



Montana Synod Weekly Announcements May 22, 2023

Candidacy Research Update

To God's beloved in the ELCA,
In the tenth chapter of Romans we read,
"How are they to call on one in whom they
have not believed? And how are they to
believe in one of whom they have never
heard? And how are they to hear without
someone to proclaim him? And how are they
to proclaim him unless they are sent?"
(Romans 10:14-15).

In response to this and other invitations in
Scripture, the church continues to educate,
form, and send rostered ministers so that all
may call on Jesus Christ, our crucified and
risen Lord. Our process to do so is currently
under review.

In March 2022 a diverse group was appointed to examine and improve the candidacy
process that equips rostered ministers for service in our church. This team is the
[Candidacy Leadership Development Working Group](#) (CLDWG.)

In the last year we have spent much of our time hosting virtual and in-person listening
sessions to learn the needs of our church. We also completed a survey for those excluded
by the candidacy process. As we move forward, the working group is prioritizing feedback
from our church.

All members of the ELCA are invited to hearings at which the working group will share its
findings. There will also be an opportunity for response. More details will be shared at the
hearings; you can find an executive summary of the team's work [here](#).

The hearings will be hosted [via Zoom](#). Please mark your calendars for one of the following:

- June 20, 7 p.m. Eastern/6 p.m. Central/5 p.m. Mountain/4 p.m. Pacific
- June 22, 1 p.m. Eastern/12 p.m. Central/11 a.m. Mountain/10 a.m. Pacific
- June 26, 2 p.m. Eastern/1 p.m. Central/12 p.m. Mountain/11 a.m. Pacific
- June 28, 10 p.m. Eastern/9 p.m. Central/8 p.m. Mountain/7 p.m. Pacific

Thank you for your prayers for this group as we seek to increase proclamation of the
gospel.

Grace and peace,



Attention Rostered Leaders and those in candidacy

This project is aimed to learn about the formation experiences for rostered ministry in the ELCA: seminary education; candidacy; clinical pastoral education (CPE)/internship/field education; call process; first call and First Call Theological Education.

The Quality of Call Team is especially interested in hearing from you if:

1. you are a candidate for rostered ministry;
2. you withdrew from candidacy;
3. you were denied or postponed at any point in your candidacy;
4. you completed the candidacy process and have awaited call for five months or longer;
5. you left your first call prior to serving for three years;
6. you went on leave from call within the first five years of rostered ministry; or
7. you resigned from the roster within the first five years of rostered ministry.

This survey will be used to help improve experiences for persons preparing for rostered ministry in the future.

If you have any questions, please email qualityofcallwomen@elca.org.

Want to help improve the formation process for future ELCA candidates of rostered ministry?



We want to learn from your experiences in formation for ELCA rostered ministry, whether you are/were rostered, are preparing to be, or did not complete the process.

For more information or to share a story, use the QR code or link: bit.ly/ELCAFormationSurvey

Trauma & Spiritual Care

Finding God in the broken places in ourselves & others

led by Rev. Matthew Kuempel,
MA, MDiv, LMHC, CMHS

Hosted by Region 1 Bishops



Join rostered leaders from Region 1 in this five-session course on trauma informed care. Utilizing readings, videos, & small & large group discussions, this class will give spiritual caregivers tools to increase their own resilience while caring for others.

Participation in all five sessions is critical because each session will build on the one that came before & will honor the group dynamic that will evolve in times of potential vulnerability as learning takes place.

Sessions will be held on Tuesdays & Thursdays beginning June 6 from 12:00-2:30 (Pacific Time) via Zoom. Participants will earn 12.5 CE credits.

SCHEDULE & RESOURCES

- Introduction to Trauma-Informed Care (June 6, 2023)
- Trauma & Me (June 8)
- Trauma & You (June 13)
- Trauma in Congregations (June 15)
- Trauma in Community (June 20)

Cost: \$100

Suggested Reading: *What Happened to You?* by Bruce Perry & Oprah Winfrey

REGISTER HERE

<https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/7162414>

Register by June 1

The ZOOM link will be emailed to participants on June 2nd



Matthew Kuempel is a licensed mental health counselor with a specialization in child and adolescent mental health. He served congregations in the mid-west, was a jail chaplain, a child and family therapist, & is currently working with incarcerated youth through Lutheran Community Services.



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EDLARJ

AWAKEN HEARTS CONFRONT INJUSTICE INSPIRE TRANSFORMATION

New Indian 101 Class

June 1, 10:00-noon CST

Class summary:

The general population knows very little about the Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island. Even the most basic topics are often grand mysteries. This is by design; for centuries the colonial project has prioritized the complete erasure of Native people. "Indian 101" explains some of these basics to build a foundation for students to stand in solidarity with Indian people across the United States as we work together to dismantle longstanding systems of oppression.

[Get more info about the next sessions on the ELCA Truth & Healing website here.](#)

These classes will not be recorded. However, if you are interested in having the class offered for your congregations, cluster or synod, contact Vance Blackfox, Director of Indigenous Ministries & Tribal Relations through the ELCA website below:

<https://elca.org/indigenous>



LCM CAMPUS MINISTRY "LIVING CHRIST'S MISSION" MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Rooted in God's grace, LCM Campus Ministry at MSU is an ecumenical (Lutheran, Methodist, Presbyterian and anyone else who would like to join us) and inclusive space for students to explore faith, engage in service, and encounter Christ's dynamic presence in community. We engage in a variety of activities including weekly gatherings on Wednesday evenings (with yummy desserts), Case of the Mondays coffee on campus, pizza and bible study, monthly Taize worship services, worship with local congregations, multiple local and international service opportunities, weekend retreat opportunities and a variety of other social events.



MORE INFO

Pastor JP
jp@lutherancats.org
www.lutherancats.org



WHERE YOUR HEART IS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer Course: "Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising"

The Lake Institute on Faith & Giving and the ELCA's Congregational Stewardship office work together to increase generosity across the church. The Lake Institute is hosting a summer online cohort for interested clergy or church leaders who want to gain fundraising acumen, learn the spirituality of fundraising, and earn a professional certificate upon completion of both the course and an independent project.

This intensive certification course will meet twice a week from June 20 through Aug. 15: on Tuesdays for plenary and an additional day for a smaller cohort. The course is available to ELCA leaders at a discounted rate of only \$950 (from \$1,350).

To learn more about this opportunity, click [here](#). Your payment for the course will be made to the ELCA, not the Lake Institute, so after registering for the course, please contact the [Rev. Larry Strenge](#) or the [Rev. Timothy Brown](#) to arrange payment.

Upcoming Stewardship Webinar: "Stewardship When Economics Are Uncertain"

The economy has been unpredictable as we slowly emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic. Unemployment remains low, yet interest rates have jumped considerably, and with three very public bank failures this year, people are being more cautious with their resources.

How can we talk about stewardship and money in a way that is honest and honors uncertain economic times?

On Aug. 21 the ELCA, in partnership with the Lake Institute on Faith & Giving, will host a webinar geared toward helping leaders talk openly, honestly and inspirationally about stewardship and generosity, even in uncertain times. The webinar will be led by the Rev. Meredith McNabb and the Rev. Tim Brown.

Mark your calendar:

"Stewardship When Economics Are Uncertain"

Monday, Aug. 21

6-7 p.m. Central time

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 835 7971 8246 Password: 000320

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,83579718246# US (Washington DC)



Check out the NRIT page of the synod website for:

- Summer/Fall In-person NRIT Events (mark your calendars, more info coming soon.)
- Recommended Online Classes
- Boundaries Training Information

<https://www.montanasynod.org/nrit>

FLBC Updates

Mothers day brunch was a fun, beautiful day! 170 people celebrating! THANKS all for your gifts for camperships!

Summer staff have begun to arrive from around the US and World!! Please pray for these amazing young adults, as they begin a summer of a lifetime!

Make plans to come to FLBC July 2nd 1-9pm for the 80th anniversary birthday party! History, swim, hikes, saunas, picnic, Concert with Just Move (formally AGAPE), worship campfire with singing through the decades!! All are welcome, no need to register, for the day, just come!! (we do have a few spots available for the whole weekend. Please contact the FLBC office to register.



June 9-11 is our annual Women's retreat with Rev. Dr. Meggan Manlove, who will be leading the sessions on "Sharing our Faith Story" Fun, laughter, and chocolate and wine! AND Pr. Meggan is the Bishop elect (as of April 29th) for the Northwest Intermountain synod of the ELCA! To register go to our web site, or call our office.

We have room for Staff in Training, June 18-23. for those entering 10th-2023 HS graduates. Come to learn what it means to be on staff, and come back for another week, to BE a staff person! Apply today!!

Summer family weekend July 21-23 with Pastor JP Carlson, MSU Campus Ministry! A great weekend relaxing weekend, of fun, food, water activities, and Bible Study. Do as much or as little as you want! Register with FLBC today!



May 2023

Information for our Congregations

There is still room to register for camp this summer! Space remains in most youth sessions and families/adult sessions, including the **Work Weekend, May 26-29. Families register online.**

Special guest speakers become part of the Christikon life this summer during sessions for adults and families. During Continuing Education Retreat (July 25-28) we feature **Dr. Eric Meyer. Watch for topic** details on our website for both Continuing Ed and Mountain Weekend. Come spend a few days of

relaxation, learning, and faith growth with us. Full

details can be found on our website www.christikon.org.

We covet your prayers for Christikon's this summer, for our summer and fulltime staff, and for all who join in the Christikon life.

CHRISTIKON

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