



## Montana Synod Weekly Announcements February 6, 2023

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**Remember to submit your  
congregational Parochial  
Report here!**

### **Attention all active Rostered Leaders!**

Please fill out your **annual report to the Bishop here!** This year you are able to save your form and continue filling it out later. To do this, scroll to the bottom and click "Save" and you can select the method to receive a link that you can click to continue filling out the form.

The Retired Roster and LPA forms will be sent out at a later date.

### **Statement of Intent Forms**

"Apologies to you who have tried to fill in the Statement of Intent form. It has come to my attention that it is not formatted properly. **Here is a corrected form.** Please use this to indicate the Mission Support that your congregation has approved at your Annual Meeting. Please send it to me: [pplouzinger@montanasynod.org](mailto:pplouzinger@montanasynod.org) by Feb. 28th. Thank you so much. Your indication of intentions from your congregation helps the Synod

Council and leaders to gauge and adjust the budget for 2023 and 2024.

Thank you for the support from your congregation for the sake of the work we join in together as the Synod and the ELCA.

Pastor Peggy Paugh Leuzinger,  
Director for Evangelical Mission  
in the Montana Synod



**WE ARE CHURCH TOGETHER**  
2023

**WE INVITE YOU TO SHARE YOUR MISSION SUPPORT PLAN FOR 2023.**

As you discuss your Mission Support commitment for the coming year, please consider how your offerings reflect your calling and build up the body of Christ. As a church together, we can have a greater impact in your community and beyond, sharing God's abundant grace with others.

To learn more about how God is changing lives through the ELCA, visit [LivingLutheran.org/2023](http://LivingLutheran.org/2023).

**Instructions:** Use the columns below to indicate your congregation's current level of Mission Support and your 2023 Mission Support plan. When you have completed this information, please return this form to your synod office.

Name of congregation \_\_\_\_\_  
Congregation ID number \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP code \_\_\_\_\_  
Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

	2022 ACTUAL	2023 PROJECTED	PERCENT CHANGE
Regular offerings received from members	\$	\$	%
Mission Support budgeted for sharing with the synod and worldwide ministries	\$	\$	%
Percentage of Mission Support (Mission Support divided by weekly offerings)	%	%	

\*Mission support is the portion of regular offerings that your congregation donates for synod and churchwide ministries for God's mission beyond the local congregation. For specific information about the ELCA churchwide budget, visit [ELCA.org/missionandstewardship](http://ELCA.org/missionandstewardship).

## Montana Synod Racial Justice Task Force: Legislative Session

Hi All,

Sending this along from the Montana Human Rights Network. Click the link below for a summary of last week's happenings and to act on more than what I'm including here involving Indigenous Sovereignty.

<https://mhrn.org/2023/01/28/mtleg4/?emci=653e8c52-d09d-ed11-994c-00224832eb73&emdi=da5276ce-aa9e-ed11-994c-00224832eb73&ceid=10651923>

### Indigenous Sovereignty

**Action on SJ 6** – Please tell your Senator to support this bill.

SJ 6 would recognize the trauma and harm done to Indigenous communities through the Indian boarding school system, which forcibly took children away from their families for over a century. The joint resolution would also urge the United States Congress to designate a National Day of Remembrance for the Native American children who died while attending a United States Indian boarding school.

**Action on HB 18** – The House Judiciary Committee approved this bill, please contact your Representative and tell them to support HB 18. HB 18 will establish a missing persons response team training program and grant fund that will help search and rescue teams have a quicker response to missing persons reports. This bill is a necessary step in addressing Montana's missing and murdered Indigenous people crisis.

**Action on HB 163** – Please contact your Representative and tell them to support HB 163.

HB 163 will extend the Montana Department of Justice's Missing Indigenous Persons Task Force through 2025.

**SB 119 update** – This bill passed unanimously in the Senate, and we will let you know when it is assigned for a hearing in the House.

SB 119 will provide tax exemptions for tribal members who own fee land and are in the process of converting that land to trust. The bill is an important step in affirming tribal sovereignty and helps Tribes and their members address the ravages of past federal policies like the Dawes Act. Click here to find out more about this bill.

Thanks, all!  
Stacey



## The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition

### Training Opportunity February 15th

Greetings NABS Members and Allies,  
Indian boarding schools disrupted traditional knowledge systems and many of our relatives' connections to their medicines.  
NABS invites you to join us for a virtual healing event—"Traditional Medicines For Your Healing Journey"—where Dr. Rosalyn LaPier (Blackfeet/Métis) will share how we can incorporate traditional medicines back into our daily lives.

[Register Here](#)



NRIT Digital Classes Available for Streaming:

As you begin a new year with your council, you may find this digital class helpful. It was taught by our MT Synod Treasurer, Dave Scholten this past January, 2023.

### Church Budgets 101

Course Highlights:  
Financial statement basics – How to read. What to look for.

Mechanics & controls – Protecting the pastor, staff, volunteers. Avoiding scandal and suspicion.  
Presentation and communication – Celebration of God's gifts. Abundance vs. scarcity.



Access this free resource for council training - 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.



## **The Fourth Fall Sojourn Holden Village Sept. 24 - Oct. 1, 2023**

Holden Village is a  
Lutheran retreat center

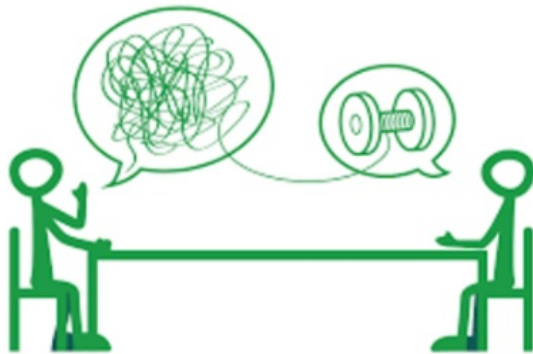
nestled in a beautiful Cascade Mountain valley of Washington State. After the busy summer schedule, fall is quieter and a beautiful time to visit.

While at Holden Village you will have the opportunity to create your own rhythms for each day according to your interests. Teaching sessions and opportunities for creative engagement will be bountiful. You are encouraged to take time for rest and recreation - hiking, fly-fishing, weaving, other crafts, and a host of other activities.

- Please let Darius Larsen know ASAP if you or others may be interested or have questions at [dariuslarsen@msn.com](mailto:dariuslarsen@msn.com).
- To discover more about Holden Village, go to [www.holdenvillage.org/visit](http://www.holdenvillage.org/visit).

[Click here to download the full pamphlet](#) to learn about the speakers!

## Coach's Corner



***Every team in the NFL,  
NHL, NBA has a coach!***

*Not to give them the answers  
but to help them discover  
strategies that will help them  
achieve their goals!*

As we move into 2023, can we  
engage with the idea of new  
beginnings for ourselves and our  
various committees in a way that  
is hopeful yet realistic, faithful  
yet flexible, compassionate yet  
just?

**Coaching** in Montana is for individuals and groups. We train to help you and/or various committees identify, and strategize goals and the means to achieve those goals.

***It's a different way to work.***

It's a safe, confidential way to explore ideas, work on alternative actions and options, and work out old frustrations looking for different answers. Montana Synod has coaches ready to help you discover your potential and find new energy.

***We are here to help, not direct, and not mentor.  
It's your ideas, your plans, and your dreams.***

<https://www.montanasynod.org/coaching-in-the-montana-synod.html>

Contact: Ps. Peggy PaughLeuzinger , DEM for Montana Synod at:

## You're invited!

**Gathering with Dr. Michael Chan, Executive Director for Faith and Learning at Concordia College, Moorhead, MN**



Tuesday, Feb. 7 | 6 p.m.-8 p.m.  
**Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp**  
**500 Lutheran Camp Rd**  
**Lakeside, MT 59922**

**Cost \$10**  
**Appetizers provided and cash bar available**

[Register Here](#)

You are invited! Come for conversation, connection, community, and meet Dr. Michael Chan and Concordia staff for college updates. Chan joined the Concordia College community in June 2022. Prior to that, he was associate professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn. He joined Luther Seminary after completing his doctorate at Emory University and a year of research and teaching at the University of Helsinki. He is a graduate of Luther Seminary (M.A. in biblical theology) and Pacific Lutheran University (B.A. in elementary education). As the executive director for Faith and Learning, Chan directs the Lorentzsen Center for Faith and Work and the Dovre Center for Faith and Learning, guides Concordia's interfaith relationships, and oversees the work of Campus Ministry.

Concordia College, Moorhead, MN is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

For more information or questions, please contact Mark Beenken at [mbeenken@cord.edu](mailto:mbeenken@cord.edu) or call Mark at 970.215.2700.

<https://concordiacollege.regfox.com/cobber-gathering-with-dr-michael-chan-winter-20223>

**Please note, this is a separate event from the NRIT Winter Theological Retreat!**



## February, 2023 *Information for our MT Synod Partners*

We are currently **recruiting staff** for the upcoming season. If you know someone who would be a good fit, direct them to [christikon.org/employment](http://christikon.org/employment) for more information and application materials.

**Family Adult** opportunities can be found at our

website. Watch for updated topics and speakers.

Register at: <https://christikon.org/registration-adult-family/>

**Do it online!** You can use the Internet to register for all camp sessions at Christikon, or to make a gift, or to find out more about this special ministry. Go to [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)

**Save the dates: The Annual Christikon Benefit Auction at the Billings Depot** is coming on **Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**. Do you know of an item, service or getaway that would be a great auction item? Please contact the office!  
Watch for further updates on our website.

This past year had its numerous challenges and opportunities for meaningful ministry, and we are thankful for the opportunity. Our plans for the 2023 season are going forward and we are excited to welcome you to Christikon this summer! Watch for updates on our website.

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

CHRISTIKON • 1108 24<sup>th</sup> Street West • Billings, MT 59102  
406 656-1969 • [secretary@christikon.org](mailto:secretary@christikon.org) • [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)

## **Couples Retreat, Feb 24-26 at FLBC! There is still time to register! Come for fun and renewal!**

FLBC is hiring for summer and year round staff! Associate Director, and Community staff/retreat Coordinator! Contact [Margie@flbc.net](mailto:Margie@flbc.net) for more information or go to [www.flbc.net](http://www.flbc.net)



Mark your calendar for Celebrating 80 years of FLBC!! June 30-July 2nd will include story telling and sharing with Rev Gary Cockrell and Brad Abbott. Saturday night, July 1, will include a free bbq, concert with Just Move (formerly AGAPE), and alumni staff led campfire worship. Bring your tent and camp out in the big field. FREE for alumni staff and alumni board!

Thank you for your prayers and care for outdoor ministry!

### **Synod Staff:**

#### **Bishop**

Laurie Jungling: [ljungling@montanasynod.org](mailto:ljungling@montanasynod.org)

#### **Associate to the Bishop**

Brenda Frelsi: [bfrelsi@montanasynod.org](mailto:bfrelsi@montanasynod.org)

#### **Director for Evangelical Mission**

Pastor Peggy Paugh Leuzinger: [ppleuzinger@montanasynod.org](mailto:ppleuzinger@montanasynod.org)

#### **Director of Technology and Communications**

Colter McCarty: [cmccarty@montanasynod.org](mailto:cmccarty@montanasynod.org)

#### **Director of NRIT**

Jenny Kunka: [j.kunka@nrit.org](mailto:j.kunka@nrit.org)

[Click here to be taken to the newsletter archive](#)



Montana Synod, ELCA | 1221 24th St. South, Great Falls, MT 59405-5034

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