



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!

August 2026 Newsletter



1000 West 15th Ave.
Longmont, Colorado 80501
(303)-772-3785

<https://lightofchristecc.org/>

Office hours

Tues. - Thurs. 9am- 2 pm

Pastor

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pastor@lightofchristecc.org

Pastoral Care Assistant: Tim Shead

churchoffice@lightofchristecc.org

Parish Council Members:

Paul Acker, Brenna Brackett, Ann Hess,
Eric Matthews, Paulette Zimmermann

parishcouncil@lightofchristecc.org

Stephen Ministry:

stephenministry@lightofchristecc.org

Boulder County Fair Parade



Hello, friends of Bethlehem! Do you want to be in a parade?

This summer, in celebration of our 125th anniversary, Bethlehem will have a float in the Boulder County Fair Parade on **Aug 1 at 10 am.**

We are hoping to carry signs to celebrate all the groups and ministries that either meet at Bethlehem or are part of the congregation--and we'd like to invite you to join us! Fr. Teri has already committed to be part of Light of Christ's presence with BL in the parade. But the more the merrier. This is a big family event in Boulder County with lots of children in attendance. If you want to join, please see Fr. Teri so you know where to meet up.

2026

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4 | 7:00-10:00 P.M.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

FAMILY FUN FOR ALL AGES

- SNACKS, BOUNCE HOUSE, & ACTIVITIES
- FAMILY-FRIENDLY OUTDOOR MOVIE
- BRING LAWN CHAIRS OR BLANKETS

303-776-3290

1000 W. 15th Ave., Longmont, CO 80501

bethlehem-lutheran.net

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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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.

Save the Date: Flicks and Franks



The next Franks and Flicks is taking place on **Friday, August 7 at 5:30 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. We are showing the 1976 film, *All the President's Men*, with Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman.



It's the story of the Watergate break-in where four burglars are caught in the act of stealing from the Democratic Campaign headquarters. Remember the mysterious "Deep Throat" and the scandal around Nixon's presidency? Washington reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein covered the story and stayed with it through doubts, denials, and discouragement. This film is their story, perhaps the most influential piece of journalism in history.

We'll be serving hot dogs at 5:30. Bring a side to go with the wursts that come off the grill. If you remember, bring your own plates and utensils. It speeds the clean up. The movie will start around 6:15. Bring a friend. All are welcome.

Preschool Parking

Please be mindful when coming to the Church Office during the day (especially for Wednesday Mass) that Cornerstone Preschool will be starting the week on **August 17th**.

Celebrate the Harvest: Farm-to-Table Community Potluck!

Join Adult Formation Committee on **August 22 after Mass** as we gather to honor the close of another growing season with an evening of fresh food, good company, and gratitude for our local farmers.

Bring a favorite dish made with locally grown ingredients and share in a feast that showcases the best flavors of the harvest. We invite you to bring a dish that uses locally grown produce (from your garden, farm stand or Farmer's Market) or uses meat from local farms or ranches.



Come hungry, bring a dish to share, and help us celebrate the bounty of our fields, farms, and gardens. Together, let's give thanks for a successful harvest and the community that makes it possible.

Don't forget to bring your own plates and eating utensils.

Rocky Mountain Regional Picnic

The Rocky Mountain Regional Council invites the 5 communities of the region to a potluck picnic **on Monday, September 7th from 11am - 2pm**. Council will provide the main dish (with gluten options available) and are asking folks to bring a side dish or dessert to share.

The picnic will be held at EB Rains park at 11701 Community Drive in Northglenn.

Additionally, Regional Council is looking for a few people who can come early/stay late for setup or clean-up.

Contact Eric Matthews for more information.



My Year on the Boulder County Grand Jury

Adult Formation is hosting a **zoom-only** gathering on **September 10, 7:00-8:30 PM.** where Fr. Teri will reflect on her year on the Boulder County Grand Jury. She will share with us what a grand jury is and how it works, how she got called to serve, and why she also served as the foreperson of the jury.

At a personal level, she will offer some of her theological insights and reflections. She will not be able to tell us about many of the cases she worked on, but she can talk about the kinds of cases that the grand jury looks at, and how "probable cause" is different from "beyond a reasonable doubt." She and the other members of her jury heard some of the most consequential cases that eventually came before the court.

This presentation will be available on Zoom only. There will be plenty of time for discussion and Q & A from attendees. No registration is required.



Love Thy Neighbor T-Shirts



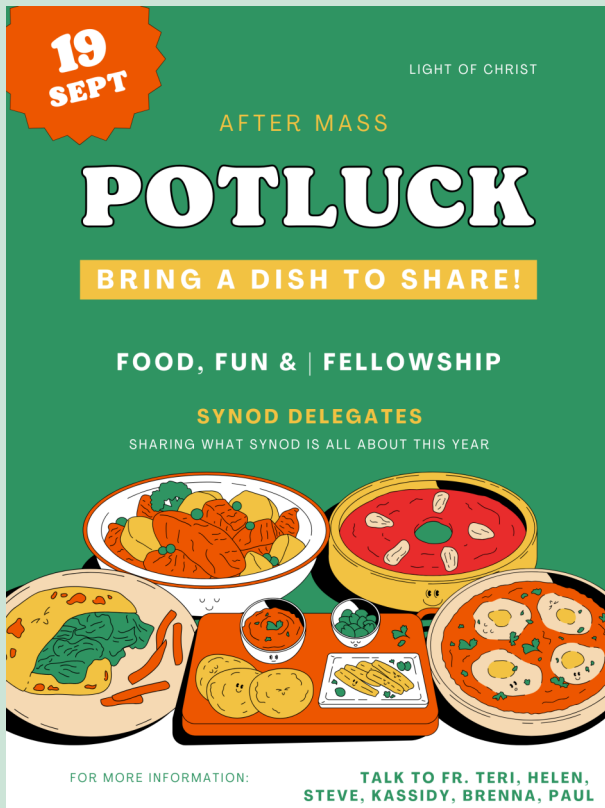
You may have seen our siblings at Bethlehem Lutheran sporting these shirts recently and they have opened up the opportunity for Light of Christ folks to get one as well.

You order and pay at the site below and they will be available for pickup at the



BL church office in early September. The link to the website is <https://www.customink.com/g/cbc0-00d2-zp8v>

All Community Potluck



Bring your favorite dish to share (entree, side, salad, dessert). We're having an all community potluck dinner **after Mass** on **Saturday September 19th**.

In addition, our Synod delegates will share with us what is happening at this year's national ECC Synod in Minnesota in October.

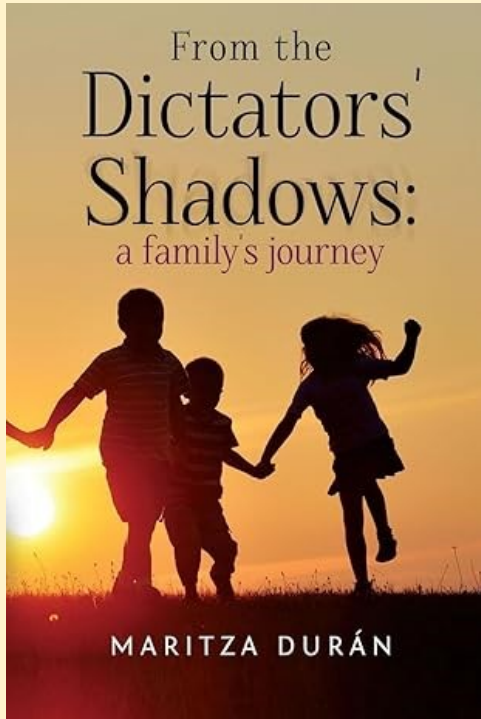
This is our opportunity to give them feedback on proposed legislation. They take their role of

representing Light of Christ seriously. Let's make sure we support them and let them know what we think, while sharing a meal together.

This year our delegates are (House of Laity) Paul Acker, Brenna Brackett, Cassidy Brackett, and Steve de Haas; (House of Pastors) Helen Majzler and Fr. Teri Harroun. If you have any questions, you can talk to any of our delegates.

From the Dictator's Shadows: a family's journey

Book Discussion with the Author



You are invited to join AFC members in a discussion of this 2025 memoir with the author and Light of Christ member, Maritza Duran. The discussion will be on Saturday, **September 26, 3:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall.

The setting of the novel is a fictitious island in the Caribbean. The book follows six siblings as they are caught in a civil war, choosing resistance and opposition to an authoritarian regime.

Though the book is presented as fiction, it tells a story of political violence and human rights abuses. It also mirrors our own current politics. Some family members reach safety in North America and forge new lives there. Ultimately, it is a journey filled with hope, courage, and remarkable resilience.

Please contact the church office if you would like to join the book discussion and would like a "loaner" copy of the book to read beforehand.



In the Spotlight this Month: Parish Council Members

What makes serving on Parish Council so rewarding? Our current members reflect as they briefly introduce themselves .



Paul Acker: My wife and I joined Light of Christ when it was just a couple years old. I joined the council in 2024. One of the things I like best is learning about ministries that I was not aware of and realizing the myriad ways those ministries help us express what makes Light of Christ a truly Christ-like community. In other parts of my life I enjoy travel, art, music, and all kinds of outdoor activities, especially sailing.

Brenna Brackett: I've attended Light of Christ for eleven years. I joined Parish Council in 2025, and it has been amazing to realize how much is always going on, and to get a behind-the-scenes of all the time and effort put in by so many people to make Light of Christ successful and welcoming, as a church and a community. When I have free time, I enjoy hiking and walking, reading and games



Ann Hess: I have attended LOC since 2019 and been on Parish Council since 2022. During my time on council, I have really enjoyed getting to know people. That includes Fr. Teri, Tim and council members but also people I have worked with on committees and ministries. For hobbies, I like to hike, read and play board games.



Eric Matthews: I have been a member of Light of Christ since 2014 and started on Parish Council in October 2025. I was nervous about seeing the business side of the church, but then we amended the bylaws, ran the All-Parish Meeting and worked to receive a grant for one of our youth to attend National Synod. It truly blows my mind how many ministries that our church supports and how many people offer so much time in service. I find it even more fulfilling now to be a part of Light of Christ.

Paulette Zimmerman: I have always known how special Light of Christ is, but after joining Parish Council in 2024, I understand how many dedicated and caring people it takes to create such a beautiful community. I truly enjoy being involved with The Adult Formation Committee. Thank you all for volunteering your time and talents!



From Father Mike Weil

Dear Light of Christ.



I wanted to take a moment to thank you for all the love you gave in the lead-up to and at my ordination. I had an amazing time with you on June 20th. That was the last time I served as deacon before my ordination. I love how enthusiastically you all participated in painting handprints on my prostration cloth. I could feel your prayers as I lay on it at the ordination.

After my ordination, I used the cloth as an altar cloth at my first Mass. When I left Light of Christ to drive home that night, there was great joy in my heart. Many of you came to the ordination. The presence of the Holy Spirit was powerful at my ordination. I believe that came from all the love of all who were with me to celebrate the ordination, in person, on Zoom, and through prayers and handprints.



Thank you for the prayer box and all the kind letters. Reading the letters was like receiving a hug from each of you. I am blessed to be a part of your community. My experiences at Light of Christ have helped form me into the person I am. I cherish your love and support.

Thank You

Fr. Mike

Parish Council Highlights

- Nominations for Parish Council members will be happening soon. Please considering joining us.
- Parish Council wishes to extend a HUGE thank you to Mark Stenson for managing the transition from FirstBank to PNC bank.
- Parish Council wishes to thank the Liturgy Committee and Tech team for making the digital hymnal trial a success.
- The Land Management Team is looking for a volunteer to represent Light of Christ. This is a small commitment of time (1-2 hours every 3

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:

- Plans for the Labor Day picnic are being finalized
- Discussions regarding the the regional bishop election continue

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

Online Retreats and Scripture Readings

foster personal spiritual and
adult faith growth.

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

Wednesday Morning Mass, Fellowship, and Discussions

offer spiritual and adult faith
development.

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.

Religious Education

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

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

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.

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.

Round Pantry

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

Growing Gardens

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

Contact the Church office for more information or how to participate

PRAYER CORNER



Please keep these friends in your prayers

Amelia Degnan; Barb Olander;
Bo Macreag; Dan Holland;
Don Tebow; Donna Stang;
Gina Hinnegan; Janell Flaig; Jona Johnson;
Joseph Juhaz; Kathy Coombes; Linda
Moses; Linda Kay Christon; Michael
Degnan; Patrick Degnan; Paula Degnan;
Steve and Veronica Neer; Wes Evans; Will
Currier

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.

READINGS

Our reading for this summer's Walk and Talk is "The Road We Make by Walking".

Light of Christ is using the FutureChurch Inclusive Lectionary. Please contact the Church Office for more 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. Contact the church office for more information. Thank you for your support!



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



ASSISTANCE

Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: 988

LGBTQ+ Youth-specific crisis lifeline: 1-877-330-6366

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
(720) 494-4673

THE OUR CENTER, located at:

220 Collyer St.
Longmont, CO 80501
(303) 773-5529

THE ROUND PANTRY, located at:

1500 Hover St. (Westview Pres)
Longmont, CO 80501
(303) 776-3242