



SEPTEMBER 2025

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Heart of Longmont Family,

I can hardly believe it's already been two months since we began ministry together. In this short time, I have been deeply

blessed by the warmth, generosity, and hospitality of this congregation. From the "Meet and Greet" gatherings, to the I've Been Meaning to Ask worship series, to Tuesday's "Pack and Unpack" class, and all the church activities we've shared, I've loved every opportunity to get to know you. This time together has been a true gift, and I am so grateful I get to be your pastor.

This September, we're in an inspiring worship series called **How We Learn to Be Brave**, based on Bishop

Mariann Edgar Budde's book of the same name. Throughout this series, we'll explore what it means to live as brave people of faith...not just in extraordinary moments, but in the everyday decisions that shape our lives. In her book, Bishop Budde outlines four major types of courage: the courage to go, to stay, to start, and to accept. Along the way, we'll reflect on how we persevere through disappointment and rise when it's time to step up and speak out. We'll celebrate biblical figures like Esther, Deborah, and Paul, as well as modern examples of courage, and we'll ask ourselves: "What new thing is God calling us to in this season? Where is God inviting us to courageously act in spite of fear?"

Another exciting event we're having in September is **Sunday Funday on September 7th!** I pray you and your loved ones will be able to attend. Everyone is invited to bring a friend to

worship that morning, and we'll head over to Collyer Park right after the service for lunch, bingo, face painting, bouncy house jumping, ice cream sundaes, and more. It's going to be a wonderful celebration to kick off our fall programming together.

One of the things you might not know about me is that I LOVE the fall. I love the crisp mornings, the bright colors of the leaves on the trees, the pumpkin spiced lattes, and the new energy autumn brings. I'm so eager to share this first September with you! Please know I am praying for each one of you and giving thanks for the opportunity to grow our faith as the body of Christ this fall. May we journey into September with excitement, passion, and gratitude.

All My Love,

REV. ANGIE DORNISCH

IN THIS ISSUE

- New Sermon Series!
- Worshipful Moments from this summer
- The Sand Creek Massacre: Why It Still Matters
- Youth Mission Trip to West Virginia
- Heart of Community Update
- Prayers for Reading the News
- This is Our Story by Vannary Oun
- UWF Updates
- Sunday Funday is coming - September 7!
- From Our Partners

HOW WE LEARN TO BE BRAVE

AUGUST 17 - OCTOBER 5, 2025

How We Learn To Be Brave is a sermon series inspired by the powerful book by Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde, and we invite anyone who would like to read along with us to do so! Purchase your copy from your local bookstore, Bookshop.org, Barnes and Noble, or Amazon or borrow a copy from your local library or the Libby app. If you are able, please buy your book locally or from a non-Amazon retailer. If you prefer, the church office can place an order for you.

We're looking forward to reflecting together on how faith gives us the courage to live boldly and love deeply. Thank you for being part of this journey with us.

WORSHIPFUL MOMENTS...



Marlen Steward teaching Davon Cook how to ring the church chimes.



Pastor Angie's first Sunday!



Children's Time with Pastor Angie.



Intergenerational Folk Dancing Night!



Rockies Faith Day, August 3



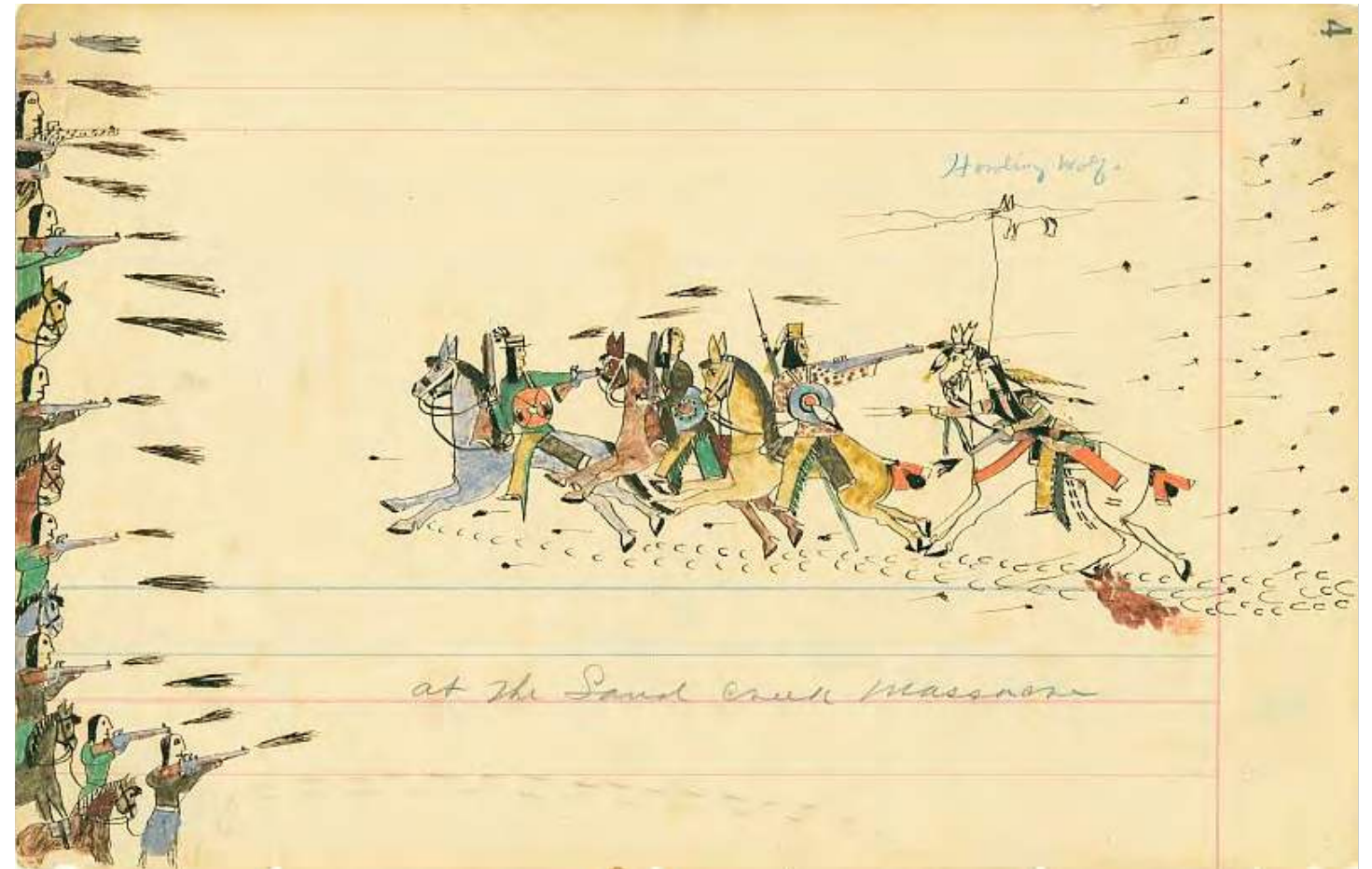
UWF building Days for Girls menstrual health kits.



The HOL Hiking Group!



Dick Elder singing with the HOL Bell Choir.



Depiction of the Sand Creek Massacre by Cheyenne eyewitness and artist Howling Wolf (Ho-na-nist-to). Circa 1875. Public domain.

THE SAND CREEK MASSACRE: AN OVERVIEW

BY D. Towry

A BRIEF HISTORY AND WHY IT STILL MATTERS

THE MASSACRE

In early 1864, to say tensions between Native Americans and white colonialists in the Colorado territory were running high would be an understatement. Years of colonial expansion and government policy had driven the indigenous people of the west from their ancestral lands and hunting grounds, which was bad enough, and unprovoked attacks by US Army Volunteer forces on Cheyenne villages in 1864 heaped on more insult and injury. The skirmishes poured sparks on too dry tinder.

In June 1864, the Hungate family

were found killed and their farm burned. The discovery sent the white settlers of the Denver area into a panicked uproar over fear of Native American attacks. Enlistments in the militia jumped and general sentiments towards indigenous people, already bloodthirsty, became even bloodier. Colorado Territorial Governor, John Evans, directed any "friendly Indians" to report to their nearest agents to be taken to "places of safety", all but stating that killings would occur.

The rhetoric didn't cool. In August 1864, Governor Evans issued a proclamation to the "Citizens of

Colorado", wrapping them in a single, white identity against a non-white other, authorizing them to "kill and destroy, as enemies of the country, wherever they may be found...hostile Indians." The US War Department gave Evans the authority to raise a third regiment of volunteers to "pursue, kill and destroy all hostile Indians that infest the Plains."

How was one to know who was "friendly" and who "hostile"? Short answer: It didn't seem to matter. Many attacks had already been made against peaceful Native Americans. In the white colonialist project of manifest destiny, there was no room for the indigenous

people of the Plains to remain.

Come September, the situation was at a crisis. Leaders of the Cheyenne and Arapaho debated amongst themselves the wisdom of continuing a protracted engagement against the white settlers and US government. A “peace faction” was created, and a delegation of tribal leaders reached out for peace to protect their people. They contacted Major Edward Wynkoop at Fort Lyon, outside Denver, and told him they wished to negotiate for peace and would give up white captives in exchange. Major Wynkoop was sympathetic to their cause and agreed to help broker peace talks with the territory government.

Wynkoop and a detachment of his men escorted the chiefs to the meeting, guaranteeing them safe passage to Camp Weld, near Denver, where talks would be held. Black Kettle, White Antelope, and Bull Bear represented the Cheyenne and Neva, Bosse, Heaps of Buffalo, and No-ta-nee represented the Arapaho. Territorial Governor Evans presided over the meeting and Colonel John Chivington, who played the leading role in the atrocities that were to come, was in attendance.

Despite Wynkoop's efforts and the tribal leaders' good faith, negotiations failed. Governor Evans was a half-hearted participant at best. He told the chiefs that, because they were considered “at war,” they must continue negotiations with the US Military as the territorial government didn't have the authority to make peace. If the tribal leaders truly wanted an end to hostilities, they were to give themselves up at Fort Lyon and wait for negotiations to continue.

By mid-October, around 750 Cheyenne and Arapaho had gathered at Sand Creek, on the northern edge of the Upper Arkansas Reservation. Major Wynkoop ensured they were treated fairly and left in peace but, by November, because he left his post to facilitate the meeting between the Native American leaders and Governor Evans, he was relieved of his command at Fort Lyon and told to report to Fort Riley in Kansas. He instructed his successor on how to treat with the Native Americans peacefully and departed.

Colonel Chivington arrived at Fort Lyon with the volunteer cavalry a short time after Major Wynkoop had departed. He had not been given orders to leave Denver, where he was posted, but had left of his own accord for Fort Lyon. After his arrival, he ordered guards posted at the entrances and exits of the fort to prevent word of the force's arrival from reaching the Cheyenne and Arapaho encampment at Sand Creek.

At 8:00 PM on November 28, 1864, Colonel Chivington departed Fort Lyon under the cover of darkness with the 1st and 3rd Regiments Colorado Volunteer Cavalry. They rode north towards the encampment at Sand Creek with a force that included 675 men and four 12-pounder mountain howitzers.

In the frigid dawn of November 29, Chivington ordered a surprise attack on the encamped Cheyenne and Arapaho.

The attacking soldiers murdered over 230 Cheyenne and Arapaho people, including 150 women, children, and older adults. The soldiers mutilated the dead and took trophies.

A single paragraph does little justice to the horrors committed that day.

The general response to reports of the massacre among white settlers and colonialists was celebratory, but a few were outraged. Captain Silas Soule and Lieutenant Joseph Cramer, both of whom were at Sand Creek and refused to participate in the massacre, wrote to their former commander, Major Wynkoop, describing the attack and expressing their horror at what happened. Wynkoop was appalled by the news. He made copies of the letters and sent them to many military commanders and political figures, opening the way for official investigations into the attack.

Despite the investigation, and a shift in public opinion from joy to horror, no one was brought to justice. Evans was forced to resign his governorship in 1865

but otherwise saw no repercussions for the direct effect his policies had in paving the way for the massacre. Colonel Chivington also faced no justice, despite censure by the investigating committee. When questioned, both defended and justified the massacre.

Captain Soule was murdered in Denver for his part in testifying against those who participated in the massacre. His killers never faced justice. Major Wynkoop condemned the massacre and became a harsh critic of government policy. He became an Indian agent and continued to work with Native Americans peacefully.

The Arapaho and Cheyenne suffered losses that numbers alone don't convey. Survivors who escaped the massacre hid and tended their wounded. Some didn't survive. Those who were able made their way to other camps. Many tribal leaders of the peace faction were killed in the attack, dividing opinion further between whether they should continue to seek peace or if they should pursue war. Chief Black Kettle continued to seek for peace.

THE METHODISTS - JOHN EVANS AND COL. JOHN CHIVINGTON

Two of the men involved in the road to and commission of the Sand Creek massacre, Governor John Evans and Colonel John Chivington, were Methodists.

John Evans had amassed for himself a fair amount of wealth and political power by the time Abraham Lincoln appointed him as the Governor of the Colorado Territory in 1862. He had been raised a Quaker, but converted to Methodism after hearing a talk from Bishop Matthew Simpson. Evans was one of the founders of Northwestern University and the University of Denver.

Northwestern University formed a committee in 2014 to investigate how culpable Evans was for the massacre at Sand Creek. They found no evidence that he helped plan the attack, nor that he knew it was going to happen. He was, however, according to the report, responsible for making way for the massacre by this “half-hearted at best” attempts to make peace, his policies of driving all Native Americans out of the Colorado Territory, his responses to the skirmishes and attacks early in 1864, and his conduct at the Camp Weld meeting. Afterward, he never criticized the attack but continued to defend and rationalize it.

John Chivington was an ordained minister in the Methodist church. Before his military service, he served as a missionary to the Wyandotte people in Kansas and preached in Missouri until he was frozen out of the community because of his abolitionist sentiments. He joined the military and served for the Union in the Civil War and was known to give fiery speeches about the rightness of killing Confederate rebels.

Chivington was the architect of the Sand Creek Massacre and owned his part in it proudly. Regarding the massacre, Congress' Joint Committee on the Conduct of War wrote:

As to Colonel Chivington, your committee



John Evans, circa 1860-1870. From the Colorado State Archives.

can hardly find fitting terms to describe his conduct. Wearing the uniform of the United States, which should be the emblem of justice and humanity; holding the important position of commander of a military district, and therefore having the honor of the government to that extent in his keeping, he deliberately planned and executed a foul and dastardly massacre which would have disgraced the veriest savage among those who were the victims of his cruelty. Having full knowledge of their friendly character, having himself been instrumental to some extent in placing them in their position of fancied security, he took advantage of their inapprehension and defenceless condition to gratify the worst passions that ever cursed the heart of man. It is thought by some that desire for political preferment prompted him to this cowardly act; that he supposed that by pandering to the inflamed passions of an excited population he could recommend himself to their regard and consideration.

Chivington had political aspirations, but the turning tide of public reaction to the brutality of Sand Creek effectively killed his political career. He stood by his decision to murder the Arapaho and Cheyenne at Sand Creek until his death.

RELIGION, THE UMC, AND SAND CREEK

The fear and bloodthirst that laid the groundwork for the massacre at Sand Creek was stoked not only by fear of a non-white “other,” but fueled by ideas bolstered by religious institutions, including the Methodist church. Like many other churches, the Methodist church was shaped by the colonialist idea of manifest destiny, the imperialist doctrine that westward expansion was right and necessary and the United States had a duty to expand westward and bring civilization to its wilderness and its “savage” peoples. By embracing ideas of manifest destiny and the rightness of colonization, Professor Christopher Rein writes, there was an “increasing acceptance of violence to both defend and extend the faith.”

Methodist beliefs and rhetoric in the mid-nineteenth century leaned towards one's duty to God trumping any duty to the law or to the state. Racist rhetoric against indigenous peoples was all too common, and the idea that the “savage” peoples were without God and civilization was more than enough rationalization for their extermination. “Taken together,” Rein writes, “the impulses

of manifest destiny coupled with Christianity preconditioned Americans to embark on a course that led to the Sand Creek Massacre with little or no remorse.”

After the Sand Creek massacre, local newspapers crowed about the “divine” mission the attackers had undertaken. The Rocky Mountain News in January 1865 lionized Chivington's conduct, hoping “every Indian expedition hereafter may be led by a Colorado soldier, imbued with the *holy aspiration* of destroying as great a number of warriors, squaws, and children as fell in the memorable Battle of Sand Creek.” (Emphasis added.) In April 1865, a group of Denver's ministers issued a statement supporting Chivington and his actions. Signers included O. A. Willard, presiding elder of the Denver District, and George Richardson, pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Denver.

The Methodist Church's stance was on the side of the massacre from the start, but following the change in public opinion and in the long years afterward the church never took a strong stance against it. In his 2016 book, *Massacre at Sand Creek: How Methodists Were Involved in an American Tragedy*, Gary Roberts writes, “What stands out most strikingly in the Methodist response to Sand Creek... is indifference. Sand Creek was simply not important enough to the church to matter.”

In 1996, the General Conference in Denver issued a formal apology for the massacre, but the words seemed empty and merely performative, especially as a healing service, scheduled ahead of time and many

tribal leaders had come to attend in full regalia, was cut for time, giving the overwhelming impression that the church was not invested in acknowledgment or healing.

Renewed efforts towards healing and reconciliation in 2012 and 2016 came to a halt when the deaths of key figures allegedly slowed progress. The debates over church separation in 2019 and the COVID-19 pandemic beginning in 2020 moved anything to do with Sand Creek to an even more distant metaphorical “back burner.”

Despite the long hiatus, the church began a new journey towards understanding and healing in 2024. It is still early days, and there is still work to be done.

WHY IT MATTERS

The path to healing cannot be taken unless those on the journey are prepared to look at the legacy of pain and trauma and be willing to see it, to hold it. Not sweep it under the rug, not say “but it was so long



At the Camp Weld conference. Unknown photographer. 28 September 1864. Public Domain.

“This rare photograph by an unknown photographer shows the ill-fated Cheyenne chief, Black Kettle, and a number of his associates at Camp Weld, on the outskirts of Denver. They had assembled there on September 28, 1864, for a peace council with Governor Evans and Colonel John M. Chivington, commander of the District of Colorado. Chivington later attacked their camp in what is known as the Sand Creek massacre. Some of the identifications of Indians are uncertain. Front row, kneeling, left to right: Major Edward W. Wynkoop, commander at Fort Lyon and later agent for the Cheyennes and Arapahoes; Captain Silas S. Soule, provost marshal, later murdered in Denver. Middle row, seated, left to right: White Antelope (or perhaps White Wolf), Bull Bear, Black Kettle, One Eye, Natame (Arapaho). Back row, standing, left to right: Colorado militiaman, unknown civilian, John H. Smith (interpreter), Heap of Buffalo (Arapaho), Neva (Arapaho), unknown civilian, sentry. Another identification states that Neva is seated on the left and the Indian next to Smith is White Wolf (Cheyenne).” — *Library, State Historical Society of Colorado, In: Wilbur Sturtevant Nye, Plains Indian raiders: the final phases of warfare from the Arkansas to the Red River, with original photographs by William S. Soule. University of Oklahoma Press, 1st edition, 1968, ISBN 0806111755, p188.*



Colonel John Milton Chivington, United States Army, circa 1860s. From NPS, Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site.

ago, and it has nothing to do with me” or “the church is different now”. An attitude of dismissal cannot be a fertile ground for healing.

Scripture and religious belief, even that of the Methodist church, has been a tool in rationalizing and excusing and perpetrating violence on others. We cannot forget that. Part of the healing process is remembering. We look at history, accept that it happened even while condemning it. From there we can work towards building community with the descendants of those who were harmed.

Did you know that Longmont used to have a “Chivington Drive”? Long-term residents may remember. After a two-decade campaign—that is 20 years—the name was changed to Sunrise Drive in 2005. While slow, the change happened because a group of people objected to honouring the man who led, facilitated, and supported the Sand Creek massacre. The work isn’t done in a day, isn’t one-and-done with an apology. It can take years, decades, lifetimes—but the effort and support matters.

Reading the history of or visiting Sand Creek are some ways to turn towards this painful history and begin finding a way forward. Acknowledging the church institution’s culpability in the massacre and the colonialist and imperialist project of colonization and westward expansion is a step on the path. Making new connections and fostering communication with the communities of survivors is another step, and a worthy one.



Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, Kiowa County, Colorado, by chapin31 on Adobe Stock. Standard License.

On Friday, October 17, Heart of Longmont will be taking an overnight field trip to Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site. If you are able, we encourage you to join us. See the block at left below for more information.

SOURCES AND FURTHER READING

“History & Culture.” National Parks Service. <https://www.nps.gov/sand/learn/historyculture/index.htm>

“John Chivington.” National Parks Service. <https://www.nps.gov/people/john-chivington.htm>

“A Timeline of events relating to the Sand Creek Massacre.” National Parks Service. <https://www.nps.gov/sand/learn/timeline.htm>

Butler, Joey and Patterson, Jim. “Church restarts response to Sand Creek Massacre.” UMNNews.org. <https://www.umnnews.org/en/news/church-restarts-response-to-sand-creek-massacre>

Roberts, Gary L. Massacre at Sand Creek: How Methodists Were Involved in an American Tragedy. Abingdon Press, 2016.

“John Evans Study Committee Issues Report: Study to guide University actions.” Northwestern University. <https://news.northwestern.edu/stories/2014/05/john-evans-study-committee-issues-report/>

report/

Rein, Christopher. “Our First Duty Was to God and Our Next to Our Country’: Religion, Violence, and the Sand Creek Massacre.” Great Plains Quarterly 34, no. 3 (2014): 217–38. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/24465539>

“Sand Creek Bibliography.” History Colorado. <https://www.historycolorado.org/sand-creek-bibliography>

Lost Highways: Dispatches from the Shadows of the Rocky Mountains. “Oral Histories Of The Sand Creek Massacre From The Cheyenne And Arapaho Tribes Located In Oklahoma.” Season 5, Episode 4. April 17, 2024. <https://www.historycolorado.org/lost-highways/2024/04/17/oral-histories-sand-creek-massacre-cheyenne-and-arapaho-tribes-located>



The delegation of Cheyenne and Arapaho chiefs in Denver, Colorado, September 28, 1864. Chief Black Kettle (Mo’ohtavetoo’o) 2nd from left front row. Public Domain.

VISIT THE SAND CREEK MASSACRE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE WITH HOL

Friday, October 17 to Saturday, October 18

If you are interested in joining us to visit the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, please **sign up via Sign Up Genius** (contact the church office for the link) **by September 15**. A block of rooms has been reserved in Eads, just 16 miles from the historical site. The room rate is \$119, including breakfast and Wi-Fi. We will carpool to the site, departing the morning of October 17 and returning late afternoon on October 18. Exact times will be announced closer to the date.

Some financial assistance may be available—contact Pastor Angie for details. If you have questions about the trip, contact Amy Mann.



MISSION TRIP TO CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA: A WEEK OF SERVICE, GROWTH, AND CONNECTION

This summer, our youth traveled to Charleston, West Virginia for a week of service, worship, and growth. They worked hard, built deep connections, and returned with stories of how God was at work through them and in them. Here’s a glimpse of their journey...

Our group of seventeen youth and three adults began its journey bright and early on Saturday morning, leaving the church at 4:00 a.m. and arriving in Charleston, West Virginia, by late afternoon. After smooth flights, we picked up rental cars, grabbed some supplies, and checked into camp. The camp was beautiful (if not a bit hot and humid!), and a dip in the pool was a welcome treat before the busy week ahead.

Sunday brought worship at Rand Church of the Nazarene, where we experienced a different style of church and were welcomed warmly into their community. That evening, we kicked off Vacation Bible School (VBS). Only four kids came the first night, but our group quickly embraced the chance to love and play with them. By the end of the evening, we were already seeing glimpses of how God would use this trip to stretch us in new ways.

The week was a mix of service projects and evenings filled with VBS. Our youth rotated between three main service sites:

- **Heart + Hand**, where groups sorted clothing, bedding, toys, and household donations for families in need.
- **Union Mission**, where students cleaned and painted at a thrift store that supports the ministry’s outreach.
- **Camp Whitney**, where mulch was raked, supplies sorted, and projects tackled to support the local community.

Each work site gave us the chance to meet new people and see how everyday acts of service can bless others. As adult leader

Brant Davis shared, “Our youth did a fantastic job of connecting with the kids and creating a space they love being. Watching them work hard and bring joy to every site was inspiring.”

After long days of work, our group often cooled off in the pool or played games together. In the evenings, VBS grew rapidly—from four kids on the first night to more than twenty by the end of the week! Word spread quickly through the community that our VBS was a fun and safe place to be. Each night, the

bonds between our youth and the local children deepened. Pastor Matt from Rand Church later shared with us the struggles many of those children face, and saying goodbye was filled with tears. Our kids’ hearts were broken, but also full of love for the new friends they had made.

Midway through the week, we celebrated a special milestone—Clara Shipp’s 13th birthday. She chose to spend it on the trip, and we celebrated with cupcakes around a (very hot and humid) campfire.

By Friday, we enjoyed a “fun day” outing on train track pedal carts, where the breeze and scenery were a welcome break from the intense heat. That evening, we wrapped up VBS with twenty kids and a powerful reminder of why we came: to love, to serve, and to share God’s hope.

Our trip home tested our patience with delays, missed flights, and even a surprise stop in Rapid City. We finally landed in Denver nine hours after we were scheduled to arrive. But despite



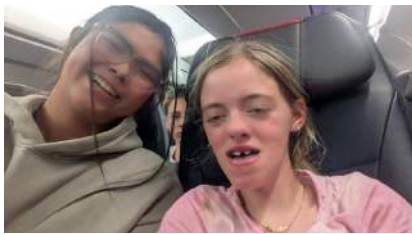


the long journey back, our hearts were full. Throughout the week, our adult leaders saw the best of our youth. Andrea Shipp reflected, “What a great experience this mission trip has been! These kids are hardworking and kind. They took on

even the most tedious tasks with joy, and they made each other—and me—feel so loved and supported. I feel so lucky to have been part of this experience.”

And the youth themselves reflected deeply on what the trip meant to them:

- **Charlotte Farrenkopf** shared: “This year felt so impactful. From painting ceilings to sorting clothes, everything mattered. At VBS, we grew from three kids to over twenty. Not only did the kids feel loved and seen, but the church members were renewed with hope for their young people.”
- **Midori Furuta** reflected: “There were so many fun



memories—like teasing the boys with a stuffed animal we named Booger—and so many hard ones, like saying goodbye at VBS. It was an amazing trip I’ll never forget.”

- **Kameron Sam** said: “This trip was one of the best experiences of my life. I learned that you don’t have to overthink talking to God—you just talk to Him. He’s always listening, and He loves each of us the same no matter what.”

We are so proud of our youth for their hard work, their willingness to step outside their comfort zones, and the love they poured into a community far from home.

We encourage you to connect with our youth and hear their stories firsthand. Each of them experienced God in unique ways on this trip, and they would love to share what they learned with you.

—EMILY FARRENKOPF, YOUTH DIRECTOR



A SPLASHIN' SUCCESS!

What a wonderful way to welcome our new pastor, Angie, to the community! We had a fantastic time at the family pool party, where kids and caregivers alike made a splash and enjoyed the beautiful weather. It was a perfect opportunity for everyone to meet Pastor Angie in a fun, relaxed setting. We saw lots of laughter, great conversation, and plenty of splashes!

A big thank you to everyone who came out and helped make the day so special. We’re so excited for this new chapter and look forward to more opportunities to connect and grow together.

—HOLLY MILNE, CFM DIRECTOR



JUNE 2025 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Category	YTD 2025 Actual	YTD 2025 Budget	YTD 2024 Actual
Income	\$245,975	\$222,540	\$240,230
Expenses	\$283,736	\$274,045	\$250,319
Income less than Expenses (Deficit)	(\$37,761)	(\$51,505)	(\$10,089)

Overview

After a slower start to the year, the second quarter brought encouraging momentum. Income for Q2 totaled \$128,520 — well ahead of budget (\$105,570) and last year (\$105,666). Giving increased 9.4% over Q1 and nearly 22% over both budget and Q2 2024 — a remarkable sign of faith and commitment from this congregation.

Expenses for Q2 (and YTD) are slightly above budget (\$3,267 and \$9,691, respectively), primarily due to one-time capital campaign launch costs. These are strategic investments in the future of Heart of Longmont. We’ve also continued implementing Long Range Planning recommendations, including:

- Additional staffing hours for nursery, children’s and family ministry, and technology
- Increased pastor compensation to move closer to market-appropriate levels

Our year-to-date deficit of \$37,761 is smaller than budgeted and reflects intentional choices to invest in people and mission. For

comparison, 2024’s income included a one-time \$16,658 grant that we do not have this year.

Looking Ahead

The rebound in giving and the successful completion of our Heart of Community campaign give us confidence in the financial health and future of HOL. As in recent years, we anticipate that income will continue to build in the second half of the year, while expenses remain in check.

Most importantly, these early investments are already bearing fruit — helping us grow ministries that nurture faith, welcome all, and serve our community in meaningful ways.

Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness. Your support is making a tangible difference today and laying a strong foundation for tomorrow. If you’d like more details or have any questions, please reach out.

With gratitude,

—ROD EDMONDS, TREASURER

“WE’VE ALREADY EXCEEDED OUR \$1 MILLION GOAL—AND YOUR GENEROSITY IS TURNING PLANS INTO ACTION!”

HEART OF COMMUNITY UPDATE

Thanks to your incredible generosity, our Heart of Community Capital Campaign has already surpassed its \$1 million goal! We’ve received commitments totaling \$1,063,055 from 86 family units—and an amazing \$357,951.59 has already been given in just two months. That’s 33.7% of total commitments—well above the typical 15–20% received early in most campaigns. Thank you for believing in the future of our church!

On the strength of this early support, we’ve completed our first priority—repairing air conditioning in the Office, Chapel, and Education Wing. Next up: much-needed parking lot repairs. We have two bids in hand and hope to have a contract by the end of August, with work finished before November 1.

In parallel, we are working with an architect to envision updates and enhancements to our church’s interior spaces. This effort is not just about aesthetics—it’s about creating spaces that expand our capacity for ministry and mission, and reflect the welcoming, vibrant, and purpose-filled community we are called to be. We aim to have design renderings ready by October 11, followed by several opportunities for the congregation to share input. Based on costs and scheduling, interior updates are likely to begin in mid-2026.

The timing on other campaign priorities—such as the Gallery roof and debt reduction—are dependent on the project costs and timelines for the parking lot, and space updates and

enhancements. For the roof, given the likely cost of parking lot repairs, we will arrange an inspection this fall and take steps to mitigate the risk of leaks and damage over the winter and spring. Work done last December has held well so far.

Debt reduction will be deferred until we have firm cost estimates for the interior updates and upgrades.

As always, we remain committed to transparency, thoughtful planning, and good stewardship. Thank you for your partnership in this exciting next chapter in the life of our church.

ALL-CHURCH GARAGE SALE SUPPORTS HEART OF COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN

The HOL UWF contributed proceeds from the bi-annual All-Church Garage Sale this year to our Heart of Community Campaign. Their contribution totaled \$2,475.25! Thank you to all who organized, set up, participated in, and donated items to the Garage Sale this year. Your efforts make a difference in our church!

COMPASSION OFFERING

CHEF HEARTY

September's compassion offering will support Chef Hearty, a program that provides hearty, healthy ingredients for a meal to our Wild Plum students. Using donations from the Chef Hearty fund, Heart of Longmont purchases the food, and once a month volunteers pack the ingredients—along with a recipe—into a special tote.

Each child takes home a tote to share with their family, preparing the meal together. This not only offers a delicious dinner, but also gives the children a chance to learn about healthy food choices and basic cooking skills.

Your generous contributions make this program and these family moments possible. Thank you for helping nourish both bodies and hearts.

WE'RE BACK FOR SCHOOL CHEF HEARTY BUILD DAY

September 14 after Worship Service



OUR WILD PLUM PARTNERSHIP

Wild Plum Teachers Supply Drive

Thank you to all who donated towards the Wild Plum teachers supply drive as well as those who brought in infant to preschool aged clothing for the Wild Plum students attending school here at the Heart of Longmont. Having accidents is just a part of growing up, and we want to make sure every child has access to a change of clothes so they can be fresh and ready for their parents pick them up. You can donate clothes in the Airlock cupboard just inside the side door or in the drawer marked "Preschool Clothing Donation" next to the office.

Clothing and Personal Health Items Collection

We will continue to collect clothing as well as personal health items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, laundry soap or lotion. Clothing items that are in VERY high demand are socks, underwear, pants, diapers, pull-ups, and shoes.

Reading Program

Starting in September you will have the opportunity to share the gift of story with our Wild Plum students once a month. If you are interested in joining our Reading

Program team, please contact Lynn Greenhalge or sign up at the Connection Center.



WAYS TO HELP WITH FOOD INSECURITY

Chef Hearty

Providing a healthy meal kit once a month for our 50 Wild Plum families is one of most consistent and fun ways to help those who struggle with food insecurity. Members young and old gather around tables filled with food to pack our cute Chef Hearty bags to send home the next day with eager preschoolers and their parents. Our first Chef Hearty meal kit this school year, Stove-top Tamale Pie, will be put together on Sunday, September 14. This is a great activity for people of all ages! It doesn't take long and you'll meet some amazing people in the process!

Longmont Food Rescue

We are grateful to the many different volunteers that keep the Longmont Food Rescue refrigerator and our Blessing Box near our parking lot full of food for those who need a little help. The rising cost of groceries is putting increasing pressure on individuals and families. Folks who are experiencing homelessness also benefit greatly from your donations. Homegrown vegetables and fruit from your garden and unopened packaged food or drinks are both great additions to our refrigerator or Blessing Box. If you would like to learn more about how to volunteer, please reach out to Tricia Grafelman or visit <https://www.longmontfoodrescue.org/>.

OUR Center

Amy Mann comes up with a recipe, sources ingredients and supplies, and prepares a meal every second Saturday for those who come to the OUR Center for lunch. We are blessed to have her leadership and passion! Learn more about the OUR Center here: <https://www.ourcenter.org/> and sign up at the Connection Center if you can help prepare the meal at 9:30 am or serve the meal at 11:30 am.

HOPE

On the third Friday of each month we invite you to provide food for a meal for those seeking a respite from hunger and/or help serve a meal for HOPE. Contact Marge Clydesdale for more information.

Heart of Longmont has a long-standing relationship with both the OUR Center and HOPE.

FOR THOSE FEELING INFORMATION FATIGUED...

We get it. Times are crazy, and every time you open a page, turn on the TV, or check your phone, it seems like there's a barrage of updates waiting to steal what's left of your peace. We've never had more access to information, and at best, it's a mixed blessing. At worst, we're reminded that in his infinite wisdom, for whatever good reason he must have had, God simply did not wire our brains for this.

Enter Rabbi Irwin Keller. Teacher, author, and advocate, Rabbi Keller penned the next page's prayers in 2016, at a time when he felt similarly swamped by the stress of the news. His words continue to resonate with many, so we are sharing them with you today. They include both a prayer for protection that honors a vulnerable spirit, and one that empowers by inviting guidance toward the right actions to take with our new information.

They include the following Hebrew phrases:

Elohai neshamah shenatata bi tehorah hi.
My God, the soul which you bestowed in me is pure.

Ribono shel Olam
Master of the Universe

As well as two others, translated within the prayer itself.

Please feel free to remove the opposite page to keep these prayers close at hand whenever you might need them. And thanks for reading, even when you have so much on your heart and mind.

Those interested in Rabbi Keller's work can find out more at his blog, Itzik's Well, at <https://www.irwinkeller.com/>

PRAYERS FOR READING THE NEWS

By Rabbi Irwin Keller

BEFORE READING:

Elohai neshamah shenatata bi tehorah hi.

My God, the soul you have placed in me is pure and vulnerable. I am afraid that looking at today's news will be painful. Encircle me in a robe of light so that I can witness the wounds of the world without being wounded myself. Let me learn what I need to know in order to be of my greatest use, without being overwhelmed by despair. I feel your protective light now as I open myself to the world's suffering and the world's joys.

AFTER READING:

Ribono shel Olam, I am Yours, and all that is in this world is Yours.

Today I have read stories and seen images, but my knowledge is incomplete. I don't know how it all connects. But I know I am connected to everyone; I take joy in their joy; I suffer with their suffering. If there is no role for me to play today then let my learning leave me wiser and better prepared. If there is a role for me to play, let clarity rise up in me to see it, even if that role is a humble one.

Uma'aseh yadeymu konenehu. Lift up the work of my hands, in anything they might do for peace, for justice, for the wholeness of our planet, or for the betterment of my community. Just as you turned the curse of Balaam into a blessing, so may all my actions accrue to the good.

[Add here a prayer for the healing of a specific suffering you read about.]

Barukh Atah Adonai, shomea tefilah. Blessed are You who receives my prayer.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

We are pleased to announce that we have a great group of new members joining our Heart of Longmont family. When asked how they found out about our church, the large majority mentioned that they looked online and found our website. From there they decided to come check us out. Being an open and affirming and EMBRACING church, as well as one that puts loving words into action is a huge draw for prospective members, and our church fits the bill!

We officially welcome:

- Lani Dolfika
- Paul And Eileen Van Pernis
- Todd Fleming, daughters Danielle and Tabitha
- Russ Dornisch
- Deb Lewis
- Megan Davis
- Bob Pomeroy and wife Christine Rivas Arriaga, kids Merida, Emmy and Rory

A BE SUNDAY FOLLOW UP

Thank you to Kat Blackburn not only for their artistic talent but for their follow-through and willingness to help put some love and color into our Longmont community. This bench will be located on 3rd Avenue at the bus stop in front of the Habitat for Humanity administration office. Everyone waiting for a bus will have a comfortable place to sit and a reminder to BE LOVE!! This project began on April 27th as part of our BE Sunday Service day.



HEART AND SOUL SUPPERS RETURN

For the past 3 years we have been encouraging our congregants to find a way to connect in small groups. There is no better way to get to know new and old members than by having a meal together! If you choose to participate, we will match you with several other members and you will rotate hosting a meal for each other over the course of three months. Interested? Sign up at the Connection Center or contact Tricia Grafelman!

SUNDAY FUNDAY!

Hooray, the time has come!

Every fall we gather at Collyer Park at the north picnic shelter to kick off the school year with a BBQ picnic where the members of our congregation can meet and get to know each other and other folks in our community.

We have many fun activities this year for all ages, including kiddos and the young at heart. There will be Face Painting, a Henna Tattoo artist, a Balloon Twister, a Bouncy Castle, Bingo (with fun gift certificate prizes!), a Corn Hole tournament, and great food, including ice cream sundaes served by our Youth Group! We will also have information about all the goings on at our church.

We are proud of the many ways we serve our community at the Heart of Longmont and we want to invite everyone to join us! All are welcome! We hope you will invite your friends and neighbors, bring a lawn chair and a side dish to share. We'll see you there!

• Heart of Longmont •

Sunday Funday

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, and Brats!
Ice Cream Sundaes!
Face Paint | Henna | Bouncy Castle
Yard Games | Bingo (with Prizes!)

Come for a great time connecting with others in the church and our community! Bring a side dish to complement a cookout and your lawn chair!

**Sunday
Sept 7**

**Collyer Park
North Picnic Shelter**
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM

THIS IS OUR STORY

BY VANNARY OUN
WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM
KIM SEAN OUN, HENG &
AUN MAN, THY & KIM EAR



Kim Sean, Vannary, Kim Oun

CONGRATULATIONS, EANG MAN

We proudly announce Eang's recent appointment to Boulder County Court as a district judge. Eang came to Longmont with her family in 1981 when the First United Methodist Church sponsored Cambodian refugees. She was born in a refugee camp in Thailand after her parents escaped from war torn Cambodia.

Eang attended St Vrain schools, Colorado College, and University of Wyoming Law School. Eang is married to Eric Man-Heimann. They have two children.

After extensive experience in Wyoming, Eang and Eric made a move to Longmont, Eang's hometown. Eric, also a lawyer, serves in the City of Longmont Attorney's office. Longmont and Boulder County welcome the Man-Heimann family and your Heart of Longmont family proudly welcomes you home!



We lived in Cambodia, a country with much natural beauty. I was married and had three beautiful young daughters. My parents lived nearby. My father was a bus driver. I had three brothers and three sisters. My sister, Heng, was married and had a baby boy. My Uncle and his family lived nearby. My Uncle owned a pharmacy. Life seemed good, until an invasion with plans to conquer and control my county started in the 1970s.

We lived in fear each day but were hopeful when we were told to leave our homes and go to the countryside for safety because of the danger of the bombing of our city. That was a lie because we were never allowed to return to our homes. We were ordered to work in the fields from daylight until dark, then were served a few bites of rice and required to attend a nightly Communist rally. With such hard work, very little food and no medicine for those who became ill, death became a daily occurrence. Tragedy first struck my family when my husband became ill. With no medicine and a few bites of rice each day, he became weaker and died. After his death, I met and married Kim Sean who was the constant care giver for my family. Next came the death of two of my darling daughters. I can still see their beautiful faces hoping for just one more bite of rice which I did not have to give them.

My father's health was not good but after living in constant fear and near starvation, he urged us to join thousands of others who were trying to escape to refugee camps in Thailand. My cousin, Thy, and his new bride, Kim, joined us. We knew it was a dangerous journey with soldiers on constant lookout for those trying to escape. We traveled mostly at night and tried to hide during the day. Finally we reached safety as we crossed the border into a refugee camp.

It seemed like a good day when many of us were told we would be moving to a newer, much better refugee camp. We

loaded into buses with hope in our hearts but were shocked and saddened when we crossed back into Cambodia. We were successful on our second escape but lost my brother when he stepped on a land mine while searching for food and two of my sisters became separated from us. We now know that one of my sisters survived and is living in Cambodia with her family.

Survival in the camp wasn't easy but we held onto hope that we would be selected for refugee resettlement in a safe country. With hopes of going to the United States, I took English classes in the camp and my mother attended Christian Missionary church services.

Finally the word came that we would be accepted into the resettlement program with a destination in the United States. Kim Sean had some family already living in the Denver area which helped us be accepted in Colorado. While we were rejoicing in this news, events were happening in Longmont, Colorado, that would change our lives forever.

A decision was made by the First United Methodist Church in Longmont to sponsor a refugee family. The church began to prepare for the arrival of a Cambodian family who spoke no English and owned absolutely nothing. A duplex was rented, furniture and clothing were collected, and money was collected to help with this resettlement. The church had agreed to accept one family but when asked to take two families (seven people total) who were all related, they agreed. In late October, 1980, the pastor and a few members went to the airport to welcome our family.

The church organized a refugee resettlement committee who immediately jumped into action. Our family lived in a duplex on Kay Street. The children were enrolled in school. The younger children went to Rocky Mountain Elementary School, where church member Betty Brooks, the

school nurse, was a valuable asset for the children. My 16-year-old brother enrolled at Longmont High School.

A large number of church members became involved in various ways: driving kids to school, transportation to jobs, ESL night classes, and countless other ways. Very close, family-like ties developed between our family and Ann and Gordon Yoder and Ray and Alberta Slauson. They were on call 24/7 and responded to every need just as if we were their family.

Our happiness was only lessened because we still had family members in the Thailand camps. My father pleaded with the church to sponsor his daughter and nephew and bring them to join us. In the summer of 1981, my sister and her family with two small children and my cousin and his new bride arrived in Longmont. That December, two new babies arrived. Thy and Kim became parents for the first time and Heng and Aun welcomed another son. Later, Thy and Kim welcomed a son and another daughter was born to the Man family.

In 1987, my cousin Thy, gained his United States Citizenship with the rest of the family following soon after him.

We welcomed the chance to work and some of us worked two jobs while our parents stayed home to care for the children. Doctor visits, school conferences, job searches and thousands of

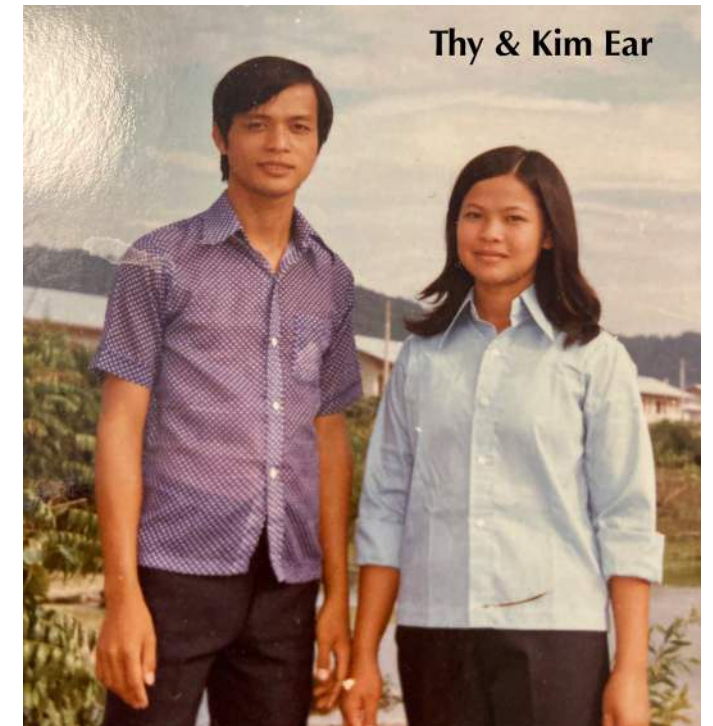


The Man Family

other things, small and great, were handled by the loving people at First United Methodist Church.

I have now been in Longmont 45 years. We are blessed to have experienced the results of the work of Missions in the church. My family is and will be forever grateful to this church and all those wonderful people who opened up their hearts and gave generously of their time and money to help us start a new life.

All of my family joins me in expressing our thanks. We love and appreciate all of you. Because this church cared about others and put their mission work into action, we were given a new life where we could live safe and free. Our hope was to give our children a good life through education. College degrees have been obtained by all our children. Our children and grandchildren cannot imagine the horrors of war experienced by their ancestors and for that we are grateful.



Thy & Kim Ear

WESLEY TOWNHOMES NEARING COMPLETION

The Wesley Townhomes are in their final stages. Finishing touches are being added, and soon these beautiful new homes will be filled with life and laughter. Seven families have already been identified to move in, with space for a total of eleven families.

In October, The Inn Between will host an open house to showcase the townhomes, and in November, the first families will turn their keys and step into a new chapter of their lives.

What was once a vision is now becoming a vibrant reality. We celebrate this milestone with gratitude for the opportunity to serve, for the dedication of all involved, and for the privilege of helping make "home" possible.



HOL MISSION DESIGN TEAM SELECTS NEW MISSIONARY

by Joan Edmonds

Earlier this year, Heart of Longmont entered into a covenant relationship with Genilma Boehler. Unfortunately Genilma has resigned from her position with Global Ministries.

The Mission Design Team pursued entering into another relationship and we have selected Patrick Booth. Patrick Booth is a United Methodist missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries serving as the co-director of Project ARK (Advancing Resilient Khmer).

With a background in counseling, Mr. Booth has worked with young adults dealing with substance abuse and has provided adaptive skills for adolescent refugees. He enjoys building rapport and strengthening relationships with the community. He has participated in mission trips to Latin America and Africa, as well as serving with Asian refugees in Texas. He has compassion for those transitioning and taking steps toward healing from human trafficking and other issues.

Human trafficking is a worldwide epidemic and a grave violation of human rights. Cambodia is a source, transit, and destination country for men, women, and children subjected to forced labor, forced marriage, and sex trafficking. Its human-trafficking problem is rooted in economic vulnerability, exacerbated by environmental and educational realities, and encouraged by cultural pressures. Cambodian adults migrate to their regional neighbors of Malaysia, Thailand and China, as well as to the Middle East, in search for higher-paying jobs and



alternatives to subsistence farming.

Many survivors of human trafficking return to Cambodia having incurred extensive debt. Project ARK's mission is to tackle poverty as a culprit of human trafficking by equipping and restoring livelihood and dignity through the construction trade while introducing quality, affordable family homes into the Cambodian real-estate market.

As a missionary with Project ARK, Mr. Booth's task is to work with other missionaries from Global Ministries and partner agencies, the Methodist Church in Cambodia, and local leaders to provide leadership and supervision for the endeavor.

"Early in my life," Mr. Booth recalled, "the church helped my family financially, socially, and emotionally. After receiving such a blessing, helping others became very important to me." The youth group, he

said, "became an extension of my family. I found volunteering for mission work very rewarding. Helping others became a way of life when I entered a career as a counselor." Eventually, however, he realized God was calling him directly to the mission field.

"After serving on several short-term mission trips," he said, "I joined the World Race [mission trip] in 2015 to visit 11 countries in 11 months. This proved to be a reinforcement of the calling in my heart."

Born in Painesville, Ohio, Mr. Booth earned an Associate of Applied Sciences degree in counseling (2006) and a certificate in mental health/substance-abuse prevention (2010), both from Eastfield College, Mesquite, Texas, as well as a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from the University of North Texas in Denton (2010).

Prior to his present assignment, Mr. Booth worked as a counselor responsible for a full probationer caseload with Genesis Counseling (2009-2011). He co-founded Bedrock Counseling to serve probationers in Dallas, Denton, Ellis and Collin counties (2010-2014). Most recently, he was the founder and sole proprietor of Booth Life Coaching (2014-2020).

Mr. Booth is a member of First United Methodist Church, Lewisville, part of the North Texas Annual Conference. "The church continues to be a cornerstone of my faith," he said, "where I find God's presence most pronounced is in service missions and in the hearts of new believers. I seek only to serve others in Christ's name, because experience has proven this to be my greatest joy."

WHY UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH?

Vision – Turning faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth around the world.

Mission – Seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence, and impact local and global communities.

We UWF members here at the Heart of Longmont have been busy doing all of this in 2025. And there is still more to come!

For Education, we have provided programming on life in Nepal with Dorje Dolma who wrote *Yak Girl: Growing up in the remote Dolpo Region of Nepal*. And then we learned from Dick Elder about climate and its effect in the Longmont area. UWF members are also busy reading books on the Reading Program List which are enlightening us about social issues, faith, and other courageous women.

Women have visited the Broomfield UWF for their program by Hope Law about the work in Sierra Leone. While

at that meeting, we worked on Birthing Kits to send to Hope's family area. Later some of us joined women from other churches of our district for a Soul Care Retreat and asked "When are we going to have one at HOL?" Well, it will be coming soon.... watch for details!

For Supportive Fellowship we served Dick Baker's memorial service reception. Serving a reception like that is one of the most touching things we do. Watching family and friends gather to remember their loved one is so special.

And for serving girls around the world, about a dozen ladies work on the Days for Girls menstrual kits all year long. This year alone we have sent 300 kits to Sierra Leone, 25 to Costa Rica, 55 to Uganda and we will together with the congregation put together 100 kits for our mission team to take to Guatemala in November.

We want to welcome each and every woman at The Heart to join us in our mission, our spiritual formation, our educational studies and be part of our creative fellowship. We have lots of fun together! Come join us!



From El Comité De Longmont



You Did It—And So Much More!

Last year was our first mid-year fundraising campaign, and your support then was overwhelming. But this year, you have blown our socks off!

You have helped us match that \$15,000 challenge three times over, and we have not only met - but exponentially surpassed - our campaign goal of \$35,000.

Here are the updates of our summer appeal: This mid-year campaign has garnered the support of 40 donors who had never given to El Comité before, as well as 40 donors who had given in the past and were so inspired to help that they gave even more. And five donors generously donated twice during this campaign.

Your gift has helped us on our way to hiring an attorney by the fall so that we can ensure that our participants have immediate access to legal consultations and representation, giving them clarity, relief, and agency. I cannot thank you enough for the way you've shown up for your

neighbors, friends, and families – and our participants.

In case you didn't know, this is El Comité's 45th year of responding to community needs. We are planning two events this fall to remember and celebrate the founding and good work of the organization over the decades:

- **El Comité de Longmont Fall Fundraiser on Friday, September 12**, details will be shared soon. Save the date now!
- **The Ongoing Struggle for Justice: 45 Years of El Comité de Longmont** - A conversation with El Comité's Founders and its Executive Director Lisa Moreno. A panel discussion at the Longmont Museum, **Sunday, September 28, 2:30 pm**.

On behalf of my staff and those we serve, I appreciate you and your generosity, which helps us offer support and dignity through some very dark days for our participants.

With deep gratitude,
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 Rocky Mountain Equality



Our Love Shouldn't Be a Debate by Lee Kozak (she)

When I married my wife, Kate, earlier this year, it was the happiest day of my life. We stood next to each other and promised to love, respect, and be partners for a lifetime.

And when we said "I do," I didn't have to wonder whether our marriage would be recognized in Colorado or when we traveled across state lines to visit family because marriage equality has been the law of the land in the U.S. for a decade. We are simply two women in love, exercising the same right everyone else has.

The following are 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. Remember that you matter.

That's why the recent news that the Supreme Court is being asked to overturn the landmark ruling in Obergefell v. Hodges that guaranteed marriage equality nationwide hit me like a punch in the gut. I read the headline twice, hoping I'd misread it the first time. I hadn't.

It's hard to explain how it feels to see something so personal, the most important relationship in your life, treated like a political chess piece. Kate and I haven't even been married a year, and already, there's a question mark hanging over our future.

The legal arguments and court processes will play out over months or years, but the harm has already begun. Already, couples

like us are wondering if their marriages will be upheld, parents are worrying whether they'll both be recognized on their child's birth certificate, and LGBTQ+ people are questioning if their love will once again be relegated to "second-class" status.

For me, this fight is deeply personal. Currently, same-sex marriage would remain legal in Colorado and a handful of other states even if the Obergefell ruling is overturned. But that isn't guaranteed without the Supreme Court ruling, and worse still, bans in the majority of states would go back into effect.

I don't just work for Rocky Mountain Equality because I believe in LGBTQ+ rights. I work here because I believe in creating a world where no one has to question whether their love, their identity,

or their right to exist is valid in the eyes of the law. But I've seen what happens when people refuse to be pushed backward. We've been here before. Whether it's fighting anti-trans legislation, defending access to healthcare, or challenging discrimination in our schools, we know how to stand together.

To anyone feeling scared right now: you're not alone. We will keep showing up for you. Kate and I are still making plans for our future—the hikes we'll take, the books we'll read, the anniversaries we'll celebrate. And no matter what happens next, we know our love isn't up for debate. No one's should be.

Love always deserves a place in this country, and we're not going anywhere.

LONGMONT
FOOD RESCUE

Free Food, No Questions Asked



Collyer Park
1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays @ 1pm

Free Food, No Questions Asked



YMCA
2nd & 4th Sundays @ 1pm



Our Blessing Box and Longmont Food Rescue fridge have free food (no questions asked) for those in need in our community.

CRISIS RESOURCES



If you are struggling or in crisis, please contact one of the below crisis lines or reach out to one of our community partners for help. We want you to be here for many years to come. **You matter. You are loved.**

THE NATIONAL SUICIDE HOTLINE

1-800-SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433) or visit [suicide.org](https://www.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

COLORADO CRISIS SERVICES

844-493-TALK (844-493-8255)
or text HELLO to 7417
Available 24/7.
24/7 Walk-In Center at 3180 Airport Road
Boulder, CO 80301
Find another walk-in crisis center:
www.ColoradoCrisisServices.org

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

1-844-493-8255
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.



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.

HOL ADULT
DISCUSSION
AND
FELLOWSHIP
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

Starting September 3, from 6:30-8:30 PM, we will be meeting at Paul Lloyd's house and discussing *Short Stories by Jesus* by Amy Jill-Levine. Paul will provide a meal followed by a time of discussion.
Contact the church office for more information.

Monthly Meditation Class

The meditation class is on break. Check this space this winter for the dates the class will return!

Pack and UnPack

Join Pastor Angie 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.

The Chosen Season 3 Discussion Group

We're meeting to discuss The Chosen Season 3 starting Sunday, September 7 at 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM in the Chapel. Everyone is welcome to attend, whether you've seen the first two seasons or not!

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.

UWF Youngish People's Group

Sara Morgan
Meets weekly. Contact the church office for details!
Little ones are welcome! Child care will be provided.

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!

Altar Flower Donors Needed!

Donate a bouquet of flowers for Sunday service! \$25.00 each. Please review flower donor schedule in the narthex. You can take your bouquet home to enjoy after service! For more information, please contact Nancy Hand.

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!

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

Scan here to join the mailing list!



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

Heart of Longmont
350 11th Ave
Longmont, CO 80501
303-776-3523
office@heartoflongmont.org

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

www.heartoflongmont.org

OUR MISSION

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

Serving as the Heart of Longmont means:

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

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

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

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

We will work to protect God's creation.

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