



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!

October 2026 Newsletter



1000 West 15th Ave. Longmont, Colorado 80501 (303)-772-3785 https://lightofchristecc.org/ <u>Office hours</u> Tues. - Thurs. 9am- 2 pm	<u>Pastor</u> Father Teri Harroun, MDiv, D. Min pastor@lightofchristecc.org <u>Pastoral Care Assistant:</u> Tim Shead churchoffice@lightofchristecc.org	<u>Parish Council Members:</u> Paul Acker, Brenna Brackett, Ann Hess, Eric Matthews, Paulette Zimmermann parishcouncil@lightofchristecc.org <u>Stephen Ministry:</u> stephenministry@lightofchristecc.org
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Save the Date: Flicks and Franks



The next Flicks and Franks is taking place on **Friday, October 2, 5:30 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. We are showing the 1998 film, *The Horse Whisperer*, with Robert Redford and Kristin Scott Thomas.



The Horse Whisperer is an American western drama directed by and starring Robert Redford based on the 1995 novel *The Horse Whisperer* by Nicholas Evans. Redford plays the title role, a talented trainer with a remarkable gift for understanding horses, who is hired to help an injured teenager (played by Scarlett Johansson) and her horse back to health following a tragic accident.

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.

Indigenous Tribes in Colorado - a talk by Dr. Jared Orsi



Our favorite Colorado historian and CSU professor, Dr. Jared Orsi will be back at Light of Christ on **Saturday, October 17 at 3:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall to talk about the Indigenous tribes that made Colorado their home.

As you may know, our church is physically located on the homelands of the Ute and Arapaho peoples. However, at least 48 other tribes, whose names we do not know, have cultural affiliation with the state of Colorado. They lived here in the 13,000 years+ that humans have occupied the plains and mountains of North America. Indigenous Coloradans were culturally distinctive from one another, changed over time, used the environment to flourish, and are still here today. That is, they are historical peoples.

Come learn about their historic and present importance to the state. Refreshments will be served after the event. Jared will be available for informal conversations after the lecture. For questions, please contact Helen.

Religious Education 2026-2027

For Middle/High Schoolers

First Saturday of the month, starting October 3rd, 4:15pm
Fellowship Hall

- Oct 3 Is Doubt Okay?
- Nov 7 Can I Trust the Bible?
- Dec 5 Does God Approve of Violence?
- Jan 2 Does the Bible Contradict Itself?
- Feb 6 How Can I Follow a God Who Would Let Christians Do Such Bad Things?
- Mar 6 Is it Okay To Talk About My Faith With My Friends?
- Apr 3 Does God Discriminate Against Women?
- May 1 Can Living God's Love Lead Us to Faithful Resistance?



Blessing of the Pets

In honor of the Feast of Saint Francis, Father Teri and Pastor Katie will be at the Stable in the North Parking Lot to offer blessings to pets from **11:30 - 12:30 on October 4th.**



Feast of All Saints and All Souls



The Feast of All Saints and All Souls is a time when we remember and honor those who have gone before us. This will be celebrated at **Mass on Saturday, October 31st**, where we will include a litany of those who have died this year. If you would like someone's name included in this litany, please email the church office (churchoffice@lightofchristecc.org) with the name by **Wednesday, October 28th.**

Difference Embraced

TRANS SOLIDARITY

DIFFERENCE EMBRACED

Musical artist Allie n Steve Mullen and Pastor Nicole Garcia, invite us into their story of identity, becoming, and integration.



JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF MUSIC AND DISCUSSION AS WE SEEK TO INCREASE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF OURSELVES AND OTHERS TOWARDS LIVING AN AUTHENTIC LIFE

PRESENTED BY BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH AS A PART OF OUR RIC WORK

CHILI POTLUCK:
PLEASE BRING CHILI OR A SIDE DISH TO SHARE

SUNDAY, OCT
25, 2026
5:30-7:00 PM

BETHLEHEM
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
1000 15TH AVE
LONGMONT,
CO 80501

Bethlehem Lutheran is inviting Light of Christ to a special night of music and discussion as they continue their discernment on how to be an authentically open and inclusive church for all.

On **Sunday, October 25**, there will be a chili potluck at **5:30 PM** with dessert, music and honest sharing to follow.

Bethlehem Lutheran is asking for those who wish to make chili or bring a side for chili or dessert to contact Cathy Goodman. If you have any questions, contact the Church Office.

Trunk or Treat with Light of Christ and Bethlehem Lutheran

Light of Christ and Bethlehem Lutheran are once again holding the annual Trunk or Treat event on **Friday, October 30th** in the north parking lot. Setup will start at 6pm with the event running from **6:30 - 7:30 pm**.

Donations of candy will be gratefully accepted in the Church Office and there is a signup sheet in the Narthex for those who would like to pass out candy to the kiddos. Decorated trunks are encouraged but not mandatory.



ECC National Synod

October 9 - 12, 2026

Light of Christ will be sending our delegates to Minnesota this month. We ask to pray for them as they journey to represent our voice to the communion as a whole and we look forward to hearing their reflections when they return.



There is a lot of legislation before the Synod this year. The proposed legislation can be found at the link here (<https://files.constantcontact.com/0540038b201/84be3274-4aee-4766-a23a-b7e097527384.pdf>). A huge thank you to those who have provided feedback to our delegates.

Synod events shared on Zoom

Saturday, October 10

8 AM - State of the Communion
with Bishop Pablo Burson
6:30 PM - Peter Mayer Concert

Sunday, October 11

10 AM- ECC Synod Mass

The Zoom link for these events will be sent via All-Parish email.

Our delegates for the 2026 Synod are:

House of Laity

Paul Acker

Brenna Brackett

Kassidy Brackett

Steve de Haas

House of Pastors

Fr. Teri Harroun

Helen Majzler

Upcoming Events

Bethlehem Lutheran is celebrating 125 years of serving the Longmont Community and have invited Light of Christ to the occasion!



On **Sunday, December 6th**, Bethlehem Lutheran will be celebrating their 125th anniversary! There will be a single **service at 10AM** followed by a catered **banquet at noon**. All members of Light of Christ are invited to attend both.

Tickets for the luncheon are currently on sale through November 22. The price is \$10 (children under 5 are free). They are available from the BL office or online at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YXX6/campaign/C-16JSH>

Hope for the Holidays

For the fifth year in a row, Light of Christ and Bethlehem Lutheran will join people from across our nation in writing Christmas cards of support and encouragement to incarcerated immigrants who are waiting for their court cases to be heard. Many have faced life-threatening situations and are traumatized. We send them the message that they are not forgotten. We write messages in English or in Spanish.

Cards can be picked up in the Narthex at any time or sign cards in the Narthex on November 14 and 21 and return them by December 1.





A Special Thank You

A special thank you goes out to our community as three people stepped forward to be a part of the new Parish Council, giving us a full compliment. They will be brought forward and blessed by the community in late October or November.

Parish Council Highlights

- Parish Council is drawing up plans for a three month sabbatical for Fr. Teri in 2028. We are excited to give her time and space for reflection.
- Parish Council is finalizing the plans for our participation in the ECC national Synod.
- Parish Council would like to thank everyone who joined us at the All-community Potluck ECC synod delegate meeting.
- The Community Support fund has identified the various local projects that Light of Christ will be supporting throughout the remainder of the year. If there are any community projects to support going forward, please contact Paul Acker.

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:

- Completing preparations for the upcoming ECC national Synod.
- Beginning preparations for the regional bishop call and elections.
- Seeking members of LOC to serve on the regional bishop call team.

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
middle and high school youth
- 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.

Community Support Fund.

LoC actively supports various community charities with direct financial support based upon need and impact to ensure maximum impact and prudent use of church funds.

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 Macaraeg; Don Tebow;
Gina Hinnegan; Janell Flaig;
Kelly de Haas; Linda Moses; Linda Kay
Christon; Louise; Loyce; Michael Degnan;
Monica; Patrick and Paula Degnan; Sally
Allen; Steve and Veronica Neer; Theresa
C., Wes Evans; Will C.

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 online readings resume September 22nd as we continue exploring "We Make the Road 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