



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR



Can you believe the holidays are just around the corner? You know the saying, it's the most wonderful time of the year! Thanksgiving has always been my favorite holiday.

Thanksgiving in our home is filled with traditions: pie making, family walks, food... Lots of food!

Thanksgiving is not only about food and traditions, it's about cultivating a heart of gratitude. This November, we will culminate our stewardship season with a thanksgiving style celebration meal on Celebration Sunday, November 17. This year's stewardship campaign is

about living a fruitful life, drawing on the imagery from the scriptures of Jesus and fruitful living. We invite you to return your giving goal card for 2025 on Sunday, November 17, and join us after worship to share in the celebration meal together. We hope you will participate in the meaningful process of setting our annual budget for 2025.

On Wednesday, November 27, we will host our second annual Recovery Café Thanksgiving dinner (read more about it on page 10!). We invite you to join us in bringing this amazing event to life.

After Thanksgiving, we move directly into the advent season. There are so many ways we are living into the meaning of the Christmas story:

- Community Holiday Baskets,
- Santa's Workshop,
- Carols: A Christmas Cantata,

- Bell ringing for OUR Center, and, of course, Christmas Eve Service.

Read all about our Christmas offerings and events starting on page 11! Beyond the lights, gifts, and gatherings, this time of year calls us to reconnect with our faith, with one another, and with the message of hope that lies at the heart of the Christmas story. As a church family, my prayer for each one of us is that we approach this season with hearts open to reflection, filled with gratitude, and anchored in the hope of Jesus Christ.

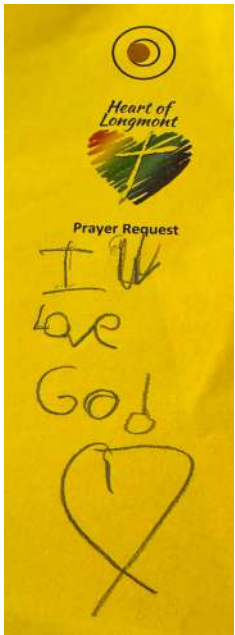
See you in church!

- PASTOR CLAIRE

IN THIS ISSUE

- Autumn Happenings at HOL
- Looking back over nearly 10 years of Youth Group holiday traditions
- Cultural Connections
- Wesley Townhomes Groundbreaking
- Indigenous Art Exhibition in the HOL Chapel
- Christmas is coming! Check out HOL's Holiday offerings at the end of this newsletter!

A WORSHIPFUL MOMENT: THE PRAYER HEART



During Sunday worship service, we invite anyone who has a prayer request to place it on our prayer heart at the front of the sanctuary.

It warms our hearts to see what sweet messages the littles bring to the prayer heart when they feel moved to!



HALLOWEEN 2024

THE GIFT OF TRADITION

BUILDING COMMUNITY AND FAITH

by Emily Farrenkopf

As the holiday season approaches, I find myself reflecting on the importance of tradition. Growing up, my childhood was rich with traditions, especially around the holidays. Each Halloween was marked by homemade costumes crafted with love, and an evening of trick-or-treating alongside my siblings and cousins. Thanksgiving always meant gathering at my grandparents' house, where the aroma of delicious food filled the air while we spent time reconnecting with family. Christmas Eve was one of my favorite nights of the year, celebrated with a special dinner, enjoying foods we only had on that day. After a quick nap, we'd bundle up and head to Midnight Mass. On Christmas morning, I'd be the first one awake, excitedly waking the rest of the house with the joy of what the day would bring. The scent of my parents' coffee brewing and the thrill of surprise gifts completed the holiday.

These cherished memories are more than just fond recollections. They are the foundation of what tradition means: Creating moments we can count on, year

after year. Traditions bring people together, creating a sense of belonging and security. That's why I'm passionate about creating meaningful traditions within our youth group. Just as my childhood holidays were filled with anticipation and joy, we have built traditions in our youth group that our young people look forward to each season.

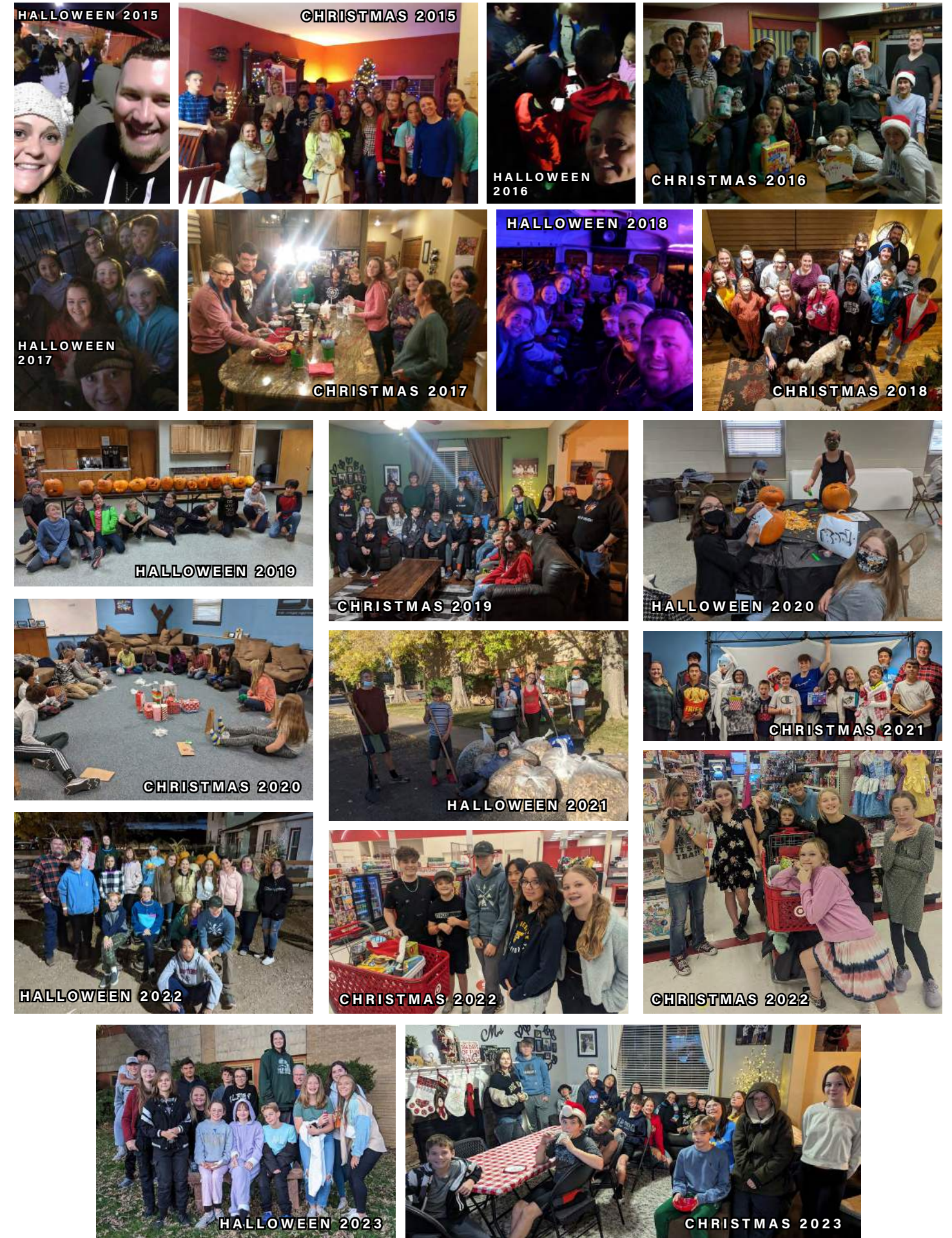
Every fall, we kick off the festive season with a trip to the Anderson Corn Maze, marking Halloween with laughter and bonding. Our annual Christmas wreath sale helps us raise funds for our projects and creates a sense of purpose and teamwork as we prepare for the holidays. One of my favorite traditions is our time volunteering at Heart of Longmont's Santa Workshop, where our youth bring joy to younger children, giving back to the community and embodying the spirit of giving.

Of course, we wrap up the year with our highly anticipated Digressive Dinner, where the entire youth group travels from house to house, enjoying a backwards meal—from dessert to main course to appetizers—ending the night with hot

chocolate and gratitude for the year that's passed.

These traditions are more than just activities, they are touchstones that help our youth feel connected to one another, to our church, and to their faith. They remind us of the joy of anticipation, of the excitement that builds as we look forward to what's to come. But, more importantly, they tie us to the central theme of Christianity: Community. Through these shared experiences, we model the love and fellowship that Christ calls us to. We laugh, serve, and celebrate together, creating memories that will last a lifetime.

As we move into this holiday season, I encourage you to embrace the joy of tradition, whether it's through family customs or the cherished traditions we've created in our youth group. It's in these moments of togetherness that we experience the true gift of community and the deep sense of belonging that comes from being part of something greater than our individual selves.



HALLOWEEN 2015

CHRISTMAS 2015

HALLOWEEN 2016

CHRISTMAS 2016

HALLOWEEN 2017

CHRISTMAS 2017

HALLOWEEN 2018

CHRISTMAS 2018

HALLOWEEN 2019

CHRISTMAS 2019

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CHRISTMAS 2022

HALLOWEEN 2023

CHRISTMAS 2023

CHRISTMAS 2023

CHRISTMAS 2023

SEPTEMBER 2024 FINANCIAL UPDATE

by Rod Edmonds

Overview

I'm pleased to present our financial update for the first nine months of 2024. Your continued generosity and commitment are vital to sustaining the ministry and mission of Heart of Longmont.

Financial Highlights

Income Performance

—Through September, our income exceeded the budget by \$70,861—a remarkable achievement.
 —Two one-time income items contributed to this surplus:
 - A grant from the Peaks New Ministry Council: \$16,658 (unexpected)
 - Annual distribution from our General Endowment Fund (budgeted)
 —Even without these one-time boosts, our income remains strong, 14.7% above budget and 13.4% higher than last year.

Year-to-Date Comparison

Category	YTD 2024	YTD 2023
Income	\$ 351,991	\$ 284,261
Expenses	\$ 369,817	\$ 333,573
Income (less than) expenses (deficit)	\$ (17,826)	\$ (49,312)

This reflects the incredible generosity of our congregation.

Expense Management

—Expenses through September are slightly below budget, a result of prudent management.
 —However, expenses have increased by 10.9% (\$36,244) compared to the same period in 2023, driven by key investments in:

- Music ministry
- Nursery, children's, and family ministries
- HVAC loan interest
- Long-range and capital campaign consultants

Outlook In Q3

Income performance exceeded expectations. Expenses have been carefully managed, though we anticipate an uptick as activity increases in the final months of the year. While it's difficult to

predict year-end results, I am confident in our stewardship and financial trajectory.

Call to Action

Thank you for your ongoing support. Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of others, sharing God's love in ways that transform hearts and build community. Your generosity is the reason we can continue to be a beacon of hope, love, and service. As we approach the end of 2024, I invite you to prayerfully consider making a special year-end gift. Every contribution—no matter the size—makes an impact. Whether it's a regular offering, a one-time year-end donation, or a planned legacy gift, your support helps us meet immediate needs and plan for the future with confidence.

Your gift at this crucial time will help us close any budget gaps, ensure we meet our ministry goals, and start the new year on solid financial footing. Together, we can ensure that Heart of Longmont remains a strong, vibrant community, ready to do even more in sharing God's love.

If you have any questions or would like to explore year-end giving or legacy giving opportunities, please don't hesitate to reach out.

A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS: HEART OF LONGMONT'S PARTNERSHIP FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

by Joan Edmonds

On a warm September afternoon, Heart of Longmont took a significant step in its mission to serve the community. Surrounded by church members, city officials, and representatives from The Inn Between, the Wesley Townhomes groundbreaking ceremony signaled the start of an exciting new development: the transformation of unused church land into a vibrant housing community for families in need.

The project will see eleven energy-efficient townhomes built, along with a playground for children and a community center. As the plans were unveiled, a sense of hope

and renewal was felt by all in attendance.

"This has been a long time in the making," said Rod Edmonds, one of the speakers, acknowledging the perseverance it took to transfer the land and navigate the necessary approvals. Now, with construction set to begin by the end of October, the vision is moving closer to reality.

For Heart of Longmont, this project reflects a deep commitment to putting faith into action. As we open up our space to welcome these families, we do so with a spirit of love and inclusion, creating not just homes, but a community.



HUNGER IS REAL IN OUR COMMUNITY

by Joan Edmonds



Struggling to put healthy, nourishing food on the table is a reality for many families in our community. Between eight to ten percent of Boulder County's population faces food insecurity according to Feeding America's Map The Meal Gap. This includes families with children, who often suffer the most. Nationally, nearly one in eight children—around 9 million—live in food-insecure households, a reality reflected in our own neighborhoods.

As followers of Jesus, we are called to love our neighbors and care for the vulnerable. One

of the simplest and most profound ways we can do this is by ensuring that no one in our community goes hungry.

Caring members of the Heart of Longmont stepped up during September, contributing food for the OUR Center. Thanks to that generosity, 333 pounds of food and other essential items were collected to support local families in need, reflecting the love and compassion that Jesus calls us to embody. These efforts make a real difference in the lives of families.

COMPASSION OFFERINGS

November Compassion Offering Mountain Sky Special Sundays

Special Sundays are designated Sundays each year that deepen the connection between the local church and ministries on a global scale. On each unique Sunday, individuals and congregations are encouraged to give to support the church's collective work with a special offering. This includes efforts to:

- Alleviate human suffering
- Engage in social justice
- Strengthen Native American ministries
- Provide scholarships for higher education

December Compassion Offering Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity of the St. Vrain Valley's mission is to put God's love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities, and hope. With one in seven Colorado families paying more than 50% of their income on housing, the need for affordable solutions is critical.

Last year at Heart of Longmont, Recovery Café Peer Support Specialist Kristina Garcia shared her personal story. As a recipient of a Habitat home, she continues to work toward completing her sweat equity requirement, a key step in securing her family's future.

Thanks to the generosity of Heart of Longmont, dreams of stable, affordable housing become a reality for families like Kristina's, creating lasting change and transforming lives.

THOSE WHO ARE GENEROUS ARE BLESSED, FOR THEY SHARE THEIR BREAD WITH THE POOR.

PROVERBS 22:9

CROSS CULTURAL CONNECTIONS: BUILDING BRIDGES THROUGH CONVERSATION

by Joan Edmonds

Members of Heart of Longmont have been diligently learning Spanish and their first opportunity to use it came during an event where they met students from El Comité's ESL program. What started as a simple gathering quickly became a meaningful exchange of language and culture.

Despite some initial nervousness and occasional stumbling over words, the event was filled with laughter and curiosity. People who were once strangers shared food, stories, and a willingness to connect.

In the process, they discovered that a few words and an open heart are all it takes to bridge cultural differences.

The experience was joyful and eye-opening, as both groups realized they had more in common than they had ever imagined. Through simple conversation, they found common ground proving that human kindness can usurp any kind of division, dissolving barriers and fostering connections that transcend language and background.





2024 CHURCH/CHARGE CONFERENCE AGENDA

“The Journey is our Home”



Annual meetings are important in the life of a church family. Paragraph 247.3 in the Book of Discipline requires each church to hold a conference annually to review and evaluate the ministry of the church, receive reports, and adopt goals recommended by the church council for next year. Working with the DS, each church can call a church or charge conference for this work. A *charge* conference is the basic governing body of the local church and is comprised of the church council (administrative board or leadership team) and all retired clergy within the local church, while a *church* conference invites broader participation with all members having the right to attend and vote. Pastors are invited to consult with their DS to determine the appropriate conference setting for each context (charge conference, church conference, multiple point charges in one unified or multiple meetings, or a circuit conference, etc.).

What follows is a basic outline of an agenda for 2024 Charge/Church Conferences, including required elements. Look this over with the pastor and lay leadership, then determine the format that makes sense in your setting. Church Conference meetings may be held in-person or online depending on what is contextually appropriate for your church.

WELCOME AND GREETING District Superintendent/Presiding Elder

OPENING PRAYER Lay Leadership/Pastor
Lay Leadership offers prayer for the congregation and those gathered.

VIDEO GREETING Bishop Kristin Stoneking
“The Journey is our Home”

SACRED BUSINESS District Superintendent
(All are public documents and should be available for review by congregational members)

- Election of Recording Secretary
- Report of the Pastor (Elders and Local Pastors)
- Leadership Report (Nominations) for 2025
- Approval of 2025 Clergy Compensation
- 2025 Budget (if applicable)
- Approval of Candidates for Ministry (work with DS to determine voting process)
- 2024 Membership and Worship Attendance Report (including those who have died in the past year)
- Commitment to Connectional Giving for 2025
- Other business as needed

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY Pastor/District Superintendent

MISSION AND MINISTRY GOALS FOR 2025 Pastor/District Superintendent

OPEN DIALOGUE (if appropriate) District Superintendent/Pastor

CLOSING PRAYER District Superintendent/Presiding Elder

**ALL CHURCH CONFERENCE
DECEMBER 15 AT 3:00 PM ON ZOOM**

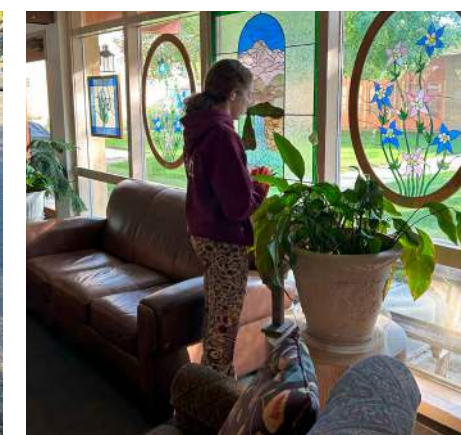
AUTUMN HAPPENINGS AT HOL



Confirmands at Buckhorn Camp This year to start our confirmation journey, confirmands—along with Castor Claire, Emily, and Brant—headed to Buckhorn for a weekend retreat.



The Nahucalli Folkloric Dance Troupe joined us to share their talents on World Communion Sunday. They truly brightened our Sunday!



Church Work Day Volunteers helped with various indoor and outdoor tasks to show some love to our church building and grounds while helping prepare everything for autumn and winter. Thanks to all who volunteered!



Author Amber Cantorna-Wyld came to share her story with us on October 13 during worship service.



We are so blessed to have Pastor Claire McNulty-Drewes leading the Heart of Longmont! We celebrated her on Pastor Appreciation Sunday. Thank you, Pastor Claire!



REMEMBERING KINDNESS

by Tricia Grafelman



This past month we have been making a concerted effort to put more of God's love into the world via our Kindness Campaign, an effort to address the division in our country, our neighborhoods, our churches, and our families. It's easy to wonder if we will ever go beyond agreeing to disagree, but Jesus shows us a better way. Jesus taught us that we should treat others as we want to be treated. This is commonly known as "The

Golden Rule", and holds the power to bring people together. We have been challenged as a United Methodist congregation to share Jesus' commandment of "Do Unto Others as you would have them do unto you" (Matthew 7:12).

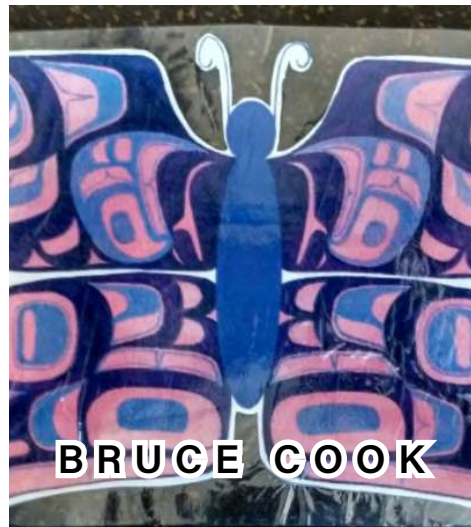
The logo from this campaign has a red and blue tipped heart representing the Democratic and Republican parties and a larger purple section to represent the blending of these parties. We

don't have to agree with a person that votes differently, but Jesus does ask us to treat them with kindness and dignity. The election is near at hand and has caused a great deal of stress for so many of us. When it becomes too much, put down your phones, shut off the TV, and lean into the quiet of nature. Go for a walk and invite God to pour peace into your heart and mind. Regardless of the outcome next Tuesday, let Kindness lead the way.

INDIGENOUS ART EXHIBITION

November is National Native American Heritage Month. This observance celebrates the diverse and rich culture, history, and traditions of Indigenous peoples in the United States. The art, words, names, and stories of Indigenous peoples are a crucial part of US history and we must remember them and the struggles they still face to this day.

Heart of Longmont's Mission Design Team is excited to announce that we will honor Native American Heritage month by inviting Indigenous artists to share their art with us starting on Saturday, November 2. Their art will be displayed in the Chapel through the holidays. Stop by to enjoy their work! Artwork will also be available for purchase. We look forward to hosting these artists and showing them a huge Heart of Longmont welcome.



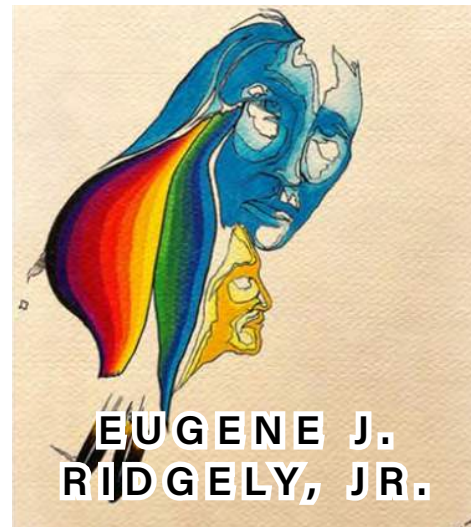
BRUCE COOK

Bruce Cook (Haida, Arapaho) is from Riverton, Wyoming, and is on the Board of Directors for Creative Nations at the Dairy Art Center in Boulder and works for Triia Art. He is an acclaimed Haida artist who creates sculptures, silk-screen prints, carved masks, canoes, and painted drums. Bruce began his artistic training under the guidance of his uncle, Warren Peele, a master artist in the Village of Hydaburg, Alaska. Many members of his lineage are artists. He doesn't like people to think all Native American art is the same.



GEORGE CURTIS LEVI

George Curtis Levi (Southern Cheyenne Tribe of Oklahoma, Southern Arapaho, Oglala Lakota) was raised in the Western Oklahoma communities of El Reno, Concho, and Geary. The art and history of the Cheyenne people motivate him and his art and he is influenced by Cheyenne and Arapaho artists of the past. He specializes in Cheyenne style ledger art and acrylic and watercolor paintings. He is well known for his custom beadwork and parfleche work. His artwork can be found in various museums, art exhibits, galleries, and in private collections in the United States and around the world.



EUGENE J. RIDGELY, JR.

Eugene J. Ridgely, Jr. (Northern Arapaho) has a BA in education and has developed educational curricula in the Arapaho language as well as cultural sensitivity programs. An educator, artist, and lecturer, Ridgely has spent his life preserving and promoting the history and culture of his people. As a lifelong artist, Ridgely was inspired by the artwork of his father, Eugene Ridgely, Sr., and has been producing art professionally since the 1980s. Ridgely is a Sand Creek Massacre descendant. His Northern Arapaho name, Nii'eihii No'oteihi, means Powerful Eagle.

CELEBRATION SUNDAY NOVEMBER 17



Join us on Sunday, November 17, to celebrate all that God has given us! November 17 marks the end of our stewardship campaign and we hope that you will have turned in your giving goal card that day, if not earlier in November. Our church thrives on serving others and creating a community where taking care of one another and of our building is important not only to those of us that feel God's presence in this space but to those non-profits and organizations that use our church building.

We will have a traditional Thanksgiving-style meal right after worship service on November 17. HOL will be providing turkey and drinks. We invite all of you to bring side dishes and desserts to dress our meal and accompany the turkey! Please see the following list for what you can bring. (We are separating items by last names, please read carefully!)

Last names ending in:

- A-E** Bring your favorite style of potatoes (mashed or sweet or roasted)!
- F-J** Bring vegetables (green bean casserole, or any kind of delicious vegetables)!
- K-O** Bring stuffing and/or gravy!
- P-S** Bring salads (pick your favorite)!
- T-Z** Bring desserts

We hope to see you there!

EXPRESSING LOVE AND COMMUNITY WITH ODIM

Heart of Longmont is partnering with ODIM again for special mission work in Guatemala during February/ March 2025. The trip will be February 28 to March 8, 2025, and we will be donating/installing smokeless stoves and water filters. We will also bring menstrual health kits, an offering which was greatly appreciated last year. If you are interested in being a part of this trip with ODIM, please contact Pastor Claire.

ODIM are the Organization for the Development of the Indigenous Maya (ODIM), a non-profit organization that works with the people of San Pablo La Laguna and San Juan la Laguna on issues of healthcare and preventative health care and education. They approach their work with a spirit of equality and honesty and work to empower local communities and people.

ODIM originally formed in the wake of Hurricane Stan in 2005 when a group of foreign residents of Lake Atitlán came together to provide humanitarian assistance to the communities and people devastated by the storm. Since that time, ODIM has grown and provides primary health care and health education programs in the rural communities around Lake Atitlán with the help of many volunteers and the support of many churches, organizations, and individuals.

Heart of Longmont's volunteers are another piece of this important work. The group of volunteers are providing smokeless stoves and water filters for homes in the local community there. Both measures are essential to the health of people of all ages. Water filters ensure water is safe to drink and use, and the smokeless stoves reduce the risk of respiratory illness and injury while still providing warmth and cooking surfaces.

Our Heart of Longmont volunteers will not only be putting more of God's love into the world this way, but will be learning about the local peoples and their communities. It is of greatest importance that organizations and volunteer groups be respectful of the people and culture of the communities they want to help and take steps to listen to, understand, and respect their needs. ODIM, in their work, understands how important this is.

Read more about ODIM, their programs, and how to support their work on their website: www.odimguatemala.org





HEART OF RECOVERY THANKSGIVING: NOURISHING COMMUNITY by Hermine Ngomire

Join us for the Second Annual **Heart of Recovery Thanksgiving**, hosted by Heart of Longmont and Recovery Café, on **Wednesday, November 27**, the day before Thanksgiving! This year's theme is "Nourishing Community" and we will gather at 5 PM to share a warm, delicious meal and celebrate the spirit of togetherness.

The meal will feature a variety of dishes, including turkeys and honey-baked ham. Guests will enjoy charcuterie boards and sides prepared by the Heart of Longmont community, all served on real china. Hand-printed turkey place mats created by community members will add a personal and festive touch.

Dinner will be served by eight volunteer waitstaff, dressed in black with white gloves, who will deliver plated meals to

each table, while four servers work the buffet line and four bussers manage drinks and table clean-up. Guests will be able to order seconds easily, keeping the evening flowing with good food and conversation.

After the meal, from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM, we will continue the celebration with games, fostering more connection and fun. Each guest will leave with a thoughtful gift bag containing tea and a gift card. We will also have the opportunity to gift a large coffee pot to Recovery Café, as well. We have been told that a large coffee pot will go a long way for them!

We are looking for those who are so wonderfully gracious to contribute dishes for the meal. Please [contact me \(Hermine\)](#) to sign up for making fixin's! For those providing dishes, we would love for you to drop-off

food at Recovery Café (402 Kimbark St, Longmont) on Tuesday, November 26, from 9 AM to 4 PM and on Wednesday, November 27, from 2 PM to 4 PM. We ask that cooked food, especially those needing warming, be delivered on Wednesday, November 27, to avoid refrigeration and reheating.

We are also seeking volunteers to help with setup on Tuesday, November 26, from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM, and with serving, bussing, and cleanup on Wednesday, November 27, from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM. [Contact me](#) to sign up or for any questions you might have.

This event is a beautiful opportunity to nourish both body and soul—join us for a memorable celebration of community! Thank you for your loving kindness!



Recovery Café Thanksgiving Meal 2023



THE CHRISTMAS SEASON IS HERE!

HEART OF LONGMONT INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON! CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING PAGES FOR OUR HOLIDAY OFFERINGS, INCLUDING SANTA'S WORKSHOP, CHRISTMAS CANTATA, CHRISTMAS RECITAL, AND CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE.



Holiday Fair

NOVEMBER 2 - 9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM
 AT HEART OF LONGMONT - 350 11TH AVE LONGMONT

LUNCH FROM 11:30 AM TO 1:00 PM - PULLED BBQ PORK AND HOMEMADE PIES
 TREASURE TROVE - HOMEMADE PANTRY - CRAFT BOOTHS



COMMUNITY HOLIDAY BASKETS



According to the latest data from the National Retail Federation, Americans spend an average of \$997.73 each Christmas. Does this number surprise you? Not everyone is privileged to be able to afford spending even half so much on gifts for family and loved ones on Christmas.

This kind of spending is out of reach for the Wild Plum Head Start families that attend school in our Heart of Longmont building. Our Wild Plum families qualify for free and reduced lunch and more than half of the children enrolled are dual language learners. Wild Plum serves approximately 250 children and their families, which includes pregnant moms to children aged five. At our Heart of Longmont location, 50% of the education/office staff are current or past Wild Plum families.

To be supportive of our Wild Plum Head Start families, we have a tradition of creating Community Baskets with gifts for each person in a Wild Plum family. The holidays are a time of joy for many of us, but it is a stressful time for many that cannot afford to provide gifts for their loved ones. In years past, between Santa's Workshop and the Community Baskets, many have told us they wouldn't have had a Christmas at all without what we provided.

Our congregation have the most generous hearts and we invite you to put some joy under the tree of those in need. We hope you will participate in any way that you can. Jean Malchow and Diane Elder will be organizing this year's giving event, so be on the lookout for information on how you can sponsor a family in need this Christmas.

BELL RINGING SCHEDULE

We will be ringing bells for the OUR Center this year on Saturday, December 14, and Saturday, December 21, from 9 AM to 6 PM in front of Sam's Club in Longmont. There are many shift times available!

Sign up to be a part of this long-time holiday tradition at the Connection Center in the Gallery or contact Marty Allison via the church office.



SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS RETURN TO TOWN!



Imagine a place where a child can come and shop for their siblings, parents, and grandparents for free, a place where the magic of Christmas comes alive with thousands of gifts to choose from, wrapping paper is free-flowing, Christmas cards are being written, crafts are being made, cookies and hot chocolate are being consumed, a petting zoo full of animals are entertaining children, and, of course, Santa and Mrs. Claus (represented by our own Pastor David and Rebecca Burt) are creating smiles on every face!

You won't have to imagine this scenario much longer as our Third Annual Santa's Workshop is coming to Heart of Longmont on Sunday, December 8, from 2 PM to 5 PM!

On Sunday, December 8, at 2 PM we will throw our doors open and welcome children from low-income homes (most from the Head Start program across Longmont) to shop for their loved ones. Each child receives a "personal shopper" who walks them through Wesley Fellowship Hall, filled to bursting with gifts. The personal shopper helps them pick out gifts for up to six family members and then accompanies them to have their gifts wrapped, a card made, followed by a visit to Santa and snacks.

Short of Christmas morning, this is a highlight for many kids who would otherwise not be able to get anything for their parents, siblings, grandparents or pets.

But Santa needs you to make this possible! If you would like to volunteer to be a personal shopper, a translator, a gift wrapper, craft supervisor, hot chocolate and cookie preparer, Santa's helper, petting zoo attendant, greeter, or just want to help setting up or cleaning up, look out for a sign up sheet on the Connection Center. All and any help is welcome and needed!

We will also ask you to look through your cabinets and closets for gently used gifts or you can purchase a few new things when you are out and about doing your own shopping. If you bring gently used gifts, please make sure they are items a child would choose to gift to a loved one. Toys, puzzles, soccer balls, footballs, dolls, new books, and items for dads, moms, grandparents are welcomed.

We are accepting gifts at the church starting Monday, November 4, through Thursday, December 5. Place your items on the stage in Wesley Hall. [Please reach out to Tricia Grafelman with any questions!](#)



CHRISTMAS RECITAL

Join us on Sunday, December 22, at 2:00 PM for a very special Christmas Recital! There will be organ and piano music as well as a performance by our Bell Choir. Come for those old, familiar carols, the comfort food of the season!



CAROLS: A CHRISTMAS CANTATA

On Sunday, December 15, at 10:00 AM join us for **CAROLS**, a cantata for congregation and choir.

CAROLS (A Cantata For Congregation and Choir) is a one-of-a-kind carol compilation designed to bring musicians and congregation to the forefront during a music-centric Christmas worship service. The cantata is about 40 minutes in length, interspersed with scripture readings in support of familiar carols of the season. Songs include these holiday favorites: Joy to the World; Away in a Manger; O Come, All Ye Faithful; God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen; O Little Town of Bethlehem; The First Noel; and, of course, Silent Night.

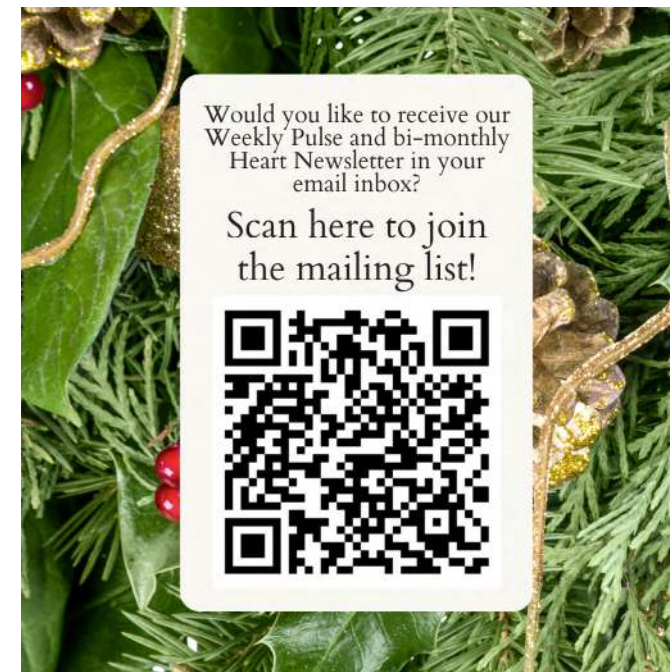
Like all our regular worship services, the Christmas cantata will be broadcast live to our YouTube channel for those who cannot attend in person.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

We invite you to join us on Christmas Eve (Tuesday, December 24) at 6:00 PM for Christmas Eve Service. There will be carols and candlelight and loving celebration of Christ's birth. Christmas Eve service will be broadcast live to our YouTube channel.

Long's Peak UMC in Longmont (1421 Elmhurst Drive, Longmont) will be holding two Christmas Eve services, one at 5:00 PM and another at 7:00 PM.



Would you like to receive our Weekly Pulse and bi-monthly Heart Newsletter in your email inbox?

Scan here to join the mailing list!



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!

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

A return to "normal" is a precarious place for many of our friends and neighbors, especially those 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 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
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.