

*Where faith
and reason are
compatible.*



Pulse
of the Heart of Longmont

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Celebrating the pew - by Sandi Austin



While growing up attending church, our children (and perhaps even WE) used to crawl over, hide under, sleep on, and play peek-a-boo with the person behind them on this sanctuary furniture with the strange name ... pew.

So where did this strange name originate? A search of the internet revealed this: "Pew" comes from the Middle English word "pewe," which comes from the Old French "puye" or "puie," meaning balcony or elevation. (This "elevated" seating was originally reserved for women and men of importance.) This, in turn, came from the Latin "podia," the plural of "podium."

Did you get all that? (There will be a quiz.)

In the very beginning of church get-togethers, people didn't sit at all. It was "standing room only." The church didn't use pews for over a thousand years. Then, in the 13th Century, the first seating opportunity came along. It was in the form of backless stone benches. (Ouch!) They were originally placed against the walls and, over time, were placed in the center of the room.

By the 15th Century, the Reformation was happening and the pulpit was introduced as the focal point of the church. It was in the pews that people were to sit and focus on the pulpit and sermon ... unless they were small children, of course. Which made me wonder, "when did they invent church nurseries?"

Some of the 17th and 18th century church pews were a raised "box pew" that isolated the users, and had enclosures with doors. An entire family could be given the private space with seats facing each other. This was, perhaps, so that mothers could give the "death stare" to their misbehaving children?

These days, there are churches turning away from pews in favor of more comfortable, theatre-like seating. But we need to resist this movement in

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favor of those familiar wooden fixtures that, by the way, now have seat padding. Now, isn't that better?

Pews are a tradition, and that can be a comforting thing. You may occupy one end of a pew while another person occupies the other end. There's nobody between you, but you are sharing one space, just as you are sharing one God.

You expect to see rows of pews in a church sanctuary – that's how you grew up. Besides, where would our kids climb, sleep, hide or play "Peek-a-boo?"

Oh, wait. We have nurseries now.

Assistance with communion set-up is needed!



Our church is in need of volunteers willing to set up communion each Sunday. If we have two people/ couples per month then your responsibility would only be about 6 times per year. I would be happy to train new people and the time involvement is minimal. Please

prayerfully consider your willingness to help with this task. Call or text Edy-Kay Ward for more information at [303-882-9209](tel:303-882-9209). Thank you!

Boy Scout Troop 64 - Pancake Breakfast!



Boy Scout Troop 64 is hosting a Pancake Breakfast at Heart of Longmont. The menu includes pancakes, eggs, sausage, orange juice, milk, coffee and tea. Come out for some great breakfast with some great people on Sunday, **November 11, 7 am to 10 am** in Wesley Hall. Suggested admission is \$7, all donations are welcome!

Safety Team Update



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

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

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

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

Doug Palmer, delegate to the Special Called General Conference to speak Nov. 18



**WELCOME
DOUG
PALMER**

*Sunday,
November 18,
10 am*

Doug Palmer was elected as a delegate to the 2016 General Conference of the United Methodist Church that took place in Portland Oregon. Out of that conference, a special called General Conference has been designated for February 23-26 in St. Louis. Doug will be part of the delegation that will be voting at this special conference.

Doug, who is the son of Darcy and David Palmer will be with us in worship on

Sunday, November 18 at 10:00 am to discuss what this special conference is all about, who is voting, what are the various plans that will be debated and voted on and the implications all this has for the local church.

November Compassion Offering



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

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

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

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

If you are in the church this week, stop by the Hospitality Desk and pick up a Micah Homes flyer and use the form on the back to donate. Monetary donations can also be made by making a check payable to The Inn Between of Longmont or by paying online at www.theinnbetween.org.

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

Go to <https://www.theinnbetween.org/micah-homes-project.html> for more info.

Children's Christmas Program



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

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

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

Annual Chili Cook-off



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

Winners receive trophies as well as bragging rights.

Prospective New Member Luncheon



On **Sunday, December 9**, right after the worship service, we will have an informational luncheon to learn more about the United Methodist Church and Heart of Longmont, up to and including membership. You will be able to meet some of our team leaders, and Pastor David will share his faith story and answer any questions. Pizza and salad from Abos will be served, and childcare will be provided. You may sign up at the Hospitality Center, or feel free to make last minute plans to attend.

Decorating for the Holidays



Please consider helping for about 2 hours, on Wednesday, November 28, after the UMW Family Christmas Dinner (around 7 pm) to decorate our church in preparation for Advent. Please see the sign-up sheet at the Hospitality Center. Questions? Call Kathy Bradley at **720-352-0757**.

Cats will be cats!

A German Shepherd, a Doberman and a cat have died.

All three are faced with God, who wants to know what they believe in.

The German Shepherd said, "I believe in discipline, training and loyalty to my master."

"Good," said God. "Then sit down on my right side."

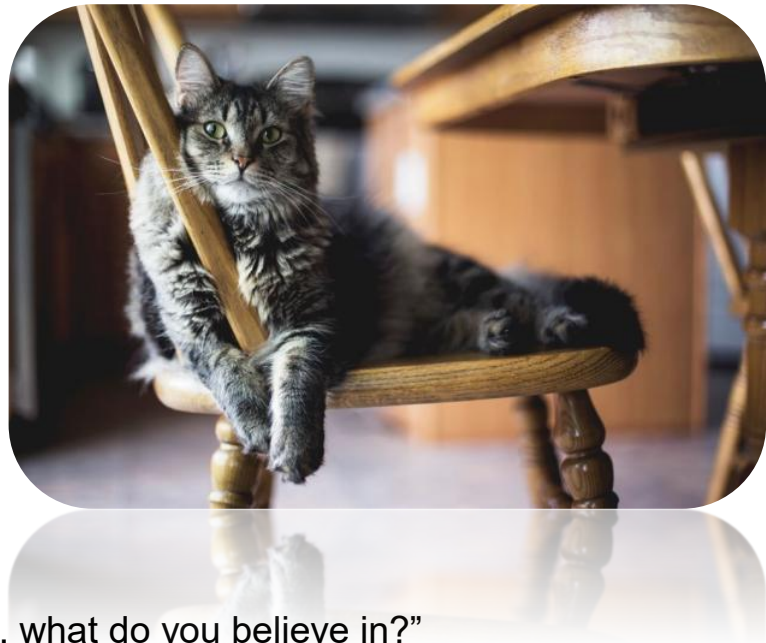
Then God said, "Doberman, what do you believe in?"

The Doberman answered, "I believe in the love, care and protection of my master."

"Aha!" said God, "you may sit to my left."

Then God looked at the cat and asked, "And what do YOU believe in?"

The cat answered, "I believe you're sitting in my seat."



The St. Vrain Circuit Charge Conference will take place **November 10 from 10 am to noon** at Rinn UMC, 3783 Bella Rosa Pkwy, Frederick, CO 80504. Call **(303) 776-1578** for more information. The charge conference directs the work of the church and gives general oversight to the church council, reviews and evaluates the mission and ministry of the church, sets salaries for the pastor and staff, elects the members of the church council, and recommends candidates for ordained ministry.

UMW Family Christmas Dinner



The Heart of Longmont United Methodist Women will be hosting the UMW Family Christmas Dinner this year on Wednesday, November 28, in celebration of the holidays. A full meal of ham, cheesy potatoes, green beans, ambrosia salad and a variety of cupcakes will be served. Each person will also receive a Christmas ornament and Santa will be leading a sing-a-long of Christmas carols after the meal. We will begin serving between 5:30 and 6:15 PM. Tickets will go on sale this Sunday, \$5 for adults and \$3 for children aged 2-10. Don't forget to join us afterwards to decorate the church for the holidays.

SERMON *videos*

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