office@heartoflongmont.org](mailto:office@heartoflongmont.org) or call (303) 776-3523. Registration is not required but will help us plan.

## **SPEAKERS/FACILITATORS:**

**Mary Beth Downing** is the social action coordinator for her UMW unit, a UMC Global Earth keeper and the chair of the Mountain View UMC Green Earth Team. She embraces the hope within the DRAWDOWN solutions and has led Intro to Drawdown classes at her church and with GreenFaith.

**Naomi Curland** has been a symposium facilitator for the Pachamama Alliance since 2013, and has also adapted their materials for college courses. The Project Drawdown workshop is their newest offering, which Naomi previously led in Los Angeles and is looking forward to sharing with the Longmont community.

Participants are encouraged (but NOT required) to bring computers, tablets, and smart phones to this session.

For details on each session, go to <https://heartoflongmont.org/announcement/project-drawdown-workshop-2/>.

# HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD DAY

**Aug 3rd, 9 am to 4:30 pm**

**816 South Coffman, Longmont CO**

Bring water bottle, gloves, snacks/lunch and sunglasses. Wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty. Tools & materials supplied by Habitat. All volunteers must be 16 years or older.

No experience necessary. Habitat's professional construction staff will coach you. Tasks may include: Framing, siding, drywall, insulation, painting and finish work.

**Thanks for helping local families achieve their dream of homeownership!**

**SPACE IS LIMITED! Register online:**

**Aug 3: <http://cerv.is/m?0017gFUQdeh>**

**Use reservation code: ABHOL**

A sign up sheet is also available on the Hospitality Desk in the Gallery.