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!



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

https://lightofchristecc.org/

Office hours

Tues. - Thurs. 9am- 2 pm

Pastor

Father Teri Harroun, MDiv, D. Min
pastor@lightofchristecc.org

Pastoral Care Assistant: **Tim Shead**
churchoffice@lightofchristecc.org

Parish Council Members:
Brenna Brackett, Heather Brubaker, Patty Germain, Eric Matthews, Judy Nielsen
parishcouncil@lightofchristecc.org

Stephen Ministry:
stephenministry@lightofchristecc.org

New Parish Council Members

We would like to welcome and introduce our newest members of Parish Council, who will be blessed by the community at Mass on **November 7.**



Heather Brubaker

I have been attending LOC for the last 16 years. I have two daughters that grew up attending youth activities at LOC. I am an Art Teacher in SVVSD. I look forward to serving on the council.

Patty Germain



I joined Light of Christ after returning to Colorado in 2021 following my retirement. Sharing a home with my daughter, son-in-law, and two lively little granddaughters is a true blessing. In my pastime I enjoy scrapbooking photos of my family and of vacations . Researching genealogy together with one of my sisters is another great interest.



Judy Nielsen

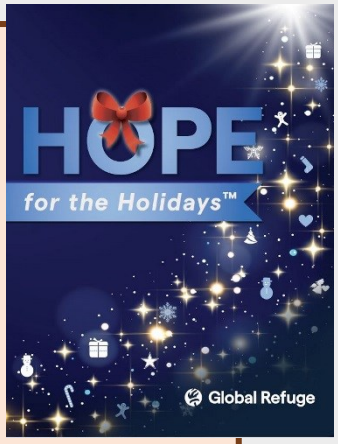
I have been a member of the Ecumenical Catholic Community since the first service that was held at the Longmont's Senior Center. Fr Scott Jenkins started the Mass and we all sang "ALL ARE WELCOME ". Twenty one years later, I still feel that sentiment every time I I walk through the doors here at our home within Bethlehem Lutheran Church. I love the fact that it was WE THE COMMUNITY that elected to name our church community LIGHT OF CHRIST.

Fall Church Cleanup



Every house needs a little sprucing up now and again and the House of God is no different. As part of the Advent preparations, Light of Christ and Bethlehem Lutheran will be dusting, polishing and cleaning the church on **Saturday, November 7th,** starting at **8:00 AM.** Come join us as we give our home some love and shine.

Hope for the Holidays

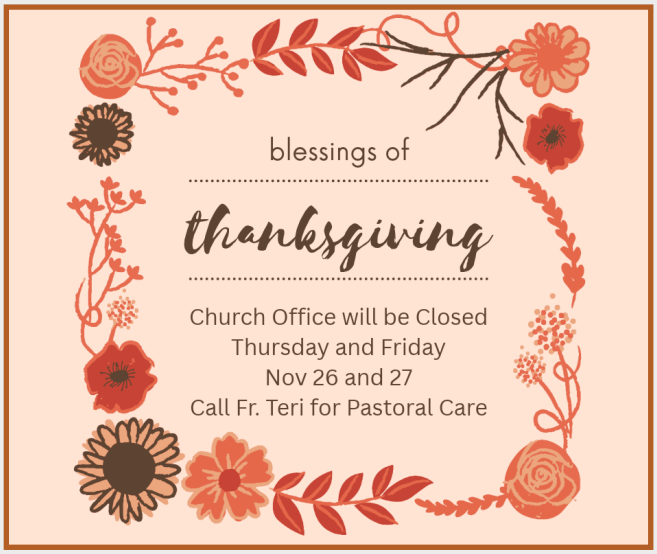


For the past four years, Hope for the Holidays (an ELCA program) have encouraged church members to write cards at Christmas to immigrants in detention. This year, the detention centers are refusing to accept cards. Therefore, the Lutherands are engaging in a writing campaign focused on immigrant advocacy and BLC is inviting our members to participate.

On **November 14 and 21,** folks from BLC will be in the Narthex with supplies, information and help to advocate for humane treatment of immigrants. These messages will be sent to Colorado legislators and police departments. Please contact the church office for more information.

Special Music Practice

To help prepare for Advent, a short practice session will be held on Saturday, **November 14th,** directly after Mass. We will be practicing the Processional Hymn for the four weeks of Advent. All are invited to stay and participate.



Community Support Ministry



The Community Support Ministry (formerly Discretionary Funds ministry) was created by Parish Council to research and select local, regional or national non-profit projects that would benefit from a financial donation. Paul Acker, Sally Allen, Marlene Rogers and David Sipiora currently make up the team. Each quarter, the team researches and selects a project that reflects the mission and faith values of LOC. The most recent donation was awarded to Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley.

Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley is a steadfast partner for individuals and families affected by domestic violence, elder abuse, human trafficking, and teen dating violence. Founded in 1978, we've been serving the St. Vrain Valley community for over 48 years.

In addition to providing an emergency shelter, Safe Shelter provides a 24/7 crisis support hotline, counseling and case management, legal advocacy, community education and prevention as well as support for survivors of abuse.

Welcoming our New Neighbors



Annie & Millie's Place

Our church family is growing as Annie and Millie's Place now has an office here in the church. For those who may not be aware, Annie and Millie's Place was founded by BLC's deaconess Kristen Baltrum and is dedicated to providing the unhomed in Longmont with pet supplies and services so that homeless individuals can continue to care for their pets even during homelessness.

To properly welcome them, Light of Christ is collecting donations of new toys, treats, small food bags (2-5lb) for cats/dogs, large dog coats (preferably new), and collapsible water bowls. We will be collecting throughout November.

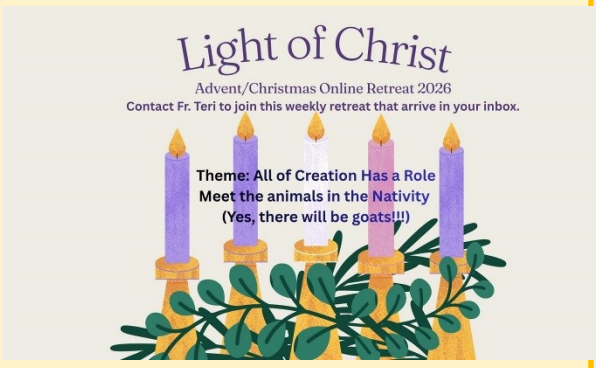
Bethlehem Lutheran is celebrating 125 years and Light of Christ is invited to the occasion!



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

Online Advent Retreat



We will be offering an Online Retreat during Advent again this year. This advent, the retreat will focus on "All Creation Has a Role". If you have participated in previous online retreats, you are already signed up for the Advent retreat and there is nothing else for you to do. If you are interested in joining us, please send an e-mail to Fr. Teri at pastor@lightofchristecc.org by **Tuesday, November 24th**. The retreat begins on **Sunday, November 29th** and will be distributed weekly through Epiphany.

Wednesdays in Advent

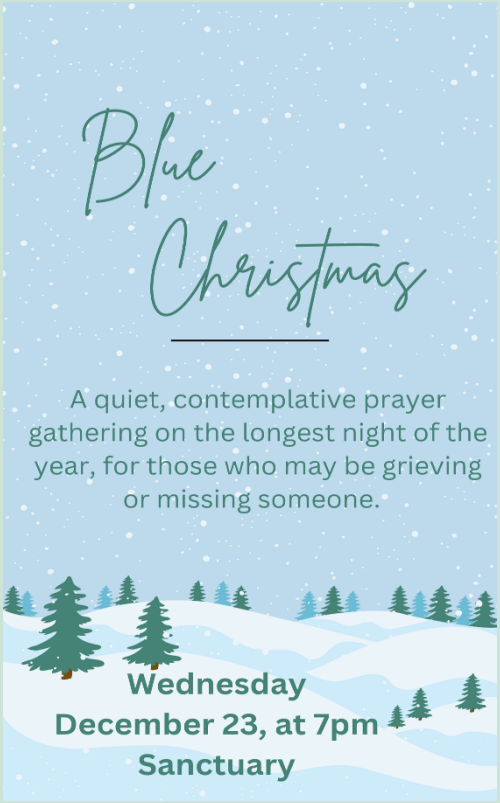
The BLC faith formation team is inviting Light of Christ to gather for an advent family night on **Wednesday, December 2nd**. You are welcome to bring your own supper and eat together at **6:30 pm**. Advent crafts and holiday fun will begin at **7 pm**.

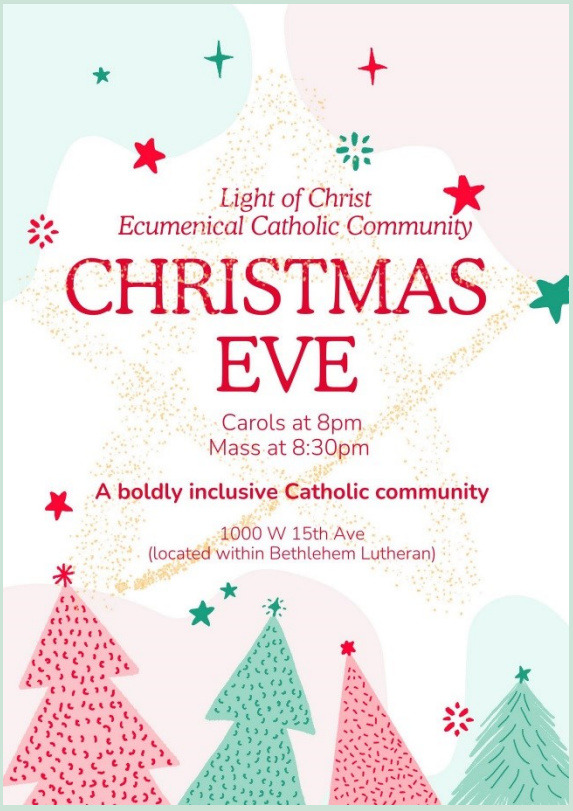
There are no scheduled services on December 9th or 16th. There will be Blue Christmas service on Wednesday, **December 23** at **7 pm**.

Christmas is Coming!

Blue Christmas

For some, the holidays are not a time of cheer. Light of Christ and Bethlehem Lutheran will be holding a combined service of comfort and hope on **Wednesday**, **December 23rd** at **7pm.** This service is in-person only and will not be broadcast on Youtube or Facebook. See Fr. Teri if you have any questions.





Christmas Services

On **Thursday, December 24**, we will start with traditional carols at **8 pm** and Mass will begin at **8:30 pm**. Mass will include 'Silent Night' sung by candlelight.

Additionally, there will be a combined **family service** with Bethlehem Lutheran held at **4 pm**.

Council News

Parish Council Highlights

- Parish Council would like to welcome Heather, Judy and Patty .
- Parish Council would like to thank Ann, Paul and Paulette for their service on Council.
- Thanks goes out to our delegates for representing us at the National Synod
- Parish Council would encourage parishioners to support our Lutheran siblings as they celebrate their 125th anniversary. The specifics of times and tickets are available elsewhere in the Newsletter.



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:

- Puting together a timeline for the local bishop call process.
- Created a charge for the local bishop call committee.
- Created a regional video for the Synod Parade of Parishes videos.
- Steve de Haas will represent LOC on the Bishop Call Committee.
- Continue work on guidelines for pastor transitions.

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.

Round Pantry

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

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.

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.

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 grows and donates over 5,000lbs of food annually 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 missioners 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; Compan Thomas; Don Tebow; Gina Hinnegan; Janell Flaig; Kelly de Haas; Linda Moses; Linda Kay Christon; Louise; Loyce; Michael Degnan; Patrick and Paula Degnan; Sally Allen; 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

We are exploring "We Make the Road by Walking" for our Tuesday morning online readings.

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 **Domestic abuse crisis line: 1-303-772-4422**

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:	**THE OUR CENTER**, located at:	**THE ROUND PANTRY**, located at:
804 Lincoln St. Longmont, CO 80501 (720) 494-4673	220 Collyer St. Longmont, CO 80501 (303) 773-5529	1500 Hover St. (Westview Pres) Longmont, CO 80501 (303) 776-3242