



FEBRUARY 2026

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR



Dearest Church Family,

As we enter into the month of February, my heart is overflowing with gratitude. Our Advent season and Christmas

Eve worship services were truly beautiful. From the Christmas cantata to the children's pageant to the candlelit caroling on Christmas Eve, it was a season that reminded me why I love being a pastor and why I love the church.

These last seven months together have been such a blessing. I have so deeply enjoyed getting to know you all. I've loved hearing your stories, witnessing your faith, and experiencing the deep love you have for one another and for the wider community.

As we look ahead, **Ash Wednesday is February 18**, and the start of the Lenten season. This year, our Lenten worship series is ***Wandering Heart***, from the makers of *A Sanctified Art*. Throughout Lent, we will follow the faith journey of one of Jesus' most well-known disciples: **Peter**.

Peter's story is one of courage

and contradiction. He's steadfast and unsteady, devoted and doubting, faithful and wandering. In Peter, we see ourselves. As we walk alongside him this Lent, we'll experience the story of Jesus through the eyes of a very human disciple trying to figure it all out...just like us. This series weaves Peter's story together with phrases from the hymn "*Come Thou Fount*," inviting us to sing our way through Lent while acknowledging that faith is not a straight line. Wandering, in this sense, is not failure but an exploration. Peter keeps going: he drops his nets, walks on water, runs to the empty tomb, and swims to shore to meet the risen Christ. Even after missteps and mistakes, he continues searching, loving, and trusting. This Lent, we will reflect on our own faith journeys and listen for God's grace as we tune our hearts toward mercy that never ceases.

On a personal note, I want to share some joyful news with you. **Russ and I adopted a baby boy in Florida at the end of January!** We are overwhelmed with love and joy, and so thankful for everyone's prayers, encouragement, and love as we've navigated the adoption process.

The Heart of Longmont Leadership Council has granted me **12 weeks of parental leave**, so I will be returning to work at the church on Sunday,

April 26th. During my parental leave, Russ and I would kindly ask for our privacy and space, as we focus on bonding and becoming a family together.

If you have any questions or concerns during my parental leave, I encourage you to reach out to **Owen Chamberlain, Lay Leader; Francine Berkey, Leadership Council Chair; or Kevin Donovan, Leadership Council Vice Chair**. My pastoral leave plan is in this edition of the Heart (page 2) as well as answers to some frequently asked questions. I am so thankful for the many people who are stepping up to lead during my parental leave, and I am deeply confident that the church is in excellent hands.

February is a month that so often centers on love and I want you to know how deeply I hold you with **agape love**. In Greek, agape is the unconditional, self-giving love that God has for us. It is not dependent on perfection, performance, or reciprocity. It is steady, faithful, and enduring. That is the love I feel for you, my beloved congregation. It is the greatest honor getting to be your pastor and I look forward to being with you all when I return from parental leave in April.

With Love and Gratitude,

PASTOR ANGIE DORNISCH

IN THIS ISSUE

- The Lenten Season is beginning
- Pastor Angie's Leave Plan - Please respect Angie and Russ' privacy and sacred time bonding with their baby
- Youth Update and BASIC summer plans
- Mission update and upcoming events
- Upcoming Family Camp and Women's Retreat
- Guatemala Mission Reflections
- Santa's Workshop Thank Yous!
- Worshipful Moments - including photos from the Christmas season and Santa's Workshop!

PARENTAL LEAVE PLAN FOR REV. ANGIE DORNISCH

Heart of Longmont joyfully shares that Rev. Angie Dornisch will be on parental leave from Monday, January 26, through Saturday, April 25, as she and Russ welcome a child through adoption.

This leave follows Mountain Sky Conference 12-week parental leave policy and provides protected time for bonding, attachment, rest, and establishing healthy rhythms as a new family. Rev. Angie will return to regular pastoral duties on Sunday, April 26.

Ministry at Heart of Longmont will continue fully and faithfully during this season through shared leadership, strong lay involvement, and guest clergy.

Worship

Guest preachers will lead worship each Sunday:

- February 1 – Rev. Barb Lyons
- February 8 – Rev. Skip Strickland (preaching and music with Gaynor Nelson)
- February 15 – Rev. Barb Lyons
- February 22 – Rev. Jamielee Demske
- March 1 – Rev. Keith Watson
- March 8 – Rev. Skip Strickland
- March 15 – Rev. Ryan Canaday
- March 22 – Rev. Barb Lyons
- March 29 – Rev. Ashley Murphy
- April 5 – Rev. Claire McNulty-Drewes
- April 12 – Be Sunday (no formal worship service)
- April 19 – Rev. Steve Goodier

Pastoral Care

Care visits will continue and will be scheduled and overseen by Peg Howard, head of the Heart of Longmont Care Team, and Tricia Grafelman, Ministry & Mission Coordinator, along with several amazing volunteers.

Clergy Support During Parental Leave

During Rev. Angie's parental leave, Rev. Keith Watson is available to officiate any memorial or graveside services that might occur. Rev. Keith is also available to provide pastoral care visits when a clergy presence is specifically requested.

Staff Support & Supervision

Church staff will be supervised and supported during this time by:

- Francine Berkey, Leadership Council Chair
- Kevin Donovan, Leadership Council Vice Chair
- Owen Chamberlain, Lay Leader

This team will ensure continuity, communication, and care for staff throughout the leave.

Leadership & Meetings

Lay leadership will guide ongoing ministry, planning, and routine decisions, ensuring stability and faithful stewardship during this season.

Pack and Unpack Bible Study

Cameron McKay will lead Pack and Unpack on Tuesdays from 12:00–1:00 pm in the Parlor of HOL, continuing the important work of theological reflection, conversation surrounding Sunday's sermon, and community.

Contact Information

If you need contact information (email or phone number) for any staff member, lay leader, or guest clergy during this season, please contact Virginia in the church office. She will be happy to help connect you with the appropriate person.

Email: hologice@heartoflongmont.org

Phone: 303-776-3523

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is bonding and attachment so important in adoption?

Bonding and attachment are especially critical in adoption, particularly in the early weeks after placement. This time helps a baby feel safe, secure, and loved, and allows parents and child to form healthy emotional connections. Protected, uninterrupted time together supports lifelong well being and is considered essential by adoption professionals.

Will Angie be available during these 12 weeks?

During parental leave, Rev. Angie will be fully away from her pastoral role and will not be available for pastoral care, phone calls, meetings, emails, or get togethers. We are deeply grateful for the congregation's kindness in respecting these boundaries so that Angie and Russ can focus fully on their new family.

Will we see Angie, Russ, or the baby at church during the leave?

No. Angie and Russ will not be worshiping in person during these 12 weeks, and you will not see them at church. This separation is an important part of protecting bonding time and honoring the purpose of parental leave.

Will we receive updates and photos?

Yes. The congregation will receive weekly and monthly updates. There will be a brief update in the weekly Pulse and a written update in the monthly Heart.

Due to adoption legal requirements, photos of the baby's face cannot be published for at least six months. Any photos shared will be approved by Angie and Russ and will align with legal requirements.

Can we organize a meals train?

No, they do not need a meal train or any kind of food. The greatest gift you can offer during these 12 weeks is your prayers.

How and when can we celebrate with them?

The best and most meaningful way to celebrate with Angie, Russ, and their baby will be during our Sip and See celebration on Sunday, April 19 after worship in Wesley Hall.

This gathering will be hosted by Debbie Howard and Tricia Grafelman and will include breakfast foods, coffee, and juice. This will be a joyful time for the congregation to meet baby Dornisch and celebrate together.

MARKED BY GRACE

*An Ash
Wednesday
Journey*

Wednesday
February 18

12:00 PM to 1:00 PM
and
5:00 PM to 6:00 PM

in the Heart of Longmont Chapel

*Begin Lent grounded in Grace with a
gentle, self-guided Ash Wednesday journey
of reflection and hope.*



Heart of Longmont
350 11th Avenue
Longmont, CO

MARKED BY GRACE: AN ASH WEDNESDAY JOURNEY

Heart of Longmont United Methodist Church invites you into a gentle, self-guided Ash Wednesday journey of reflection and hope. Through prayer stations (including receiving ashes) you are invited to pause, reflect, and begin Lent grounded in grace. Join us in the Chapel on Wednesday, February 18, in the afternoon between 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM or in the evening between 5:00 PM and 6:00 PM.

WESLEY TOWNHOMES IN THE NEWS

Did you see that Wesley Townhomes made the news? In a recent article in the Longmont Leader, the City of Longmont announced it would be receiving the National Community Development Association's 2026 Audrey Nelson Award for its role in the Wesley Townhomes project and addressing the affordable housing shortage in our community. [Click here](#) to read the full article or scan the QR code at right.



WORSHIPFUL MOMENTS

CHEF HEARTY BUILD DAY



INTRODUCING LAY LEADER OWEN CHAMBERLAIN



GUATEMALA MISSION LUNCHEON



RECOVERY CAFÉ THANKSGIVING



DECORATING THE CHURCH



"A THRILL OF HOPE" CANTATA



SANTA'S WORKSHOP 2025





HERE ARE SOME OF THE WONDERFUL PERSONAL THANK YOU NOTES WE RECEIVED FROM SOME OF THE WILD PLUM PARENTS. WE RECEIVED NEARLY 30 CARDS AND WANTED TO SHARE JUST A FEW WITH YOU.

We are overwhelmed with all the love we received for our kids! We are truly grateful! Merry Christmas. —Family Rodriguez Zavala

We cannot express how thankful we are for the kindness of all of you, these are difficult times and receiving this blessing for my kids! It's an amazing feeling. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. —Family Valdez.

We appreciate everything the church community does including the Christmas gifts and the monthly Chef Hearty. —Alastar Mitchell's Family

Thank you so much for your incredible kindness and generosity. Because of you, our family is going to be able to experience the joy and extra magic of Christmas. The

holidays is my son's favorite time of the year and to have these gifts under the tree is making every day extra special. Your thoughtfulness truly means more to us than words can express. From my family to yours, we are so thankful for you and wish a wonderful holiday season. Merry Christmas. —Jessica & Santana

Dear Heart of Longmont, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for the wonderful gifts you provided to my children and me. As a mother, my children's happiness means everything to me. As a working parent, the challenges of today's economy often require us to prioritize our needs over our wants, which can be difficult for children to understand. Through your generosity, my children will receive far

more than they expected and our hearts are truly grateful. I praise God for your generosity, your compassion, and the love you so faithfully pour into the children of Wild Plum. This is our first year being part of this organization and I thank the Lord for the opportunity He has provided for my child to attend. Your kindness is a true reflection of God's love in action. I pray for God's continued blessings over the Heart of Longmont and for the work you do in serving families and children. Thank you again for your generosity and kindness. With sincere gratitude. —Claudia V.

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7



WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

We are so blessed by the growth of our church and would like to make sure you see some of our new members. If you've been around the Heart of Longmont for awhile or if you are new, we invite you to introduce yourself to these new members (some pictured below).

Are you interested in joining our church? We are hosting a New Member Orientation on Sunday, February 1, after worship service! You can also contact Tricia Grafelman for more information.

New Members August 2025

Deb Lewis
Paul and Eileen VanPernis
Christine Rivas, Bob Pomeroy and Merida, Emmy, and Rory
Todd Flemming and Danielle and Tabitha
Lani Dolifka
Russ Dornisch

New Members December 2025

Sharon Malloy
Sara and Opal Kearse
Mary Ann Jones
Caleb, Valerie and Autumn Eastman
Chris and Jillian Reid
Sarah, Owen, Piper, and Teddy Chamberlain



From Emily Farrenkopf, Youth Director

Overview

Our youth group has been busy since I last provided an update! We enjoy looking back on the things we have done and are also looking forward to what is still to come. Brant and I do our best to make each weekly youth group gathering interesting, fun, and an opportunity for our youth to grow just a little bit more in their relationship with Jesus.

In collaboration with our Children's Ministry Director, we have invested in a new curriculum that spans from nursery age through high school. We are excited to have continuity across our programs and love that families with kids of all ages now have the opportunity to learn the same themes each week. We are especially looking forward to our Youth Super Bowl Party, an overnight at the church where the youth can play games to their hearts' content, and, of course, our summer mission trip and camp.

discharged. I knew right away this would be the perfect service project for our youth.

Gathering enough fleece to make eight blankets large enough to cover a twin mattress was no easy feat. However, I thoroughly enjoyed chatting with the Hobby Lobby fabric associate, as well as the many customers who came and went while our fabric was being prepared. It was fun to share stories about the wonderful teens I know who were about to do something so kind and helpful for others in need.

The youth were amazing, as expected. They broke off into seven small groups, quickly read the instructions I had prepared, and got right to work assembling the blankets. Two pieces of fleece are laid on top of each other, the edges are cut into strips, and then tied together to create a warm, cozy blanket. Pastor Angie and Russ were able to join us that evening, and it was a joy to see how well the youth worked together while having so much fun.

Within weeks of completing these blankets, two of our youth became patients at Children's Hospital themselves—and received comforting blankets of their own. It was a powerful reminder of how meaningful even small acts of service can be.



Making Blankets

In October, a dear friend of mine shared a news article with me that The Children's Hospital was in urgent need of fleece hand-tied blankets. These blankets are given to patients to use during their stay and to take home when they are

trip and helping make the experience accessible to our youth.



Christmas Digressive Dinner

Our annual Christmas Digressive Dinner was a night full of delicious food, lots of laughter, a little football watching, and a white elephant gift exchange that resulted in only a few moments of disappointment. We gathered at the church and divided ourselves into different vehicles before heading out for the evening.

Our first stop was the Martinez-Spaulding home, where we were greeted with plates full of desserts. After quickly consuming large amounts of sugar, some of the youth headed outside for a pickup basketball game. From there, we made our way to the Landers' house, where we enjoyed a delicious main course of spaghetti and garlic bread. They graciously kept the NFL game on so our football fans wouldn't miss the outcome.

Next, we traveled to the Morgan home and were treated to the perfect selection of appetizers, including dinosaur-shaped chicken nuggets. The fresh veggie tray was mostly left behind—though a few brave souls did partake. We ended the night at the Goerlitz-Shipp household, where we settled in with



cups of hot chocolate and concluded with our traditional white elephant gift exchange. While every gift was generous and thoughtful, the most sought-after items this year were a tabletop air hockey game, a tortilla-shaped blanket, and a Squishmallow.

As our group continues to grow, traveling to multiple homes has become more challenging. Even so, this tradition is deeply loved and creates lasting memories and a strong sense of community, and we hope to continue it for years to come.

Summer Plans

This summer, we are thrilled to partner with Praying Pelicans Missions for our mission trip to Anchorage, Alaska, at the end of July. All active youth members currently in seventh through twelfth grade are invited to participate in this exciting opportunity. The

Praying Pelicans Missions website shares: "Known as the last frontier, Alaska boasts breathtaking landscapes, diverse people groups, and a mission field like no other. Alaska mission trips combine the element of adventure with the opportunity to encourage ministry leaders who are serving in some of the most difficult places in our nation."

We anticipate around 20 participants for this trip and have several fundraisers planned to help us reach our financial goals. We expect to have more specific details about the work we will be doing by the end of February and look forward to sharing those with the congregation.

Summer church camp is a beloved memory for so many adults, and we are excited to promote Buckhorn Methodist Camp for our church youth in third through

twelfth grade. We are planning to attend camp the week of June 28. The cost for this life-changing week of fun is \$550 per camper. If you are interested in providing a full or partial sponsorship for one of our youth, please reach out to [Emily](#) by email or by contacting the church office.

Closing Thoughts

We are incredibly grateful for the continued support, encouragement, and prayers of this congregation. Youth ministry is truly a shared effort, and we are thankful for each person who plays a role—whether through volunteering, giving, or simply cheering our youth on. Please continue to keep our teens and leaders in your prayers as we look ahead to all that God has in store for the coming months.



CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES UPDATE

From Jana Yoder, CFM Director

Hello, Heart of Longmont family,

Happy 2026! I hope it's a year that is kind to you and your loved ones. We have a lot of exciting things planned.

Mark your calendars: we will have a Vacation Bible Camp in June! We will take the children ages 3 to 11 (PreK to 5th Grade) on an exciting adventure exploring God's Kingdom.

We rolled out our new curriculum in both Children's Church and Nursery. The kids are having a lot of fun getting to know the Bible and learning how to grow stronger in faith. I love the fact that the learning is engaging and age-appropriate.

I want to give a shout out to Sarah Chamberlain for starting a new Parents and Tots group. We started meeting

every Thursday from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM and so far it's been a success! The event is open to all parents and children ages 0 to 4.

Thank you all for your ongoing support. The children are so delightful and I am grateful and honored to get to spend time with them.

Upcoming Events

Parents & Tots

Every Thursday 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM in Wesley Hall

Vacation Bible Camp

June 8 to June 12, 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM
More details to come!



WONDERFULLY MADE:
FAMILY CAMP
May 29 to May 31
at Buckhorn Camp

We know how quickly your family calendars fill up, so we want to get the word out as soon as possible about our Heart of Longmont Family camp the weekend after Memorial day!

We invite you to join us in the great outdoors, staying in fun cabins, from Friday dinner through Sunday morning worship. Meals, lodging, devotion, free time, family activities, kids crafts, and campfire worship complete with s'mores will all be included.

The theme for the camp is WONDERFULLY MADE, based on Galatians 6:9. "So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up." The cost will be approximately \$200 per family. (Scholarships will be available.)

More details will be coming! Mark your calendars and let us know if you're interested in attending!



CHEF HEARTY

Our Chef Hearty meal in January was Pork Fried Rice! We had some very nice comments from Wild Plum parents and we look forward to putting together the next meal for our 52 Wild Plum Head Start families on February 8 after worship service in the gallery.

Be on the lookout in the future for a **Chef Hearty Cookbook!** You too will be able to cook some easy, delicious, healthy meals! We thank all those who help fill Chef Hearty bags with meal ingredients Sunday morning after worship service.

If you'd like to help plan meals or contribute towards Chef Hearty with your donation of time or money, just reach out to [Tricia Grafelman](#).



from Amy Mann, Mission Design Team Chair

COMPASSION OFFERING 2026 SCHEDULE

February

Days for Girls

March

UMCOR

April

Gun Safe Program

May

Be The Source
(Child Welfare and Foster
Family Organization)

June

Rocky Mountain Equality

July

HOPE

If you know of an organization you would like the Missions Design Committee to consider adding to our Compassion Offerings, please contact Amy Mann.



Thank you to all for making last year powerful and impactful. Your support for Mission Design has made a difference! HOL has changed lives within our sanctuary, our city, our county, our country, and our world. We have an exciting year planned, and as your new Chair, in partnership with Tricia and our incredible team, we would love to get your ideas and feedback about ways we can continue to be a mission driven, justice seeking, Christ-like congregation.

Our Center 2026: Monthly Meal Partnership

Heart of Longmont's Leadership and Mission Design Team has agreed to partner with Longs Peak UMC to support a monthly meal at the OUR Center—both financially and through volunteer service. This partnership means Heart of Longmont will contribute approximately \$150 each month, matching Longs Peak UMC's contribution, to help provide meals for OUR Center clients. The OUR Center relies on churches and community organizations to serve weekend meals when they are not fully staffed. We typically serve 80-100 people at each meal.

Ways You Can Support This Mission

- **Sponsor a Meal (Full or Partial)**
You can choose a month to help fund a meal through a gift card or cash donation. To sponsor a meal, please contact the Heart of Longmont office or email Amy.
- **Volunteer Your Time:** You can also sign up to serve a two-hour shift on the second Saturday of each month. To volunteer, contact Amy via the church office or sign up using [our Signup Genius](#).

Upcoming Events

We are still in the planning process but here

are a few items to put on your calendars:

March 1: Exploring White Supremacy 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM in the Chapel

Dr. Catlyn Keenan has devoted much of her career to examining and exposing the growing threat of Christian Nationalism and White Supremacy in our communities. In this engaging presentation, Dr. Keenan will share insights from her research on American white supremacist movements, including the Ku Klux Klan and Christian Nationalism. She will explore how the intersection of religious belief and extremist action reveals the complex relationship between religion and violence.

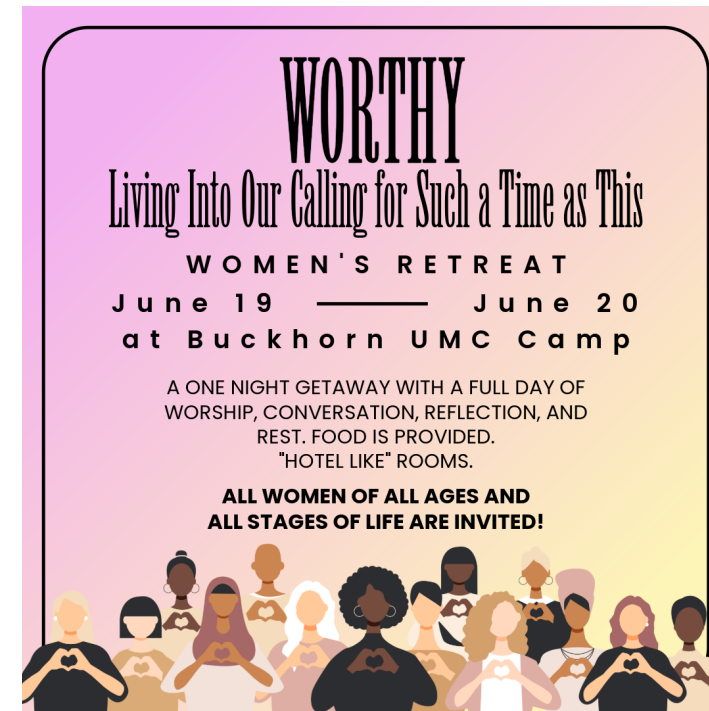
Dr. Keenan is a Professor at Front Range Community College and the author of two published books. Her dissertation, *Behind the Doors of White Supremacy*, has been widely published and used across the country.

April 12: BE SUNDAY

BE SUNDAY is our annual day of community outreach, when we step outside the walls of the church to serve our neighbors in place of our regular Sunday service. The HOL Community will have the opportunity to choose from many different service opportunities and spend a few hours serving our local communities. If you have an organization that you would like to see members serve at, or have questions please contact [Tricia Gafelman](#), Ministry and Missions Coordinator.

September 25: Sand Creek Massacre Trip

We have rescheduled our planned Sand Creek Massacre site trip! Save the date; more details to come. To read about Sand Creek and why it matters today, check out the September 2025 Heart Newsletter.



WOMEN'S RETREAT AT BUCKHORN CAMP

This summer, we're inviting the women of our church to step away from the noise of daily life and into sacred space together at Buckhorn Camp for a one night retreat, June 19 to June 20.

This retreat is called *Worthy: Living Into Our Calling for Such a Time as This*. Rooted in the story of Esther, this retreat will explore what it means to live with courage, hope, and purpose as women of faith. Esther's story reminds us that courage doesn't always look loud or flashy. Sometimes it looks like trusting God, using your voice, and stepping forward even when the outcome is uncertain.

Our theme, WORTHY, is an acronym that grounds our time together: Women Open to Rejoicing in The Holy Community.

Together, we'll explore our worth, not as something we earn, prove, or perform, but as something already gifted to us by God. Through worship, conversation, reflection, and rest, we'll create space to remember who we are and whose we are.

This retreat is for women of all ages and stages of life. Whether you're longing for renewal, craving connection, or simply needing time to breathe and listen for God's still, small voice, we invite you to join us.

If you're interested in attending or would like more information, please let us know. We'd love to help you take part in this meaningful time of retreat, rest, and renewal.

Come away with us to the mountains, to community, and to the deep truth that *you are worthy for such a time as this*.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

During November, we had a very successful Holiday Fair to help raise funds for our pledge to the national office of UWF to support the hundreds of mission projects around the world. After the first of the year, we will begin discussions for next year's Fair.

We continue to provide a meal for HOPE once a month.

Many women are busy reading books on Spiritual Growth, Education for Missions, Social Action, Nurturing for Community, and Leadership Development. This is one of our main program areas for personal growth.

The team that prepares the menstrual kits sent off 110 kits with the Guatemala mission team and the report back is that the kits were received with deep appreciation. The team is taking a break until the new year when we will begin again with gusto!

The four circles continue to meet regularly for fellowship and learning.

We have been negligent in the upkeep of our Facebook page and are working diligently to correct that.

Every November we concentrate on the World Thank Offering, again one of our mission offerings. We are reminded each day of our blessings and make a small donation for that blessing.

For questions, please contact Marty Allison

United Women of Faith 2026 Reading Program Books are Available The 2026 Reading Program Books have been placed on the UWFaith table in the Gallery and are available for check-out (as are the books from the previous five years which can be found on the UWFaith shelving unit in the library). There is also a list on the table containing titles of books that can be obtained from the Longmont Public Library. Please check your book shelves, and if you find any of the UWFaith books from 2025 or previous years that you have finished, please return them.



Heart of Longmont
350 11th Avenue
Longmont, CO



Calling all Chili-Lovers and Chili-Chefs!

It's that time of the year when you get to make and taste test lots of different chilis! Our chili-contest has been a long-standing event where fun is had by all. Bring your best chili or a side dish, dessert, or salad if you aren't bringing chili. Bringing a muffin tin is a clever way to taste several chilis side by side!

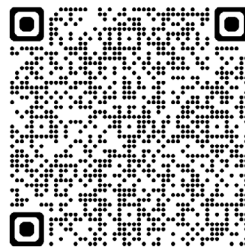
Join us on Sunday, February 8 right after service in Wesley Hall. Prises for BEST Chili and BEST dessert will be awarded!



Blood Drive February 22

Donating blood is such a vital service to those that need it! Here at the Heart of Longmont we have two blood drives a year, one in the winter and one in the summer. Our winter blood drive is coming soon! Mark your calendars and invite your friends and neighbors to join us on Sunday, February 22 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM in Wesley Hall. Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to sign up!

Rooted in our Methodist call to love our neighbors and pursue justice with compassion, this is a simple, powerful way to care for others—near and far. One donation can save multiple lives, and together we can turn faith into action. We hope to see you there. If you have questions, reach out to [Tricia Grafelman](#).



GUATEMALA REFLECTIONS

by Becky Vancura

Why I serve...

It is easy to take for granted all that I have been given. A mission trip is a good opportunity to recenter and reflect on these gifts, while having a positive impact on those we serve.

While in Guatemala, I was most impressed with the women of ODIM. They work tirelessly through their various programs alongside their neighbors to make their lives better. The founder of ODIM spoke to us on our first day. She explained that from the start ODIM's goal was "to work with, not for the Guatemalan people". This model has allowed

these women to build trust and relationships within their communities that makes ODIM successful.

I was most impressed with sweet Angelica. She speaks three languages: Tzutujil, Spanish, and English. Angelica works part time handling communications for ODIM, particularly social media. She also shepherded us around all week. When she is not at work, she is studying or at school in the evening and on the weekend. She is pursuing a degree in tourism. Her energy and positive outlook was a gift and a lesson for us all.



'WHILE IN GUATEMALA, I WAS MOST IMPRESSED WITH THE WOMEN OF ODIM.'



FINANCE UPDATE FROM OUR TREASURER

Overview

We close 2025 with gratitude and confidence in the financial direction of Heart of Longmont. While the year ended with a deficit of \$33,425, this result is significantly better than the budgeted loss of \$85,000 and reflects a strong rebound in the second half of the year—particularly in the fourth quarter. Income for the year exceeded budget by more than \$57,000, driven by growth in congregational giving, several new significant donors, and generous undesignated gifts. This level of support is a strong affirmation of the vitality and direction of our church. Expenses were modestly above budget, reflecting intentional investments aligned with our Long Range Planning priorities—investments we believe are already bearing fruit.

Signs of Impact

The financial story of 2025 is inseparable from the ministry story:

- New members joining the life of the church
- Baptisms and confirmations
- Continued growth in nursery, children's, and youth ministries
- Strong participation across worship, mission, and community life

These outcomes reflect strategic choices made in staffing, programming, and infrastructure to support a growing and increasingly engaged congregation.

Looking Ahead

The strong improvement in Q4 performance reinforces our confidence in the sustainability of our ministry and giving patterns. While we continue to steward resources carefully, 2025 demonstrated that Heart of Longmont is capable of both investing boldly and responding generously.

We enter the coming year encouraged by the faithfulness of this congregation and committed to managing our resources with transparency, care, and purpose.

With Gratitude

Thank you for your generosity, trust, and shared commitment to Heart of Longmont's mission. Your giving makes possible the ministries that nurture faith, welcome all, and extend God's love into our community and beyond.

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

Blessings,

ROD EDMONDS, TREASURER

Category	2025 Actual	2025 Budget	2024 Actual
Income	\$518,873	\$461,200	\$483,804
Expenses	\$552,298	\$546,200	\$500,324
Income less than Expenses (Deficit)	(\$33,425)	(\$85,000)	(\$16,520)

HEART OF COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN FEBRUARY 2026 UPDATE

Thank you for the strong and faithful support of our Heart of Community capital campaign. As of December, **we have received \$1,171,099 in commitments and \$557,102 in collections.** With additional gifts already received in January, **we expect collections to exceed \$600,000 by the end of this month.**

Planning is actively underway for several major projects in 2026, including **parking lot improvements and replacement of aging A/C units in May, followed by an**



interior refresh and upgrades in late June/July, with potential work on the Gallery roof still under evaluation.

Designers are currently refining plans based on congregational input and gathering updated cost information. **A congregational update and review of refreshed design concepts is planned for March 8,** with final design, bidding, and permitting to follow in the spring, keeping us on track for a June/July 2026 project kickoff.

We are grateful for the ways this congregation continues to invest in spaces that support worship, welcome, and the unfolding ministry God is calling us into together.

WHODUNNIT WITH HEART

reviewed by D. Towry



Father Jud Duplenticy is a flawed but idealistic young priest. A checkered past brought him to the Church and, despite a stumble here and there, he is eager to go into the world and fulfill his calling to serve Christ. “More of this”—arms open—“not this”—fists up. After punching a jerk deacon in an unguarded moment, Father Jud is sent to Our Lady of Perpetual Fortitude to help guide a calcifying congregation.

There he meets Monsignor Jefferson Wicks, a self-absorbed Christian Nationalist spewing hate and brimstone from the pulpit, alienating all but the few he keeps under his sway. His cult of personality is strong, and Father Jud finds out he’s been put in a hard place between Monsignor Wicks’ indirect attacks and the church’s inner circle, a group of people who serve the monsignor and are only willing to play ball as long as Father Jud stays in line with how things are done and who calls (and has always called) the shots. (Spoilers: It’s not Jesus.)

“This isn’t the true Church,” Father Jud says, but any outsider would be hard pressed to know it, especially as the

monsignor’s particular brand of preaching reaches further than the sanctuary walls thanks to the power of the YouTube in the hands of an ambitious right-wing influencer. Nobody in the inner circle likes each other very much, but they like outsiders even less. Outsiders are the enemy. Outsiders are the snake in the garden.

Then, on Good Friday, Monsignor Wicks is murdered, struck down as if by some supernatural force. A “closed room” murder. Everyone is a suspect—but most especially Father Jud. As Father Jud is praying for help, detective Benoit Blanc appears on the scene to help unravel the mystery.

That’s the setup for *Wake Up Dead Man: A Knives Out Mystery*, directed by Rian Johnson. This is the third in the Knives Out series, but, like the other two films, it is a stand-alone story that takes on current day topics, this time looking at religion and the good, the bad, and the ugly the institution of the Church can bring to its communities.

Given the acerbic send-up of wealthy white privilege and billionaire culture in the previous two movies, you might wonder if the story of *Wake Up Dead Man* is taking on topics of religion and the church with an aim to tear it down. The simple answer is no, far from it. The longer answer is that faith and belief—if not in the institution of the Church and the people in positions of authority within it, then Jesus’ teachings—are the moral center of the story. Atheistic and skeptical Benoit

Blanc is the guide towards justice, but Father Jud holds the moral center of the story and doesn’t lose sight of the power of faith and the love in Jesus’ teachings.

The story shines a light on the corrupting nature of power and how faith and doctrine can be used to twist love and compassion into hate and paranoia; on how women are spurned and used by the church system; on how children can be twisted by the system into perfect reflections of corrupt ideology; how pride in one’s faith and devotion can hide something dark and resentful. But the story also puts a spotlight (sometimes literally) on compassion, grace, kindness, love, and forgiveness.

Overall, the film is a fun whodunnit with a cast of strange and interesting characters, including Daniel Craig returning as the theatrical and entertaining Benoit Blanc. True to Rian Johnson form, there are a number of references to other media, including many references to *The Lord of the Rings* (if you know you know) and an incredible fourth wall breaking joke about Netflix. There’s as much fun in the film as there is heart. Cinephiles will find interesting editing and cinematography choices and mystery fans will have a good time piecing the mystery together as the audience is presented every clue as the movie progresses, making it possible to solve the mystery alongside Benoit Blanc.

Wake Up Dead Man is streaming now on Netflix.

UWF CIRCLES

Lydia Circle
Jean Malchow and Linda McDaniel (co-chairs)
Second Monday 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! Child care will be provided.

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
The meditation class is back Friday, February 6 and Friday, February 20 at noon in the Chapel! No experience necessary!

Pack and UnPack
Join Cameron McKay 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 once a month. Contact the church office for more information.

Parents & Tots Group
For parents and their kids ages 0-4 to build connections in a welcoming environment. Thursdays, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Heart of Longmont.

The Chosen Season 4
Join Tim and Debbie Howard for their discussion group on The Chosen Season Four on January 11, 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM, in the HOL Chapel.



Would you like to receive our Weekly Pulse updates and monthly Heart Newsletter?

Scan here to join the mailing list!



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 in 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!

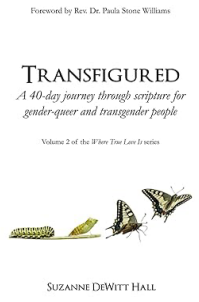
Serving HOPE Meals
Help serve meals to HOPE’s clients! Meals are served at The Journey on Pike

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.

Readers Needed!
We have started our third year of reading to our Wild Plum little learners and we need more readers! We read to toddlers on Wednesdays and PreK on Thursdays! Please consider joining our quest to create avid readers and spend time with our little plums! There is a sign-up sheet on the Connection Center or if you have questions contact Lynn Greenhalge.

GENDER-FULL DEVOTIONAL

reviewed by D. Towry



Transfigured by Suzanne DeWitt Hall is a 40-day devotional for genderqueer and transgender folks. The devotionals consist of a scripture passage and a meditation for each day. While written for transgender and genderqueer folks, the meditations are

accessible for anyone of any identity. I found this a particularly safe read given the author’s thoughtful choice of pronouns (they/them for God, he/him for Jesus, she/her for the Holy Spirit). For those who have difficulty connecting with a paternal or patriarchal father god, the text may be more approachable.

The meditations explore many different themes that tie in with queerness and gender identity/expression. There are discussions of liminality and betweenness and the “gender-full” nature of God, how God and creation encompasses all genders

and expression and cannot be constrained by human definitions and boundaries. just as God’s creation cannot be so constrained. There is a very fun part from this section exploring the potential transness of Eve, who was created from Adam’s male/XY rib, and Jesus, who was born of only female/XX Mary.

There are explorations of the diversity of biological sex and gender expression and presentation and there are meditations on themes of transformation and transition in scripture and the God-given freedom to *be*.

There is a section that looks for nonbinary protagonists in scripture, which is an interesting exercise in close reading, but it is the section I have the most criticism for. Since there are no explicitly nonbinary characters in scripture, the author chooses to use eunuchs as characters similarly on the margins of gender expression and identity. I understand why the author chose this direction, and I don’t think it’s a bad close reading to take, but I found the presentation of the idea without historical and cultural grounding for the concept

of eunuchs and their place in antiquity troubling. Even with Jesus’ acknowledgment of diversity within the category eunuch from Matthew 19:11-12, many eunuchs were made so not by choice but through acts of violence and expression of authoritarian power, which I think complicates what the author is attempting to do. I think the author should have explained and explored these complications and the limits of the analogy (or at least acknowledged them) at the start of the section and moved the Matthew 19 meditation to the beginning of the section, rather than leaving it for the end. As a reader, I found this part difficult to connect with and it unsettled what I otherwise found to be a loving devotional. As a reader, your mileage may vary.

Even with critiques, I would recommend this devotional to those seekers exploring their gender identity and what it means for and with their spirituality. It would make a good Lenten study for those so inclined, though it can be used at any time or season for words of comfort and support.

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!

FROM OUR PARTNERS

From Casa de Paz



2025 RECAP

As we turn the page on the calendar, the new year invites a renewed commitment to growth, progress, and positive change.

In 2025, over 600 people from at least 63 countries were released from the GEO detention center - over 600! In a year filled with turmoil, we are happy to share that witnessing the reunification of so many local families, is a scene we never take for granted.

This past month, sixty-three people were released from GEO, with thirty-two coming to Casa!

Seventeen countries were represented: Canada, Chad, Colombia, Cuba, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Palestine, Peru, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine, and Venezuela.

Thank you for all your support for 2025!

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

From El Comité



Thank you for making this fundraising season such a success for El Comité de Longmont. We could not do what we do, or come as far as we have, without your support! Our

partnership with you has enabled us to serve our community, to respond week by week and month by month, and to stay prepared for a rapidly changing landscape.

I have done a lot of speaking engagements this year, and I thought for this last communication of the year, I would share what has most regularly come up among other concerned community members. Here are the questions that I get asked consistently:

What happens when someone is kidnapped by ICE, what are the immediate needs?

The most urgent task is to find the person who was taken. It can take 24-72 hours for someone to show up in the ICE locator. Sometimes, the person kidnapped will contact their family before they show up in the locator. Once it is known where the person is being held, their family should consult an immigration attorney, as they may want representation. Meanwhile, the person

in detention needs money on their phone tab and in their commissary account. Without those, they can't call home or buy essentials. For the family left behind, it is important for agencies like ours to make sure they have enough income to keep their rent paid and food on the table – especially if the person in detention was the primary wage earner.

What can I do to help?

There are many roles for volunteers, and there will be more in the future.

First, if you see ICE attempting to kidnap someone, at a minimum call the Colorado Rapid Response Network (CORRN) at (844) 864-834 immediately, and then ask the officers who they are with. Here are some other things you can do if you are able to:

1. If they are with ICE, ask for a warrant, but don't expect them to supply one. They rarely use them.
2. Step back, if they say so. Don't interfere, but do video everything.
3. Make sure you get clear images of the vehicle model, make, and license plate.
4. If you can, ask the person being taken for their name and a number to call their family.
5. Share the video later with CORRN.
6. You can call the local police to have them confirm whether the activity you are witnessing is their officers or not. If the family is present, tell them they can

go to El Comité for assistance.

Second, to protect your community, consider organizing your neighborhood block, and/or consider joining an Immigrant Protection Team, a local Indivisible Group, or Together Colorado.

What gives you hope?

Many things, actually: when I witness the strength and faith of the people most at risk –their resilience, courage, and openness to joy in spite of everything, my own heart feels full of hope. The courage of the local firms and advocates filing effective lawsuits and the federal judges taking principled stands on behalf of due process and civil rights inspire me. I am also consistently inspired and heartened by every one of you who is willing to take action to protect our immigrant community members. Everything you do, whether that is donating, confirming, speaking up as an ally, or volunteering, is really important.

There is much work to be done in early 2026 to prepare, so stay tuned. I think 2026 will be a roller coaster. There is still no knowing what lies ahead, how it will play out, or how hard it will hit. (Cue the Oompa Loompa's song from the Willy Wonka movie: "Yes, the danger must be growing for the rowers keep on rowing, and they're certainly not showing any signs that they are slowing...") To date, there have now been 570 changes to immigration law and

policy in 2025. And in the last month and a half, eight more El Comité participants have reported a friend or loved one being kidnapped by the government.

If you haven't made a donation to El Comité yet to help us serve our local Latino and immigrant communities, please do it today! We would be honored and

grateful to have you among our supporters. We are in this together, and I can't think of anyone I'd rather have standing with us than you.

Wishing you and yours a very Happy New Year!

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](#).

From OUR Center



Thank you for Making an Impact

As we begin a new year, we start by saying thank you. Your support throughout 2025

helped families across the St. Vrain Valley put food on the table, get through difficult moments, and feel supported when it mattered most. Whether you supported OUR Center in big or small ways, your presence

and care helped make that impact possible. Here we share a snapshot of what your generosity made possible over the past year. Here are a few statistics from 2025:

- 19,211 visits conducted with households seeking assistance
- 61,643 hot, nutritious meals served from our Community Café
- 1,088,087 pounds of groceries distributed from our Community Market
- 811 direct financial assistance vouchers and referrals for Homelessness Prevention (rent and utility assistance) totaling \$599,972

- 53 children (ages 6 weeks to 6 years) received day care and 4-star early childhood education at Aspen Center for Child Development

Looking ahead to 2026, we're excited for what's to come. The year ahead brings new opportunities to grow our programs, strengthen community partnerships, and continue showing up for our neighbors in meaningful ways. We're so grateful to have you with us as we move forward. Thank you for helping make the work ahead possible!

23rd Annual Empty Bowls Saturday, March 14, 2026

Empty Bowls is OUR Center's annual community fundraiser featuring handcrafted bowls, soups from local restaurants, and a silent auction. All proceeds go towards supporting OUR Center's Community Café, which provides daily warm, nutritious meals to anyone in need.

Ticket & Event Information

Tickets are \$25 each and available at the OUR Center, Crackpots Studio, or online at www.ourcenter.org/emptybowls. Tickets are \$30 at the door on the day of the event if they are available. Your ticket includes:

- One handcrafted bowl to take home
- Two soup selections from generous local restaurant partners
- Access to our silent auction, featuring items donated by our community supporters.

Paint a Bowl at Crackpots to Donate

Create a handcrafted bowl and help make a difference! Crackpots Studio in downtown Longmont is hosting Empty Bowls painting sessions from January 2 – February 26. For more information: www.ecrackpots.com/emptybowls



- Paint one or more bowls to donate
- Groups of 8+ can schedule a private painting party
- Individuals and smaller groups are welcome anytime

From HOPE Longmont



From HOPE Longmont's newsletter. If you want to receive their newsletter and support their work, visit their website: <https://hopeforlongmont.org/>. You can also volunteer to help serve meals through HOPE at Heart of Longmont. See the Opportunities to Serve section below.

Program Data: 2025

We are incredibly proud to share that HOPE successfully housed 75 individuals, despite unexpected limitations in available housing.

None of this would have been possible without our incredible volunteers, who collectively dedicated

8,095 hours of service this past year!

What many may not realize is that HOPE delivers all of our programs while operating on roughly half the funding of other nonprofits of similar size, maximizing every dollar to serve our community with compassion and efficiency.

A Permanent Shelter, Boulder County Worthy Cause

We're excited to share that HOPE has been awarded a Matching Grant from Boulder County through the Worthy Cause program to help secure a permanent shelter space! Unlike traditional funding, a matching grant means HOPE must raise the required funds locally in

order to unlock the full award. To access the complete funding, HOPE is responsible for raising \$500,000, which will be matched through the Worthy Cause program to support the purchase of a permanent shelter. We are incredibly grateful and look forward to working alongside our community to make this vision a reality. [Click here to read more in the Longmont Times Call.](#)

From Longmont Food Rescue

2025 was another record breaking year for LFR, with **more food rescued and people fed than ever before!**

We rescued **more than 190,000 lbs of food in 2025**, enabling us to more than double our weekly free food distributions.

Starting in June, in partnership with the Senior Citizens Advisory Board, **we launched monthly free food distributions at the Longmont Senior Center**, where we distributed **9,500 lbs** of food to hundreds of seniors.

We welcomed **100+ new volunteers** to our team and together we were able to meet the **increase in people seeking our hunger relief services**, reaching 22% more people at our parking lot food distributions and 41% more people at Produce in the Park than in 2024.

Thank you to all our volunteers, donors, partners and supporters for helping us reach more people every year with our free food access programs.

PRODUCE IN THE PARK Collyer Park Free walk-up distribution 1 – 2 PM on the odd (1st, 3rd, and 5th) Sundays of each month. No forms to fill out or questions asked. Food is a variety of fresh fruit, vegetables, prepared deli foods, dairy, and bakery items, depending on that week's donations.



PRODUCE IN THE PARKING LOT Longmont YMCA Free drive-up food distribution 1 – 2 pm on the even (2nd and 4th) Sundays of each month. No forms to fill out or questions asked. Food is a variety of fresh fruit, vegetables, prepared deli foods, dairy, and bakery items, depending on that week's donations.

We will distribute from the south side of the parking lot along 9th Ave. If you enter from the Lashley side, turn right to line up along the south side of the parking lot. If you enter from 9th Ave turn left to get

to the southwest parking lot, in front of the YMCA preschool. All vehicles/bicycles will form a line, and food will be bagged ahead of time. Please do not exit your vehicle or approach volunteers; food will be brought to the vehicle.

SENIOR CENTER FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION Longmont Senior Center Free, indoor walk-up food distribution on the 2nd Saturday of each month 10 – 11:30 AM at the Longmont Senior Center. No forms to fill out or questions asked. Food is a variety of fresh fruit, vegetables, prepared deli foods, dairy, and bakery items, depending on that week's donations.

We strive for equity at all our distributions. Please bring your own standard size reusable bag to fill and join the line when you arrive. To help us ensure that everyone in our community has the opportunity to shop, limit is one bag at a time per household. If you would like an additional bag, we ask that you return to the back of the line. We will distribute food as long as supplies last.

From Longmont Food Rescue's email newsletter. If you want to receive their newsletter and support their work, visit their website:
<https://www.longmontfoodrescue.org>

From Rocky Mountain Equality



The following is from Rocky Mountain Equality's newsletter and blog. If you want to receive their newsletter, visit RMEQ's website rmequality.org to sign up. If you or loved one are LGBTQIA+ and need resources, visit <https://www.rmequality.org/resources> and reach out.

Looking Ahead in 2026

by Mark Lester (he/him)

As RMEQ continues our advocacy work this year, we are preparing to build off of the progress that was made in Colorado in 2025 and face new challenges in 2026.

That means we are pushing for Colorado to continue to be a leader in protecting people's right to live openly and authentically, while fighting back against continued attacks on LGBTQ+ people. 2026, like last year, will demand a lot from us. It is up to everyone to stand up for ourselves and each other, and to work together to fight back against discrimination.

At the state legislature

We are preparing for the next session of the Colorado General Assembly, which begins today, by working with community organizations and lawmakers to advance bills that will strengthen LGBTQ+ rights and provide protections for other underrepresented groups.

- We will strongly oppose any efforts at the state capitol to discriminate against or limit access to services for trans Coloradans or anyone else in our communities. In 2025, with our partners, we were able to defeat all seven anti-LGBTQ+ bills that were introduced in Colorado.

On Colorado ballots

Rocky Mountain Equality is also working in opposition to two ballot proposals being pushed by Protect Kids Colorado, an anti-trans organization that imports extreme policy measures from outside Colorado.

- These initiatives would ban transgender youth from playing sports with their friends and limit youth from receiving gender-affirming services supported by doctors and medical experts.
- RMEQ, along with community partners, is working to educate voters

about the danger of these measures and asking that Coloradans come together to protect transgender youth and their families from unnecessary and unfounded attacks.

At the federal level

Transgender rights will continue to face attack in 2026 through court cases, federal legislation, and administrative action. We will continue to voice our community's opposition to actions that challenge our freedom to exist.

- In 2025, the federal government has limited access to gender-affirming care, eliminated crucial funding for initiatives serving LGBTQ+ people, and erased recognition of transgender identities.
- RMEQ has responded by issuing comments on federal rules, signing onto amicus briefs in federal court cases, joining movement letters, and working with our federal

representatives to stand up for LGBTQ+ rights.

How you can help

Our advocacy work cannot happen without you. Your voice and your experiences help inform us where people's needs are and how we can most effectively fight for equality. We are stronger when we use our voices collectively, showing up, speaking out, and creating real and lasting change.

- Contacting your federal and state representatives is a great way to elevate LGBTQ+ issues and make your voice heard.
- Sign up for One Colorado's 2026 Lobby Day here if you want to learn how to directly engage with our Colorado state legislators.
- Subscribe to our newsletter to learn about opportunities to show up, speak out, and make a difference as they come up.

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.

TREVOEXT

Text "START" to 678678. Standard text messaging rates apply. A crisis intervention and suicide prevention phone service for LGBTQ young people under 25. Available Monday through Friday between 3pm – 10pm ET / Noon – 7pm PT

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE

Call 988

The Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential

support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals. También en español.

VETERANS HELPLINE

Call 988 and press 1. You're not alone—the Veterans Crisis Line is here for you. You don't have to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care to call.

FIND A HELPLINE

If you need help in any state or country, you can use findahelpline.com to find a help or crisis line that serves your area.



Recovery Café Longmont is a community of refuge and healing for people in recovery. Recovery Café Longmont supports adults as they rebuild their lives and recover from substance and/or alcohol use disorder, mental health challenges, trauma, and other life challenges. They strive to stand in the gap between crisis and stability by fostering community-building and life-empowerment.

If you or a loved one need help and support in recovery, contact Recovery Café at info@recoverycafelongmont.org or 720-815-2885

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



Give Online



Scan here to give to HOL programs
and compassion offering.
Thank you for your generosity!

Worship With Us!

Join us for worship every Sunday at 10:00 AM
in person or online on our YouTube channel!
We look forward to seeing you there!

Follow Us on Social Media!



www.youtube.com/HeartofLongmont



www.facebook.com/HeartofLongmont



[@heartoflongmont](https://www.instagram.com/heartoflongmont)



[@heartoflongmont](https://twitter.com/heartoflongmont)



[@heartoflongmont](https://www.tiktok.com/@heartoflongmont)

HOL Cares About Your Health

This is a precarious time for public health, and 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

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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.