



OCTOBER 2026

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR



Happy October, Heart of Longmont Family!

Ever since I was a little kid, I've loved carving pumpkins, wearing costumes, and listening to the colorful leaves crunch beneath

my feet. I've loved going to the corn maze with friends and taking trips to the farm to pick apples. October is my favorite month of the year and I'm excited to celebrate the autumn season with you.

In September, Russ and I took Micah to Disney World with Micah's Godparents, Anna and John Smith, and we had the BEST time. I've shared some of my favorite pictures with you from that trip. We dressed up like Star Wars characters during the Halloween party at Magic Kingdom and Micah enjoyed meeting some of the Winnie the Pooh characters. I also enjoyed all the pumpkin decorations at Magic Kingdom.

We've hit the ground running at Heart of Longmont with our fall programming, and I'm so encouraged by all our new ministries. In September, we held our first Midweek at the Heart, our monthly intergenerational dinner and discipleship night. Tricia Grafelman and Virginia Clingan made delicious pulled pork sandwiches and mac and cheese for everyone. After dinner, I played Methodist 101 Jeopardy with the adults and teenagers in the Chapel, while Jana

taught a lesson to the children and their parents in the Gallery. It was a lovely evening and we had 50 people attend! Our next Midweek at the Heart will be on Wednesday, October 7th from 5:30-7:00 pm. Everyone is invited to join us for an evening of food, fellowship, and growing in faith together.

My weekly Wednesday night class on Adam Hamilton's book *Revival* has also been filled with rich discussion, thoughtful insights, and lots of learning. I deeply resonated with Wesleyan theology, and I love getting to share my passion for all things Methodism. A big thanks to

for the children of our church and our neighbors throughout the Longmont area. We are going to need candy donations, as well as volunteers willing to help that afternoon. Whether you're willing to decorate your trunk and pass out treats, donate candy, or help us with some fun activities we have planned, I hope you'll join us for the fun.

Another exciting new ministry is NextGEN, a youth music program led by our very own DeAnna Clink. NextGEN is open to students in third through twelfth grade and meets on Sunday afternoons in the sanctuary from 3:00-

4:00 pm. From 3:00-3:30 pm, DeAnna teaches the students chimes, which are a wonderful introduction to handbells. From 3:30-4:00 pm, the students sing together as a choir. NextGEN began on Sunday, September 27th, but it's not too late for your student to get involved! Please contact DeAnna or the church office for more info.

I hope you'll mark your calendar for our annual Charge Conference on Sunday, November 15th, at 2:00 pm in our sanctuary. Charge Conference is our yearly all-church meeting with our district

superintendent Rev. Andy Dunning. During the meeting, we will discuss the



everyone who's been participating in the class on Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm. I love learning with all of you! Everyone is invited to join us on Wednesday, October 7th for dinner at 5:30 pm and more Wesleyan teaching in the Chapel at 6:00 pm. You do not need to have read the *Revival* book or have attended my class to participate that evening! All are welcome.

I'm happy to report Heart of Longmont will host our very own Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 25th from 4:00-6:00 pm in our beautiful new parking lot! This will be a wonderful community event



business and ministry of the church and vote on nominations for the coming year and my pastoral compensation package. We will also discuss goals for 2027 and celebrate the amazing ministry we did in 2026. Everyone is invited to attend, and childcare will be provided for this

meeting.

I am so honored I get to be your pastor. I love this congregation with all my heart, and I continue to be grateful for every opportunity to get to know you better.

As we move through this

beautiful month, may we soak up the colors of fall, breathe in the crisp autumn air, and enjoy all the wonderful traditions this season brings. Happy October, church family!

With Love and Gratitude,

— PASTOR ANGIE DORNISCH



IN THIS ISSUE

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- Upcoming events for the fall season! Save the dates!
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- Worshipful moments including touring the Black American West Museum and Heritage Center, Sunday Funday, and Blessing of the Animals!
- Protecting God's Creation
- And more!



This fall, our ***Rooted in Grace*** worship series is exploring ***the history of Methodism, the life and ministry of John Wesley,***

and the Wesleyan theology that continues to shape who we are today. This series will continue through Sunday, October 25, as we learn more about God's grace, the practices that sustain our faith, and what it means to live as United Methodists in the world today. It has been so much fun to explore our Methodist roots together and discover how Wesley's teachings still speak to our lives and our church! **We are also still looking for a few people to record a "John Wesley Fun Fact" for our weekly worship videos.** If you would be willing to record a fun fact, please see Haleigh Bird before or after worship in the tech booth.



A BASIC YOUTH UPDATE

from Emily Farrenkopf

There is always a lot of adjusting that happens this time of year in youth ministry. We're getting used to a group that looks a little different than it did just a few months ago. We miss the students who graduated and the personalities and energy they brought to our group. At the same time, we're welcoming new students, building new relationships, and figuring out who we are together this year. We're resetting group norms, settling back into our routines, and learning how this new version of our youth group fits together.

Change can sometimes feel a little uncomfortable, but it also brings so much opportunity. Each year, our group becomes something a little different as new students join, others step into leadership roles, and everyone grows. We lean into those adjustments while also looking forward to the traditions that keep us rooted; the familiar events, celebrations, service opportunities, and moments together that our youth look forward to year after year.

There is so much I'm excited about as we head into this new season!

Confirmation will be starting soon, and I'm especially looking forward to our Confirmation Retreat in October. Confirmation gives our students a chance to ask questions, explore what they believe, learn more about their faith and the church, and begin deciding what it means to make that faith their own. The retreat is always such an important opportunity to step away from everyday distractions and spend intentional time learning, talking, laughing, and building relationships together.

I'm also incredibly excited to

launch something that has become a bit of a “heart project” for me: Abundant Life, our new life skills program for ages 16–22.

The idea behind Abundant Life grew from wanting to help our young people feel a little more prepared for life beyond high school. There are so many things we expect young adults to know—managing money, getting a job, understanding insurance, cooking, caring for a home, navigating relationships, deciding whether college is the right path, exploring entrepreneurship, and so

much more—but we don’t always do a great job of intentionally teaching those skills.

The name comes from John 10:10: “I have come that you may have life, and have it abundantly.” My hope is that Abundant Life becomes a place where our young people can ask questions, learn practical skills from trusted adults, and gain confidence as they begin navigating adulthood. More than anything, I want them to know that an abundant life isn’t about having everything figured out. It’s about having the tools,

community, faith, and support to step into whatever comes next.

So while this season begins with some adjusting, I’m excited about where we’re headed. We’ll make room for what is new, hold onto the traditions that keep us rooted, and continue creating a place where our young people can grow in faith, in community, and into the people God is calling them to be.

Here’s to another year of growing together!

HELP FEED OUR BASIC YOUTH GROUP!

We’re looking for individuals or families to provide dinner for our BASIC Youth Group on Sunday evenings at 5:00 pm. We currently have openings in November and December. With close to 30 students participating, providing a meal is a wonderful way to support our thriving youth program! [Click here to sign up](#) or contact Emily Farrenkopf for more information. Thank you so much!

Next Gen MUSIC

A New Music Ministry for 3rd to 12th Graders

Sundays beginning September 27

Tone chime ensemble (pre-handbells) 3:00 PM to 3:30 PM

Choir 3:30 PM to 4:00 PM

Sign up at the Connection Center, children’s bulletin boards, or with Emily at BASIC

Contact DeAnna Clink if you have questions!

PRAYER SHAWLS

A Ministry of Comfort and Prayer

Are you feeling down, afraid, confused, don’t know which way to turn? On the ends of the pews in the Sanctuary are hand knitted prayer shawls, knitted by members of the congregation who pray as they make the shawl for a recipient, asking God to bring comfort, peace, and healing to whomever they are wrapped around. The shawls cannot be purchased but are given in love and prayer as a gift signifying God’s love and care to those going through any of life’s difficult times or life’s celebrations. Please take one with you and know that you will be wrapped in love



HAPPY FALL FROM CFM!

Hello, Heart of Longmont family!

Fall is here! I hope you are ready for a fun season. We have not one but two new music ensembles for kids and youth, thanks to the wonderful and talented DeAnna Clink. You will find more details about our Next Gen Music program below.

Fall Fun

On October 25 wear your Halloween costume to church! (Please refrain from overly scary costumes and makeup.) We will have a Trunk-or-Treat event on our beautiful new parking lot. Bring your kids for non-scary trick or treating, crafts and a Spooky Soup potluck!

HELP NEEDED:

- Candy donations
- Decorated trunks
- Bring a soup to share
- Help set up/clean up
- Help with crafts and games

Christmastime is (almost) here!

We will all blink twice and Advent will be upon us. We are looking for volunteers to help with Chrismon craft kits, Hanging of the Greens, and the Children’s Christmas Program. Please email jana@heartoflongmont.org if you are interested in helping. We will have sign-up sheets available in the Connection Center as well.

CFM Planning Team

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

Children’s Church Resources

Are you interested in following what the kids learn in Children’s Church? [Check out our weekly playlist](#) that includes the Bible verse and a Bible story video. You will be asked for basic information to create an account. This information is used for verification purposes only, you will not receive any spam.

Blessings,

— JANA, CFM DIRECTOR

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mondays at 10 AM to 12 PM Parents & Tots

Parents and children 0-5 are welcome to join us for a fun playtime and fellowship

Sundays at 3 PM to 4 PM

NextGen Music
3PM - 3:30PM Tone Chimes
3:30PM - 4:00PM Choir
Sign up: <https://heartoflongmont.breezechms.com/form/40960f>

October 2, 5:30 PM to 7 PM Midweek at Heart

We will have classes/activities for preschoolers, elementary school kids and preteens

October 15, 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM Pizza Playtime

Parents and children 0-8, siblings are welcome! Join us for a fun playtime and pizza dinner

October 25, 4 PM to 6 PM Trunk or Treat and Spooky Soup

Wear your Halloween costume to church

SAVE THE DATE:

Hanging of the Greens
Monday, November 23 at 6:00 PM

Children’s Christmas Program
Christmas Eve, December 24 at 4:00 PM

HEART OF LONGMONT PRESENTS TRUNK OR TREAT

with Spooky Soup

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 4PM-6PM

HEART OF LONGMONT PARKING LOT
350 11TH AVE LONGMONT



SUPPORT OUR MINISTRY



BE THE LIGHT! FUNDRAISER

We only have a few shopping bags and frisbees left! You can still receive a gift with your donation. Once they are gone, they are gone. Donation of \$25 or more: you get a beautiful reusable bag. Donation of \$5 or more:

a fun frisbee is all yours! You can write a check to HOL, with CFM in the memo line, donate cash, or [online](#).



GET A PERSONALIZED MESSAGE FROM LEONARD!

Would you like to send a short video message to that special someone who is a big fan of our friend Leonard E. Gator? Leonard will record a personalized message and text or email it to them for a small donation to CFM. To learn more, email leonard@heartoflongmont.org.



MOVING FROM DESIGN TOWARD CONSTRUCTION

Heart of Community Update

While there haven't been many visible signs of activity around our Heart of Community projects over the past couple of months, there has been plenty of work happening behind the scenes.

Our architect, designers, contractor, and project team have continued working through the details of the planned interior improvements. The rendering of Wesley Hall shown here is one example of that work and provides a glimpse of what we are working toward.

We are now approaching an important milestone: completion of approximately 90% design documents and a new, much more detailed construction cost

estimate. We expect to receive that estimate by mid-October.

Our project team will then have approximately two weeks to review the costs, ask questions, provide feedback, and determine our recommendation for moving forward. The plans will then move into the building permit process.

Our timetable remains ambitious. If the design, cost, and permitting processes stay on track, we remain hopeful that construction can begin shortly after the Christmas holidays.

The biggest remaining question is cost. This next estimate will give us a much clearer picture of where we stand. If costs

are reasonably aligned with the resources available through the campaign, we should be positioned to move forward. If they are significantly higher, we will need to revisit the scope and priorities before proceeding.

Either way, we are committed to making thoughtful decisions that balance our vision for the future with responsible stewardship of the generosity you have entrusted to this campaign.

Thank you for your continued patience, support, and engagement. There may not be much to see in the building right now, but important work continues—and we are getting closer to turning plans into reality.



WORKING TO PROTECT GOD'S CREATION

If you look at the front of our Sunday bulletin, you'll find this commitment among the ways we describe *Serving as the Heart of Longmont* means: **"We will work to protect God's creation."**

Earlier this year, that statement prompted some thoughtful conversations about what creation care means for Heart of Longmont—not simply as something we believe, but as something we practice.

In June, Leadership Council approved the formation of a small "Burst Team" to begin exploring that question. The team's work is intentionally broad at this point. We want to learn more about how creation care might influence the stewardship of our building and grounds, our use of energy and other resources, our ministries,

and the choices we make together as a congregation.

As we begin this work, these words help capture the spirit of what we hope to explore together:

We believe God's creation is a gift entrusted to our care. As people of faith, we are called to be faithful stewards of the earth and its resources, mindful that the choices we make today affect our neighbors, our community, and generations to come.

We want creation care to be an intentional part of our life together—through our ministries, the stewardship of our facilities and resources, and the choices we make as a congregation.

We hope to learn, explore, and act in ways that conserve resources, reduce our

environmental impact, and care responsibly for the world God has entrusted to us.

In doing so, we seek not only to care for our church home, but to live more fully into our calling to put more of God's love into the world.

This is the beginning of the conversation, not the conclusion. Over the coming months, the Burst Team will continue to learn and explore what creation care can look like at Heart of Longmont and identify practical opportunities for us to live more fully into our commitment to protect God's creation.

We look forward to sharing more as this work develops.

WORSHIPFUL MOMENTS

BLACK AMERICAN WEST MUSEUM AND HERITAGE CENTER TOUR

On Friday, August 28, several members of the Heart of Longmont congregation took a field trip to the Black American West Museum and Heritage Center in Denver. Through the museum's stories, artifacts, and exhibits, our group learned more about the often-overlooked role African Americans played in the settlement and development of the American West. We're grateful for this meaningful opportunity to learn together and honor this important history!



SUNDAY FUNDAY AT COLLYER PARK

On Sunday, September 13, we gathered in Colleyer Park for our annual SUNDAY FUNDAY CHURCH AND COMMUNITY PICNIC! What an amazing time it was in fellowship together with good food and conversation. Thank you to everyone who helped make this special gathering possible.



WORSHIPFUL MOMENTS

SUNDAY FUNDAY AT COLLYER PARK



WORSHIPFUL MOMENTS

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

On Sunday, September 27th we gathered at Athletic Park to bless the animals in our lives! Pastor Angie shared a message on the sacred gift animals are to us and gave every animal a blessing and a bandana with the HOL logo on it! Lots of treats for pets were passed out, too. It was a joyful time for all that attended!



MISSION & SERVICE AT HEART OF LONGMONT

from Amy Mann

There's Always a Way to Serve!

It's officially fall, and the Mission Design Team is revving up to close out the year with even more opportunities to learn, serve, give, and connect with our community.

We don't slow down at HOL! Just in the last month, we welcomed Jossy Martinez from El Comité for a fantastic educational session, served more than 100 of our neighbors at the OUR Center, and packed 53 Chef Hearty meal kits for our Wild Plum families. Thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered, cooked, packed, served, cleaned, learned, and showed up. Every act of service makes a difference!

Jeans Drive for HOPE – Extended Through October!

We have extended our Jeans Drive for HOPE (Homeless Outreach Providing Encouragement) through October.

As the weather grows cooler, our unhoused neighbors need warm, durable pants for everyday wear and work. If you have gently used jeans or cargo pants, please consider donating them. We especially need sizes ranging from 29/30 through 36/34.

You can find the donation bin in the gallery. New pants are welcome, too!

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is our October Compassion Offering. Your gifts will help support Habitat's work to create safe and affordable housing and strengthen families in our community.

Watch for additional information throughout the month about how you can support Habitat through your Compassion Offering and other opportunities to get involved.

Chef Hearty: Cooking Up Community

Thank you, Heart of Longmont! In August, we collected nearly \$4,000 for our Chef Hearty program.

Chef Hearty provides healthy meal kits to Wild Plum families, giving families the ingredients and opportunity to prepare meals together at home. And if you've helped us assemble kits recently, you may have noticed our wonderful new bags—thank you to Jana Yoder! If you have ideas on easy, inexpensive, healthy meals, please reach out to Tricia Grafelman at tricia@heartoflongmont.org with your suggestions.

Please consider stopping by after worship and lending a hand as we build our remaining Chef Hearty kits for 2026:

October 4 • November 1 • November 29

It doesn't take long, many hands make light work, and it's a wonderful way to connect with others while helping local families.

Serve at the OUR Center

Serving at OUR Center is one of our favorite ways to combine service and fellowship. On the second Saturday of each month, HOL joins our friends from Longs Peak UMC to prepare and serve a meal at the OUR Center. No cooking experience is necessary!

Volunteers can choose a roughly two-hour shift helping with meal preparation or serving and cleanup. It's fun, meaningful, and—trust us—almost painless! For more information, contact Amy Mann or [sign up here](#).

Save the Date! Recovery Café Thanksgiving Dinner: Wednesday, November 25

HOL will once again prepare and serve a special Thanksgiving Dinner for our neighbors at Recovery Café.

This has become a meaningful HOL tradition, and it takes the whole community to make it happen. We will need Thanksgiving food, place settings, volunteers, and plenty of people power to prepare, serve, and clean up.

Look for the full sign-up and details in next month's newsletter. Whether you can cook a dish, donate supplies, help set up, serve dinner, or wash a few dishes, there will be a way for everyone to participate.

Thank You for Showing Up

So far this year, our Compassion Offerings have supported the OUR Center, Days for Girls, UMCOR, our Gun Safe Giveaway, HOPE, Rocky Mountain Equality, Be the Source, Chef Hearty, and El Comité. Together, these organizations address needs ranging from hunger and homelessness to disaster relief, community safety, equality, education, and support for local families.

And the year isn't over yet! Our remaining Compassion Offerings will support Habitat for Humanity in October, Recovery Café in November, and Casa de Paz in December. Whether you donate a pair of jeans, pack a Chef Hearty bag, serve lunch at the OUR Center, contribute to a Compassion Offering, or spend a few hours serving Thanksgiving dinner, you are helping Heart of Longmont put our faith into action.

Thank you for continuing to show up for our neighbors and for one another. We have a busy few months ahead, and we can't wait to serve alongside you.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD DAY

Saturday, October 24 8 AM to 3 PM

Heart of Longmont has consistently participated in one or two Habitat Build Days a year but if you've never volunteered for a Habitat Build Day, rest assured that you don't have to be skilled and the tasks can be adapted to your physical abilities! We work in teams and support and learn together. Staff are on site to instruct and work with each mini-crew. You will be tired at the end of the day, but you learn useful construction skills and you are directly helping a family. If helping with the building part isn't your style, consider helping Amy Mann provide the lunch for our team. [Click here to sign up](#) or just email Tricia Grafelman to let her know you would like to help.

The St. Vrain Habitat for Humanity's Mission is seeking to put God's love into action, bringing people together to build homes, communities, and hope.

NEW ADVENTURERS STUDY

The Adventurers adult discussion group's fall study (which started on September 13) will go through November (until the Advent study) and is an oldy but a goody! Rob Bell put out a small group bible study video series in 2012 called *NOOMA*. The name NOOMA comes from a phonetic spelling of the Greek word pneuma, meaning "wind or spirit". There are 24 videos but the class will only be doing 12 of them. We watch a video at the beginning of class and this provides a springboard for discussion. The videos "stand alone" and you do NOT have to attend all the classes in order and you can pop in for one or two or more as you schedule allows. This class meets at 8:45 am on Sunday mornings in the Parlor. For more information, contact Tricia Grafelman at tricia@heartoflongmont.org.

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR

October 11 at 11:15 AM to 12:15 PM in the Parlor

New to our church? We'd love to get to know you! Join us for Coffee with the Pastor, a relaxed time to meet our pastor and connect with others who are new to our church. Over coffee, tea, snack,s and conversation, you'll have a chance to:

- Learn more about who we are and what we value as a progressive United Methodist church
- Discover ways to get involved in service and community outreach
- Hear about small groups, ministries, and opportunities to grow in faith
- Meet other people who are finding their way into our church community
- Ask questions and get to know Pastor Angie in an informal setting

Whether you've been attending for a few weeks or are just beginning to feel at home, you're invited!



ANNUAL BUMMP SALMON SALE

The "Boulder United Methodist Mission Partners" is a volunteer mission group that represents a group of United Methodist churches in the southern part of the Colorado Front Range District of the Mountain Sky Conference.

Current participating churches include First UMC of Boulder, St. Paul's UMC (Boulder), Mountain View UMC (Boulder), Broomfield UMC, First UMC of Longmont (Heart of Longmont), First UMC of Lafayette, Erie UMC, First UMC of Windsor, Longs Peak UMC (Longmont), Niwot UMC, Rinn UMC (Frederick), CU Wesley Foundation (Boulder), Louisville UMC, Hygiene UMC, and Lyons Community Church. These 16 churches reap the benefits of BUMMP by the grants they provide mission groups. Both our Youth and Adult mission trips benefit from BUMMP funds. Salmon sales are their only fundraiser for the year. Salmon is donated from one of the members' connections in Alaska.

If you want a little taste of Alaska and can't make your own trip to fish, process, and bring your own salmon home, we invite you to sign up to receive some! There is a sign up at the Connection Center.



COMPASSION OFFERINGS

October
Habitat for Humanity

November
Recovery Café

December
Casa de Paz



2027 MISSION TRIPS TO GUATEMALA

It is with great joy and excitement that we can announce details about our spring adult mission trip to the Lake Atitlan Region of Guatemala. This will be our 3rd year serving with the amazing people of San Juan and San Pablo and specifically with the ODIM team. The Opportunities for the Development of the Indigenous Maya work diligently to make a difference in their own community, serving those that have very little.

From their website: *“ODIM is a non-profit organization in Guatemala working to make this world a better place. We firmly believe that comprehensive, competent, and compassionate healthcare and education*

are possible even in the poorest places on earth. We believe that working alongside the people of San Pablo La Laguna and San Juan La Laguna is better than doing it alone. We believe there are many people in the world who share our vision, and it is to you that we offer the opportunity to collaborate as volunteers, donors, and allies. With this conviction, we can achieve great things”

Those of us at the Heart of Longmont that have gone on one of these trips before know how much our own hearts grow while serving beside the ODIM team, and it is true that we can achieve great things together with people that want the best for

all; for the least of these, not just for those that can afford quality healthcare.

Our primary task while in Guatemala is installing well-ventilated wood burning stoves in homes so that women and children particularly don't have to inhale the smoke from the three meals cooked per day in cinderblock homes. These more efficient stoves as well as Ecofilter water systems help combat the respiratory and intestinal illnesses that are so common in the region.

Want to learn more? Interested in traveling with our group? Contact Tricia Grafelman or Pastor Angie Dornisch!



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.

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.



Celebrating 40 Years of Impact — and Looking Ahead



September marks 40 years of OUR Center supporting our neighbors moving toward self-sufficiency. Since 1986, OUR Center has walked alongside tens of thousands of families and individuals across the St. Vrain Valley; addressing urgent needs while strengthening the foundations for lasting stability.

As Executive Director for the past seven years, I have seen the amazing power of the center's mission in action every day. Meals served, groceries provided, housing kept stable, children nurtured in a high-quality early education setting, and people connected to the resources and skills that helped them take the next step towards self-reliance resulting in greater stability. Behind every number is a neighbor, co-worker, friend and family member who found support when it mattered, and a community that chose to

show up for one another.

That same commitment carried us through moments of extraordinary challenge, including the 2013 flood and the COVID-19 pandemic. In those times, demand rose sharply and circumstances shifted quickly, yet our team, volunteers and donors quickly adapted so that community members in need continued to receive the help they needed. Today, needs continue to be at unprecedented levels, and the resilience we demonstrated was a direct result of the steady, day-to-day impact we have built over four decades.

Looking forward, we remain focused on deepening that impact. Today, September 1, we officially open the doors to our second Aspen Center location at Ascent at Hover Crossing, one of Longmont's newest affordable housing communities. The site will expand access to high-quality early education, prioritizing residents of this affordable housing community and income-qualified families from the broader Longmont area, with a significant portion of slots available on a sliding scale. By placing care and learning where families live, we aim to

remove barriers, support working parents, and give more children a strong start in life.

I want to acknowledge and express deep gratitude to everyone who has made—and continues to make—the OUR Center a special place: our dedicated staff, amazing volunteers, generous donors, committed partners, board members, and the many community members who believe in our mission. Because of you, we are able to provide a safe and welcoming hub for any household that has hit a bump in the road or is working toward breaking the generational cycle of poverty.

The needs in our community will continue to evolve, and so will we; always guided by the same purpose that has sustained us for four decades. Thank you for being part of this story. Your partnership makes the difference.

From OUR Center's newsletter. If you want to receive their newsletter and support their work, visit their website:

<https://www.ourcenter.org/>.

You can also volunteer to help serve a meal for OUR Center through Heart of Longmont.



3 Policies on the Ballot in Colorado Are Misleading and Dangerous

Micah Caswell (they)—September 16

This November, Colorado voters will decide on three ballot measures that target LGBTQ+ people and immigrant communities: Amendment 81, Proposition 134, and Proposition 135.

These proposals weren't born here in Colorado though. They're copy-pasted from a playbook being pushed in states across the country, and we are being treated as the next testing ground.

All three measures are written to sound reasonable, even protective, despite the real-life impacts they will have. That's not an accident. They are designed to make people think they're good ideas without looking too closely at what's actually inside them. So let's look closely.

Proposition 134: Not About Fair Sports

Proposition 134 would require all 179 school districts in Colorado, along with universities

and athletic associations, to adopt invasive gender check policies, effectively banning transgender kids from playing sports with their peers and opening the door for all kids to be questioned about their gender and body. No exceptions. It doesn't matter how old they are or how long they've been on the team. This applies from kindergarten all the way through college.

Sports are supposed to give kids a way to belong, a way to learn how to work together, and most importantly a way to have fun. Supporters say this measure is about protecting girls' sports. But at the same time, one of the national organizations peddling policies like this one across the country is also working to weaken Title IX, the very policy that guarantees women and girls equal access to sports.

This isn't about girls' sports. It's about excluding trans kids, and it leaves schools and districts to figure out enforcement and funding with no state guidance on how far the checks could reach.

Proposition 135: Not About Surgeries

Proposition 135 would insert government into what should be private family decisions made with support from actual doctors. It would restrict the age-appropriate, gender-

affirming care that parents can access for their own kids, even families who have done everything right: had extensive discussions with doctors, gotten evaluations, and made careful decisions together as a family.

Supporters say this measure is about stopping surgeries. But the measure's language reaches far beyond that, naming providers licensed in chiropractic care, physical therapy, podiatry, pharmacy, dentistry, psychology, mental health therapy, and other healing arts. Vague language like this doesn't stay contained to the procedures its supporters describe. It opens the door to removing access to far more, including mental health support for kids.

This isn't about surgeries. It's about giving government more power over a child's medical care than the parents and doctors who actually know that child.

Amendment 81: Not About Safety

Amendment 81 would overturn current state law and permanently amend the Colorado Constitution, forcing local law enforcement to report people to ICE based on charges alone, not convictions. Someone accused, not proven guilty of anything, could lose everything: their freedom, their family, their life here just because they can't immediately

provide proof of citizenship.

This measure bakes discrimination into our state constitution. It invites profiling of all Coloradans, because citizenship status can't always be verified on the spot. People could be reported based on appearance, accent, language, or background. And it makes immigrant communities afraid to report a crime or cooperate with police, which makes every single one of us less safe.

This isn't about public safety. It's federal government overreach, handing authority that should belong to local communities and local law enforcement over to the Department of Homeland Security and ICE, with no safeguards.

The Same Pattern, Three Times
Look closely and you'll see all three measures



Casa Guests in August

For the month of August, our volunteers handed out 538 snack bags to families, and we had 18 pizza donations. We welcomed 192

individuals being released from Aurora GEO, with 122 coming to Casa!



We got SO close that I think we call it a win!

Our goal for this mid-year campaign was \$45,000. We got SO close that I think we call it a win!

With your help, and the help of 111 other donors, we raised \$43,553.75 – just \$1,450 short of our goal. If there is a donor out there who wants to help us inch closer to that goal, we would gratefully accept additional gifts! And if not, I think that is, as they say, good enough for government work! And, we have much to celebrate!

Of our 111 donors to the campaign this year, 10 were new donors! All of you, new donors and those who have always been

follow the same pattern: they take decisions and authority that should belong to families, doctors, local communities, or local law enforcement and hand it to the government instead. They're written broadly and vaguely, without clear enforcement guidance, which isn't an accident. It invites the widest possible reach and the fewest safeguards. Who enforces this? How are decisions made? What happens when someone gets it wrong? What safeguards actually exist? Voters deserve real answers to these questions, and these measures continue to offer more questions than answers.

These are attacks on the core Colorado values of freedom and privacy – values that Coloradans across the political spectrum share. And Coloradans deserve to decide their own future, not have it written

Among the releases there were 45 countries represented: Afghanistan, Argentina, Belarus, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Russia, Senegal, Serbia, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, Vietnam, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe!

beside us, have helped us move towards adding a legal assistant to the team. That is a win in every way.

You fill my heart every year by standing with us and standing up for our participants. Thank you!

Finally, I want to say a heartfelt and specific thank you to our supporters.

In 2025 we served 2,888 people providing them with over 4000 unique services. We were able to do that because individual donors like you made up 52% of our revenue.

Your generosity has allowed us to demonstrate to our participants that systems can be responsive to their needs and that people in the community are willing to stand up for them. Your support helped people stay housed, lowered stress levels, and contributed to their sense of belonging.

for them by outside interests running the same playbook state to state.

And we can protect our future by voting in the November 3 election. Make sure you're registered to vote. Make sure you fill out your ballot when it comes in the mail. And make sure you turn your ballot in before 7pm on November 3. Learn more at rmequality.org/hands-off-colorado

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.

[Check out our complete August Welcome Team Monthly Report.](#)

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

It is a fact: without you, we couldn't do half of what we do now. Thank you for investing in us, our work, and the community.

Warm Regards,
Lisa Moreno

P.S. If you want to take a deeper dive into our work, please email Berry Kone, our newest staff member, at Berry@elcomitedelongmont.org. She'd love to buy you a coffee or set up a time with me.

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.](#)

UW FAITH 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!

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.

Tuesdays at 12:00 PM. Bring your lunch!

Brotherhood and Brews A relaxed space for guys in their 20s through 50s to connect over conversation, life, and a cold drink. We meet twice a month. Contact the church office for more information.

Parents & Tots Group For parents and their kids ages 0-8. Mondays, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Heart of Longmont.

Midlife Meetup, Heart & Humor A new offering for women in their 40s-50s meeting in homes the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Starts August 18 at 6:00 PM at Tricia Grafelman's home.

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

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

Pack and UnPack Join Pastor Angie to discuss last Sunday's sermon or other special topics

WE ARE A COMMUNITY THAT PRAYS
Send your prayer requests to prayers@heartoflongmont.org

SUBMISSIONS?
Do you have something to share with our community? Send it to digitalcontent@heartoflongmont.org!



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Meals for Youth Group Meetings
If you can help provide, serve, and clean up [meals for the youth group](#) on Sunday evenings this year, sign up at the Connection Center or contact the church office!

Blessing Box
The Heart of Longmont's food pantry, the Blessing Box, would be happy to receive any of your non-perishable, still in date food items! You can drop them off just inside the side door of the church in the "Blessing Box" cabinet.

Days for Girls
For our continuing project of providing

menstrual health kits for girls in developing countries, we are in need of Girls' Underpants in sizes 10, 12, and 14. Brief style and 100% cotton only! Please put them in the Days for Girls drawer in the Gallery. Thanks for helping us keep the girls in school!

Are You Interested in Helping Out on Sunday Mornings?
There are opportunities to serve Sunday mornings during and after worship! We need greeters and folks to help out with hospitality and coffee hour/fellowship time. Contact the church office if you are able to help!

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

Serving Meals at the OUR Center
To serve a meal shift at the Our Center with our friends from Longs Peak UMC on the second Saturday of the month, please sign up by [clicking here](#) or contact Amy Mann.

Produce in the Park

Collyer Park

Odd weeks (1st, 3rd, 5th)

Longmont Food Rescue

Sundays @ 1pm

Produce in the Parking Lot

YMCA

Even weeks (2nd & 4th)

Free Food for Seniors 55+

Longmont Senior Center

910 Longs Peak Ave

2nd Saturdays 10-11:30am

The Senior Citizens Advisory Board & Longmont Food Rescue

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, 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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office@heartoflongmont.org

The Heart of Longmont office is open
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

www.heartoflongmont.org

OUR MISSION

Putting More of God's Love Into The World; Helping all persons find deeper meaning and God's purpose for their lives as committed Christ-followers.

Serving as the Heart of Longmont means:

We will welcome all persons, without reservation or judgment, just as Jesus Christ would do.

We will work tirelessly by entering into intentional acts of compassion and social justice to make our community a place where God's love is known by all, where poverty and deprivation are unknown by any, and where respect for the worth and dignity of each person is the norm.

We will respect and honor other religious traditions while choosing Christ as our way of knowing God best.

We will emphasize life-long learning so that we may engage our world from a dynamic and creative perspective.

We will work to protect God's creation.

We will practice stewardship of all aspects of our lives, including time, talent, financial resources, and spiritual gifts.