



Light of Christ
A BOLDLY INCLUSIVE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Our Mission: *Light of Christ Ecumenical Catholic Community is a vibrant, inclusive and welcoming community for all who, following the teachings and example of Jesus Christ, seek compassion, justice and peace in the world. We seek to live our faith through liturgy and prayer, community building and collaboration, study and service.*

All Are Welcome!

July 2025 Newsletter



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<https://lightofchristecc.org/>

Office hours

Tues. - Thurs. 9am- 2 pm

Pastor

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Deacon Mike Weil

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Pastoral Care Assistant: Tim Shead

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Parish Council Members:

Paul Acker, Ann Hess, Rose Marie Perez-Foster, Irene Yap, Paulette Zimmermann

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Stephen Ministry:

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Office Closure

The Church Office will be closed for regular business on **Thursday, July 3rd**, in observance of Independence Day.



From the Adult Formation Committee

Plastic-Free July

Annually, millions of people across the globe, through a grassroots campaign called Plastic Free July, remind us of the need to address plastic pollution. Since the invention of plastic in 1907, plastic has become so pervasive, making its way into every part of our lives and into the environment. Scientists have found bits of plastic residue, microplastics, in oceans that are literally hundreds of miles from permanent human habitation. Birds and marine animals are absorbing these plastic fragments at their own peril. Today we are coming to terms with the damaging consequences to human health, natural ecosystems, and the climate.

The Adult Formation Committee (AFC) invites you to join us this July in challenging ourselves to examine our use of single-use plastic, otherwise known as disposable plastic, and to find better alternatives. Even if plastic is marked recyclable, we know that 90% of plastic is never recycled after it is discarded. Only 9% of plastic waste gets recycled. The rest is burned or dumped, adding to climate warming and toxicity.

Ecocycle, Boulder's recycling facility, points to the following as examples of single-use plastic items causing damage to the environment: plastic bread bag tags, plastic bottles, Styrofoam takeaway containers, plastic straws, plastic packaging materials, plastic cutlery, and plastic single-use shopping bags.

Each week in July, we will propose a single-use plastic alternative. Look for them in the weekly bulletin.

Save the Date: Regional Synod

We have good news. The Rocky Mountain Region of the Ecumenical Catholic Communion is having a local Holy Synod on **Saturday October 11**. Save the date and put this event on your calendar now, because you won't want to miss it. It will be a prayerful day for all 5 Colorado ECC communities to gather together for prayer, Mass, a meal, and to be inspired by our keynote speaker Fr. Scott Jenkins. More details will be coming over the next few months, so keep watching your church's bulletin for how to register. But today, make sure to set aside October 11th, all day, to gather as the Body of Christ and ask "Where is the Spirit taking us?" If you have any questions, you can contact Fr. Teri Harroun at pastor@lightofchristecc.org.



Holy Synod 2025
of the
Rocky Mountain Region of
the Ecumenical Catholic
Communion



We need your help!

It is time for the 2nd Regional Synod of the Rocky Mountain Region of the ECC. This event will be a prayerful time of gathering together as the 5 communities of the ECC in Colorado to get to know one another, be inspired by our keynote speaker Fr. Scott Jenkins, and discern together where the Spirit is leading us. There is a planning team representing each community hard at work planning this event for EVERYONE on **October 11** at **Light of Christ**. Now we are looking for folks to help with the work teams that will be needed for that day, and for some particular planning. These teams include:

Hospitality – help orient people throughout the day, put out snacks and drinks, create name tags, etc

Registration – help register people before the event, and then check them in the day of the event

Lunch – plan, setup, serve and cleanup for lunch

Liturgy – plan the closing Liturgy for the day, with presider Bishop Kae, including blessing of Chrism oils.

Music – musicians and vocalists needed for Mass. We anticipate a rehearsal sometime during the week prior to Synod

To volunteer for any of these work teams, please contact Fr. Teri Harroun by the end of July.

Parish Council opportunities

Light of Christ is a lay-led community where volunteers serve on Parish Council, working to guide the church and be good stewards of the church's resources. This August, the nominating committee will be looking for two people to join Parish Council. Nominees should be members for at least one year and the term is for 2 years.

Please consider this important volunteer opportunity and if you have any questions, reach out to one of the current Parish Council members, who are listed on the front of each bulletin and this newsletter.

In the Spotlight this month: Communications



Two important teams at LOC include the Communications Committee and the Marketing Team. The Communications Committee works to create an awareness of LOC on a local, regional, and national level. It oversees and coordinates public relations, advertising, and press releases. Most of this work is done by LOC staff, who maintain our website, Christmas and Easter newspaper ads, Facebook page, and Instagram page as well. For internal communication, a monthly newsletter and weekly bulletins are created. These documents are printed and available at Mass on Saturdays, and are distributed via the All Parish Email system. LOC members and friends should sign up for the all parish emails to be up to date on all the latest happenings at the church.

The Marketing team was created in 2023 to focus on working with the marketing consultant on developing a new logo, tagline, and website for Light of Christ. The group continues to meet to create marketing materials for specific events and to expand the visibility of LOC in focused ways outside our normal communication efforts. Currently this team is designing stickers and vinyl clings that should be available soon, and preparing a survey for the community to explore the viability of an idea they have to increase membership. They also designed the shirts that can be ordered by individuals here: <https://www.bonfire.com/light-of-christ/> This team is made up of lay members of LOC and works with the staff when necessary.

Around the church



Building upgrades

Upgrades to the church building continue.

Over the summer, our friends at BLC are replacing the lighting throughout the church with LEDs which are both much brighter than before while using only half of the electricity.

Additionally, the stove and oven in the kitchen will be replaced with new and more energy efficient models, reducing our collective carbon footprint.

Many hands...

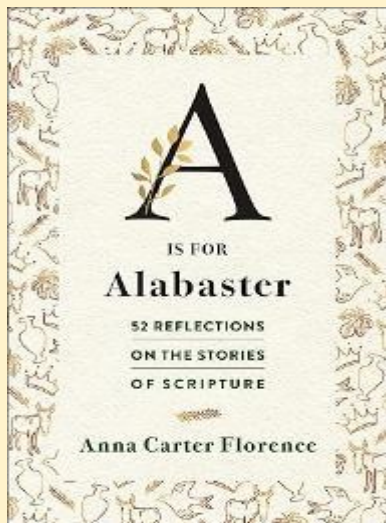
From time to time, we all have little things around the house that we could use help with.

Last month, our friends at Bethlehem Lutheran asked for our help with a few little things around the church. This got us looking around the church for our own list.

Currently, we are looking to get the LoC office carpet cleaned. Please contact the church office for details.



Summer Walk and Talk, Scripture Style



Once again this summer, we will be reading "A is for Alabaster" by Anna Carter Florence for our Scripture Walk and Talk at Pelle Crossing. This year we are meeting on **Fridays at 9am**. All you need to do is buy the book. We are reading all about the New Testament this year. The book is organized with an A-Z structure and we read two letters each week, which ends up being about 10 pages. You don't have to come to every week, but come when you can. See Fr. Teri for any questions. Here is the Schedule (please note that some days are skipped because Fr. Teri will not be here):

July 4 - none

July 25 - MN

Aug 14 - none

Sep 5 - WX

July 11 - IJ

Aug 1 - OP

Aug 22 - ST

Sep 12 -YX

July 18 - KL

Aug 8 - QR

Aug 29 - UV

Save the Date: National Night Out

BLC and Light of Christ will be hosting a movie night on National Night Out **Tuesday, August 5th**. National Night Out is an annual event that promotes community relationships. Stay tuned for more information.



Volunteer Opportunity

Growing Gardens hosts open volunteer day every Friday morning for the community to help the farm. If you are interested in joining our dedicated volunteer crew, or just stopping by to learn more about our work, please email the farm manager at tim@growinggardens.org.

Parish Council Highlights

Highlights from the June Parish Council meeting

- PC is looking for two new council members. They are looking for people who have been members for at least a year. Primary responsibility is to attend monthly council meetings (6pm on Tuesdays). Talk to any council member for more information.
- PC is thankful for all those who helped make the 20th anniversary celebration a success, especially ACE Hardware for their donations, to the organizing committee, guests and speakers who made it so special.
- In response to the Discretionary Fund Team's donation, PC received a letter of thanks and appreciation from the Homeward Alliance, who provides laundry services for local homeless people.

Rocky Mountain Regional Council Updates

The Rocky Mountain Regional Council (RMRC) works with our local Bishop Kae Madden to listen and respond to the Spirit's leading in the ECC here in Colorado. Some of what the RMRC has been working on in the past month include:

- RMRC continues to review the midterm assessments and has created a list of priorities for work from that input.
- Time was spent reviewing the USA Today advertising at Easter. Unsure of any impact and how to measure at this time.
- A Pastoral Care Workshop for laity will be offered at Church of the Beloved on Saturday, August 23, from 10am to 2pm. There will be no zoom option. The workshop is being led by LOC members Chuck Cooper and Mary Franch.
- Local synod planning for October 11th. The theme is: Where is the Spirit taking us? Fr. Teri and Steve de Haas are the LOC representatives to RMRC. Contact them if you have any questions. We normally meet the 1st Thursday of the month on Zoom.

We are Light of Christ

Wednesday Morning Mass, Fellowship, and Discussions
offer spiritual and adult faith development.

Women of the Spirit Group

meets on the first Thursday of the month for discussion, support, prayer and fellowship.

Men's Group

meets every Thursday evening to provide informal sharing and discussion

Religious Education

meets the first Saturday of the month before Mass for children of all ages - no signups or fees.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

gathers on the third Tuesday of the month to knit and crochet shawls and other items for those in need of comfort and joy.

Stephen Ministry

is made up of trained members who listen and provide spiritual support to others facing tough times.

Online Retreats and Scripture Readings

foster personal spiritual and adult faith growth.

Prayer Partners

are available after Mass to listen to concerns in depth and to pray with you.

The Pastoral Care Team

assists the pastor with home Eucharist visitation and phone calls.

Sacraments and Sacramental Preparation

Are available to all without charge or precondition.

Contact the Church office for more information or how to participate

In the World

Social Justice Presentations

LoC hosts several presentations each year on various social justice topics. These discussions are open to the public and include the Stations of the Cross public presentation throughout Longmont.

Growing Gardens

LoC supports Growing Gardens, a non-profit community garden project at the church that grew and donated over 5,000lbs of food to local food banks.

Pride Fest

LoC has supported Longmont Pride in June for many years with a table promoting our hospitality and a Communion Service where all are welcome to receive.

Annual Mission Trips

LOC adults collaborate with Bethlehem Lutheran adults for an annual mission trip, traveling to places all over the nation and building shelter to disadvantaged communities or those hit by disaster. The entire LOC community supports these missionaries and their fundraising efforts.

11th Hour Bell Ringing

On the 11th day of every month, at 11:00am, for 11 minutes, Light of Christ members gather at the church bell out front and ring the bell once per minute to raise awareness for climate justice. Members of other faith traditions often join us.

Round Pantry

LoC works with Westview Presbyterian and their Round Pantry to offer food support to hundreds of food-insecure families every two weeks.

ICE Detention Visits

Members of Light of Christ are supporting the spiritual and pastoral care needs of those awaiting status determinations in the ICE detention facility in Aurora.

Little Pantry

Members of Light of Christ provide food for the Little Pantry, a local, self-serve pantry providing essentials to those who may need it.

Contact the Church office for more information or how to participate

PRAYER CORNER



Please keep these friends in your prayers

Ann Schumacher; Bo Macreag;
Donna Stang; Gina Hinnegan;
Heino Beckman; Janell Flaig;
Judith Link; Kathy Pirie; Linda Moses;
Linda Kay Christon; Matt James; Michael Degnan; Patrick Degnan; Paula Degnan;
Pete Conti; Pete Conti Jr.; Phyllis Enge;
Rita Rose Bergen; Scott Tharnish;
Sharon Cramer; Stan Manickam; Suzanne Juhaz; Wes Evans

We update our prayer corner monthly. If you or your loved one would like to be included on the corner, please contact the office and we'd be happy to add you.

DAILY READINGS

Our online readings this season are from Pearl S. Buck's "The Story Bible". Please join us on Facebook Live every **Tuesday at 10AM.**

Light of Christ uses the Women's Ordination Conference Lectionary for 2025. Please contact the Church Office for a link and information.

LoC Parish Council and Rocky Mountain Regional Council meetings are open to all members to observe. Please contact Fr. Teri regarding RMRC meeting information.

Weather Closure: The office follows the St. Vrain Valley School District weather closure schedule. If schools are closed, the Church Office will also be closed.

A printed copy of our Bylaws, policies and procedures are available in the Church Office for members to review.

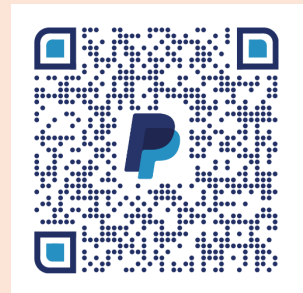
Your Donations Make a Difference

Your donations of time, talent and treasure make Light of Christ the community it is.

Ways to give include in person, through the mail, automatic checks from your bank (like bill pay) or even online via PayPal with the QR link.

If you would like to help out with something at church, volunteer opportunities are always available.

Thank you for your support!



Please submit items for the newsletter by the 20th of the month.



ASSISTANCE

Prayer Partners: These prayer ministries welcome and invite you, in confidence, to share your concerns in more detail or depth, or even to pray for you when you can't find the words. You can email our Prayer Companion Team at prayercompanionteam@lightofchristecc.org and someone will reach out to you.

Rite of Reconciliation: The Rite of Reconciliation is available after Mass or by Appointment. Please contact Father Teri or the Church office for more information.

If you need assistance during this time, there are several resources available in Longmont:

HOPE Longmont, located at:

804 Lincoln St.
Longmont, CO 80501

THE OUR CENTER, located at:

220 Collyer St.
Longmont, CO 80501

THE ROUND PANTRY, located at:

Westview Presbyterian Church
1500 Hover St.
Longmont, CO 80501