



Montana Synod Weekly Announcements June 26, 2023

ELCA Vital Congregational Training: Part 1

Is your congregation ready to take some steps (even small steps) toward renewal or revitalization? Are you ready to try some new things, share some ideas, gain a greater understanding of the broader mission, bring clarity about your own congregation's mission, acquire knowledge on how to live that out in community, gain confidence to share what you have learned with the world, and find new allies from within a cohort of congregations? Then, you are invited to attend the 2023 Summer Session of the ELCA Vital Congregations Training, Part 1.

This is a fast paced co-creative and co-experimental Training facilitated by leaders with steep experience in redeveloping congregations as well as added guest presenters from a variety of settings with a wealth of knowledge. These principles and more will be explored: focusing on Jesus and justice; being expectant of the Holy Spirit; living as disciples of Jesus; engaging the neighborhood/community; multiplying leaders who are young, diverse and bring fresh insights; and aligning with purpose and core values.

This will be a four-session training. The training sessions will be held two times per day from 11:30-1:00 p.m. and from 5:30-7:00 p.m. on Thursdays -- June 29th, July 13th, and July 27th. You may choose the best time each day that works for you. All sessions will be recorded and available to all registered participants. Pastors and congregations are encouraged to come as teams of 3–5 people for a time of inspiration, learning, planning, sharing, experimenting, visioning, and implementing.

NOTE: This training is for people who have not attended an ELCA Vital Congregations Training or who would like a refresher before attending the Fall 2023 Part 2 Training.

Contact DEM Peggy Paugh Leuzinger for further information or with questions.

ELCA Vital Congregations Training Summer Session 2023 Registration Link Part 1:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScHS-Jf1zcuBJ6x63EbF-L7SKa1G3t9-21HeV1Z7Kqu7oM9-w/viewform?usp=sf_link

EmployerLink Security Enhancements Coming Soon

Portico's [EmployerLink](#) sign-in process will be changing as part of our ongoing commitment to data security and privacy protection. If you're a registered EmployerLink user, later this summer we'll walk you through setting up a new way to access your account that includes two-step phone verification every time you sign in. Remember: it's important for each EmployerLink user to create their own sign-in credentials to protect your organization from people signing in who should no longer have access — for example, when someone completes their term as treasurer or leaves the organization.

Understanding and Supporting Gender-Expansive Christians

In the latest episode of Portico's Being Here Podcast — [Gender Identity and the Church](#) — host Pastor Melissa Pohlman and guest Austen Hartke discuss ways we can seek to honor the image of God found in all of us and help our church embody a spirit of welcome and acceptance. Hartke brings his perspective as a Biblical scholar and founder of the Transmission Ministry Collective to offer practical resources and theological framework for starting these important conversations.

FLBC Updates

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.



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!



June, 2023

Information for our Congregations

We're excited to welcome our first fulltime Assistant Director, Taryn Hauglie, to the leadership team. She starts June 1, and summer staff report the next day for the start of Staff Training. Our first campers arrive on the 19th.

Family Adult Camps: We welcome Dr. Eric Meyer who is an Associate Professor of the Theology Department at Carroll College to the Continuing Ed Retreat along with Pr. Kent Claussen Gubrud of Christus Victor Lutheran Church in Apple Valley, MN

and Paul Waldum instructor at MSU Bozeman and professional artist from Livingston, MT. Watch for more details coming on our website. Mountain Weekend – watch for more information on our website.

Register at www.christikon.org .

Campers! There is still room in our on-site sessions. Please visit our website to register. www.christikon.org
We have a few trails spots available – call the office for availability. 406-656-1969.

Remember to pray for your congregation's ministry through Christikon this summer, for the summer staff, and for all who join in the Christikon life.

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

CHRISTIKON

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