



Montana Synod Weekly Announcements January 16, 2023

**The synod office will be closed today
in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.
Day**

[Download the Bishop's Annual Meeting letter here](#)

Church and Clergy Compliance Advisor

[Click here for the latest edition of the newsletter, including :](#)

Can all church employees qualify for housing allowance?

and

Quarterly Estimated Tax Payments – Reminder

New 2023 mileage rates:

Beginning on January 1, 2023, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups, or panel trucks) will be:

- 65.5 cents per mile driven for business use, up 3 cents from the midyear increase setting the rate for the second half of 2022.
- 22 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes for qualified active-duty members of the Armed Forces, consistent with the increased midyear rate set for the second half of 2022.
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations; the rate is set by statute and remains unchanged from 2022.

These rates apply to electric and hybrid-electric automobiles, as well as gasoline and

diesel-powered vehicles.

For clergy doing their own taxes: 2023 Church & Clergy Tax Guide

This guide will help you:

- Prepare 2022 tax returns
- Understand tax laws
- Correctly report federal income taxes and social security taxes
- Reduce tax liability

This guide is ideal for:

- Executive pastors
- Senior and solo pastors
- Church treasurers
- Church board members
- Church bookkeepers

Church attorneys, CPAs, and tax practitioners

[Click here for more information](#)

Discernment Event for Intentional Interim Ministry

offered by Lutheran Transitional Ministry Association (LuTMA)

Am I being called to serve as an Intentional Interim Pastor? A 2-hour online discernment workshop will be offered on Tuesday, January 24, 1pm--3pm Central Time Zone. Register at [Lutheran Transitional Ministry Association](#)



LUTHERAN VOLUNTEER CORPS

BUILDING COMMUNITY, WORKING FOR JUSTICE,
LIVING SIMPLY AND SUSTAINABLY

Apply Now To Become an LVC Fellow



Deadline to Register is January 20th

**Montana Winter Theological Retreat: Journeying with God, Tales of God's
Faithfulness in Troubling Times**

February 5th through 7th at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp – Lakeside, MT

To Learn More or Register:
[NRIT \(montanasynod.org\)](http://NRIT(montanasynod.org))

NRIT Digital Classes Available for Streaming:

- **Reading Revelation without Fear** (6 hour biblical class taught by Pr. Julia Seymour) Great class for an adult study. Can stream in shorter sections.
- **Heaven, Hell, Death and Judgement** (6 hour class taught by Pr. Julia Seymour)
- For council training, access this free resource, recorded a few years ago but still applicable: **Serving on the Congregations Council**
Scroll down to the bottom of the NRIT homepage to find this digital class.

An Event of the 2023 Faith Climate Action Montana Speaker Series

Cultivating Steadfastness In a Time of Planetary Crisis



An Evening of Conversation with Elizabeth Schenk

Moderated by FCAM Member Karin Craven

Humanities
MONTANA

Tuesday, January 24th at 6 PM
The Sanctuary of St. Paul Lutheran Church
202 Brooks Street, Missoula MT



Elizabeth Schenk, PhD, RN, FAAN is Providence's National Executive Director for Environmental Stewardship. For over 25 years she has been recognized as a pioneer in managing medical care with a view to its broad range of environmental impacts, including that of climate change. As a representative of Providence, Dr. Schenk recently attended COP27, the United Nations Climate Change Conference held at Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

Contact Abigail at faithandclimateactionmt@gmail.com with any questions.

FREE WEBINAR

Why Trust and Trying Harder are Not Enough

with Tod Bolsinger & Shannon Kiser

Tuesday, January 17th
2:30-3:30pm ET

REGISTER



In a world where so many leaders seem to be either burning out or crashing in a moral crisis, it would seem that being a leader that others can rely on would be the gold standard.

But what if it is necessary, but not enough? What then?

And what if I am already too tired to even think about adding something more to my “leadership level up list”, what do I do?

And even more, what if I have run out of inspiring sermons or motivational team talks? How do I lead then?

This webinar is about leadership that is beyond being perfectly trustworthy, trying harder, or being charismatically inspiring. It’s about real leadership for real challenges in real time. And it’s mostly about some small tweaks to what you are already doing and learning one new thing that you are probably interested in doing anyway.

[Learn more and how to register here!](#)

January, 2023

*Information for our
Congregations*

Watch this month for Christikon brochures on opportunities for youth. It’s not too early to start thinking about this summer. Youth brochures will be mailed to every young person in grades 4-12 in our congregations this month. Those brochures will detail some very



special deals for registering early for camp. We hope to serve even more people from our member congregations in 2023!

Early registrations have been very strong so get registered earlier than later!

Save the date: Christikon Benefit Auction is scheduled for April 23rd.

Too few of our nation's young people (not to mention adults) have significant outdoor experience. Christikon combines spirited outdoor experience with a community experience that helps

open people to the life of faith. Think about joining the Christikon life this coming summer. It can do a world of good...

It is the mission of Christikon to awaken and nurture faith in Christ—exploring God's creation and the adventure of life together.

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FLBC 2023 Summer Staff

We are excited to assemble a team of dedicated, talented, faith-filled summer staff to make ministry happen! We've significantly increased our weekly pay, which we hope will make spending a summer at camp a financially feasible option for more potential applicants. More information and instructions to apply can be found on our website: <https://flbc.net/work-at-flbc/> We greatly appreciate your help spreading the word and helping us recruit staff!



Registration for 2023 Youth Camping Programs is OPEN!

Visit <https://flbc.net/summer-camp/> to find information on all of the programs being offered in 2023, and to register! Register early to receive a discount on your registration fees - register by March 1st and save \$100; by April 1st and save \$50.

The Application Opens for Adult Volunteers/Camp Pastors/Youth Directors on February 16th, 2023, at 10AM!

Upcoming Retreats & Events

Find other retreats and information online at <https://flbc.net/annual-programming/>

Ski - Snowboard - Stay Winter Retreat ❄️

January 13-16, 2023 (Fri-Sunday, or stay through Monday) || \$150/person Fri-Sunday – OR – \$175/person Friday – Monday ~ For youth groups coming together: 1 free adult for every 5 youth. Register by January 3rd, 2023.

Let FLBC be your basecamp for a winter adventure! Come for all or part of the long

weekend. Spend the day at camp or head to one of our local ski/snowboard areas or cross country ski trails, or spend the weekend hanging out at camp! This weekend is for youth groups, families, adults, and Junior/Senior High individual campers. Price does not include lift tickets or rentals.

Couples Care Retreat ♥

February 24-26, 2023 || \$325 per couple

Register by February 14th, 2023

This weekend is ideal for couples who desire to strengthen their relationship and experience deeper joy together, and for those who want to take intentional time to renew and grow their faith as an individual and as a couple. Time for relaxation, hiking, campfire worships, and great food will round out the weekend. Julie Engh Peters & Pastor Lindean Barnett Christenson will provide a guided couples relationship workshop using John Gottman's "Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work" curriculum.

2023 Upcoming Events/Retreats:

Mar 27–31 Spring Break Day Camp (Grades 1–6)

April 9 Easter Sunrise Service

May 14 Mother's Day Brunch

May 26–29 Memorial Day Work Weekend + Family Retreat

June 9–11 Women's Retreat with Rev Dr. Meggan Manlove

June 10 Partners Luncheon Speaker Ben Haugestuen

June 30–July 2 Family & Friends Weekend + 80 Years Celebration with Rev Gary Cockrell & Brad Abbott

July 21–23 Family Weekend with Pr. JP Carlson (MSU Campus Ministry)

July 28–30 Wild Women on the Water with Elizabeth Peterson

Sept 1–4 Labor Day Work/Family Retreat

October 14 Harvest Festival

October 20–22 Grief Retreat

October 29–31 Flathead Theological Conference with Dr. Rachel Wrenn – "The Bible in 24 Hours"

November 9–12 Crazy About Quilting and Crafts Retreat

December 8–10 Advent Retreat

December 27–29 Young Adult Retreat

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