



**Montana Synod Weekly
Announcements
August 28, 2023**

Brought to you by the MT Synod Racial Justice Task Force:

Part 1 of a 2-Part Series

Wrestling with Colonization and the Processes of Colonialism to Strengthen Ministry

Wednesday Mornings On Zoom*

September 6th - October 4th

9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

Part 1 costs:**

- Clergy Members: **\$125**
- Lay Pastoral Associates (ELCA): **\$50**
- Lay Members: **\$25**

* Attending all 5 sessions is highly encouraged to aid in group participation and discussion. Sessions will not be recorded. If it's necessary to miss more than one session, we suggest waiting to register until the next series offering.

** Part 2 will have a separate registration (dates TBD).

For more information and to register: Visit the NRIT webpage at montanasynod.org/nrit
Questions? Email us at rjtfmtnsynod@gmail.com

Course Teaching Team:



**Francine
Spang-Willis**

is of Cheyenne, Pawnee, and settler descent. She is an oral historian, educator, strategist, researcher, and content curator, and owner of Appearing Flying Woman Consulting based in Bozeman, Montana. Francine earned an Oral History Master of Arts (OHMA) degree from Columbia University. She also has a Native American Studies Master of Arts degree from Montana State University.



**Raimund
Combs**

is of Tsimshian First Nations and German descent. He is a veteran of two military services and two federal law enforcement agencies, totaling 28 years service to the United States. He recently graduated with dual Bachelor of Arts degrees in Environmental and Native American Studies, and has been working as an educator in Missoula the past 4 years.



**John
Lund**

is of Finnish and Sicilian descent and serves as pastor at University Congregational Church, UCC in Missoula. In Missoula John has served as a connecting point between the campus community, congregations, and non-profits. He has organized and/or led numerous workshops, book studies, lectures, community action events and community celebrations.

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

CREATED

TO
the table

BE

MYLE
Young
Adult
Gathering

If your congregation is planning on sending youth to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans, please attend a zoom meeting on Tuesday, September 12 at 7 pm. This zoom will be a time for you to ask questions about registration (which opens on Sept. 15), to find out who else is going from the Montana Synod and to talk about traveling together to the gathering.

If you wish to attend the zoom, please contact Pastor Brenda in the Synod office (bfrelsi@montanasynod.org) for an invitation to the zoom.

For additional information about the Youth Gathering [click here!](#)

**Registration is Open for
the
2023-2024 Basic Training
in Transitions (BTT)
Course
Lutheran Transitional
Ministry Association
(LuTMA)**

**For all Pastors who sense a call
to serve as
Intentional Interim Ministers
to help congregations through
pastoral transitions.**

2023-2024 BTT Course
Phase 1: 12 virtual 90 minutes
classes on Thursdays.
Begin Oct 5, 2023 with an
introduction to Google Classroom.
Phase 2: 1 week residential April 8-

**IMA-ELCA Webinar on
Transition Consulting
Monday, September 18,
2023
1:00 - 3:00 pm EDT**

*Co-sponsored by the Interim
Ministry Association (ELCA)
and the
Center for Congregational Health.*

Transition Consultants:
Who are They
and How Does a Church Leader
Become One?

LuTMA friends/colleagues are
welcome to join this **free** 2 hour

12, 2024
(Location to be determined.)

For more information and registration:

Visit the LuTMA website

[Link to the LuTMA Website](#)

(Go to tab: Education - Basic Training)

event.
The Zoom link will be sent to all registrants within 24 hours of the event.

For more information and registration go to:

<https://brushfire.com/healthychurch/transitionconsulting/559223>

Wondering how to lead in challenging times?
Leading without hope?
Hoping something will change?
Changing without a plan?

www.rmselfca.org/excellence-in-leadership

Excellence in
LEADERSHIP
Rocky Mountain Synod, ELCA



Enhancing Worship with

Art: Music, Design, Visual Elements and Themes

Led by Pr. Julie Long

-**September 9th**, 10:00am to 3:30pm at [New Hope Lutheran in Great Falls](#)

-**September 23rd**, 10:00am to 3:30pm at [Zion Lutheran in Glendive](#)

-**October 7th**, 10:00am to 3:30pm at [Northridge Lutheran in Kalispell](#)

Cost: \$25

All are welcome to come, learn and share ideas for music, liturgy and enhancing church spaces to emphasize worship and sermon themes. This workshop will involve singing a variety of songs and liturgies from “Evangelical Lutheran Worship”, “All Creation Sings” as well as from other resources and composers. In addition to music, ideas will be presented using our senses to enhance worship spaces to highlight seasonal and sermon themes included in the Revised Common Lectionary and Narrative Lectionary. Led by retired pastor Julie Long.



Montana Rural Ministry: Hope and Possibility

Believing that the future of rural ministry is ecumenical and also knowing that there are hopeful possibilities for rural ministry in Montana, we'd like to invite both pastors and lay people to this ecumenical gathering as a time to ask questions and envision the future.

Designed for both rostered leaders and lay people, with a special invitation to lay leaders from congregations considering working together with other nearby congregations. This is an ecumenical event!

Led by Dr. Mark Yackel-Juleen *Director of the Center for Theology and Land at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. Mark is also the Chair of the Rural Ministry Network of the United States and Canada and the International Rural Churches Association.*

1pm Wednesday, Oct. 11 through noon Thursday, Oct 12
St. John's Lutheran, Great Falls

Only \$25 and supper Wednesday night is provided. Participants need to find their own lodging for Wednesday evening.

FAITH OVER FEAR

Welcoming Our Muslim Neighbors

BOZEMAN MONTANA

October 5, 2023

A training for people of faith to be allies to our Muslim Neighbors, and others in our communities.



FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER, VISIT:
MontanaSynod.org/nrit.html

During this training you will:

- Build stronger local multi-religious networks
- Improve skills and confidence to speak against anti-Muslim/anti-other rhetoric & discrimination
- Increase community discussions to effectively counter anti-Muslim & other discrimination

Participants are eligible for 6 CEUs through NRIT



SHOULDER TO SHOULDER
Standing with American Muslims. Advancing American Ideals.



"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



September 10
2023

Worship Resources for "God's work. Our hands." Sunday

If you are still planning for "God's work. Our hands." Sunday (Sept. 10), resources are available. Newly crafted liturgical texts and considerations for preaching help make connections between the lectionary texts and the theme "God's work. Our hands."

Join us at
**ELEA Innovative Leadership Summit:
Developing the Leader Within**
October 27-29, 2023

[Register](#)

ELEA Innovative Leadership Summit is intense training for leaders of ELCA Schools and Learning Centers who are interested in building a network for themselves, developing new skills and innovative strategies, and re-inspiring passion for your mission. *We encourage Pastors and Administrators to attend together and will offer ways to connect if that is not possible.*

[View our program guide \(draft\)](#)

Date/Time

Our program will begin on October 27th at 1:00 pm. There will be an early-bird welcome on October 26th for those arriving early. Our program will conclude on October 29th by Noon. Please schedule travel accordingly.

Fees/Admission

This event is offered at a rate of \$375/person. This fee covers a multitude of engaging workshop offerings, Saturday Lunch, and breaks as well as resources, panelist time, and much more. Room rates have been secured at \$119. Once participants are registered we will share the attendee list in case you would like to share a room.

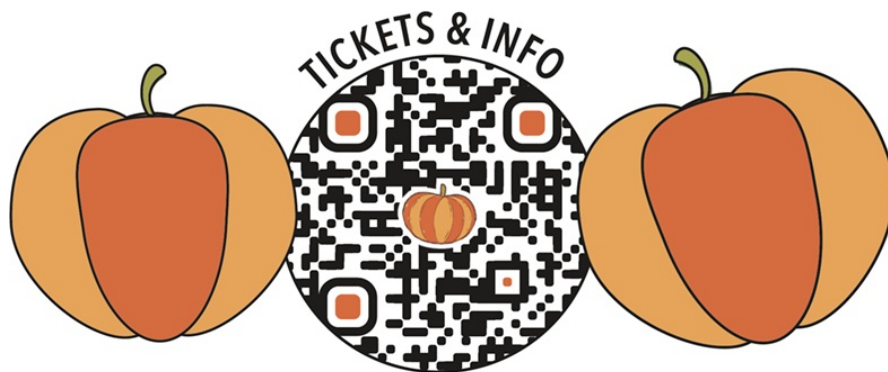


ELEA INNOVATIVE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT:
DEVELOPING THE LEADER WITHIN
AN INSPIRING LEADERSHIP EVENT

MEET THE SPEAKERS

 JENNIFER SKIBBA Personell	 CODY COTTON Impact	 JANELLE HOOPER Faith	 CHRIS COMELLA Diversity
 MICHAEL ROTTMAN Energy	 CHERYL COLLINS Equity	 DON GILLINGHAM Strategy	

OCTOBER 27-29, 2023 | CHICAGO, IL | WWW.ELCASCHOOLS.ORG



Harvest Festival and Auction at FLBC

Buy your tickets now for the Semi Annual Fall Harvest Fest and Auction, Oct 14th, benefitting Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp. A single ticket is \$50 or you can get a whole table (8 tickets) for \$350. This event helps make camp a reality for every single

kid or family by offsetting the cost per camper.

[Click Here for Tickets](#)

Confirmation! FLBC has had some requests for an on-line confirmation class, with 3-4 retreats at FLBC during the year. The class would/could be for students across the synod who Would zoom together for class, and then gather for retreats, and or a week of summer confirmation camp. Would any of you Pastors/LPS's/lay leaders be interested in this for your student(s)?? Would you be willing to help teach? What curriculum would be the most helpful for your congregation? Please contact Associate Director Pastor Amanda Applehans. Amanda@flbc.net



Grief Retreat: October 20-23, with professional counselor and Pastor Keith. For those adults coping with the loss of a friend, or family member. Registration deadline Oct 6th.

The Bible in 24 hours, October 29-31, (Sunday-Tuesday) Come enjoy FLBC in the fall. Relax, hike, sip some wine, and enjoy learning more about the Bible with Dr. Rachel Wrenn, Biblical Studie professor a Trinity Seminary, Columbus, OH.

Young Adults! Plan now to attend the young adult retreat, Dec 27-29 at FLBC. Ski, play, enjoy the new sauna, with a dip in the lake! Join Baird Linke, and the FLBC staff who will lead the sessions, on the theme: "Spiritual Wilderness" \$100 per person; 18-35 year olds. Registration deadline Dec. 13th.

THANK YOU....for all our amazing 57 summer staff, over 50 volunteers, and over 1200 campers who made the summer of 2023 extra special. THANKS be to God

For questions and more details, or if you would like the schedule of these retreats: call FLBC at 406-752-6602. (leave a voice message, as many of our staff work remotely) or email Registraion@flbc.net.



Christikon Clips

August 2023

Information for our Congregations

As you are reading this clip, we are readying for the last sessions of our 72nd season. We hosted over 500 campers so far this season including youth, families, adults and at-risk youth. We have retreats schedule through mid-October.

Our summer staff will be completing their stay with us and will soon be heading back to their lives outside of Christikon.

We look forward to our congregational and family retreats scheduled this fall. A few retreat times are still available.

Call Kerry in the office and reserve a time.

We continue to ask for your prayers for those traveling to camp, our staff, and campers.

Blessings to all of you who support Christikon with prayer, time, skills, and your generous donations. We are grateful!

Please visit <https://christikon.org/donate-to-christikon/> and continue your support.

**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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Director of NRIT

Jenny Kunka: j.kunka@nrit.org

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



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