



News of the Week May 3, 2023

Prayers of the Week

**Please remember in your prayers
this week:**

For the missing and murdered
Indigenous women and their families in
the Montana Synod and around the
country.

**From the Montana Synod Prayer
Calendar:**

Hope Lutheran Church, Anaconda
Freedom in Christ Prison Congregation,
Deer Lodge

Greater Milwaukee Synod



**Make sure to scroll to the bottom of
today's news for an important Words
from the Bishop**

2023 Assembly Information

**Registrations close next
week on May 11th!**

[Click here to download the draft assembly schedule!](#)

A few things to remember before registering:

- Have all information needed to register beforehand including Name, email, physical address, and any meal requirements for each person registering.
- Carefully read all options available before registering, make sure to select the appropriate option for your registration.
- An individual email is required for each person.
- If prompted for a country code at the address portion of the registration, enter the number 1.
- All payments are online only.
- There will be **NO in person registration** at the assembly. All voting members **Must** be registered before the registration cut off date of May 11th.
- There is **no need** to print the tickets generated by Tithely. You will receive your registration packet in person at the assembly.

[Click here to register for the 2023 Montana Synod Assembly!](#)

After you register make sure that you have a room reserved at the [Heritage Inn](#) in Great Falls and ask for our discounted room rate for the Montana Synod Assembly.

If you would like to register for a display table, submit a video or annual report, or help sponsor part of the assembly [download the form here!](#)

Any questions about registration can be directed to: cmccarty@montanasynod.org.

NEEDED: Montana & Northern Wyoming Synod Vice President Nominees

The nomination committee is seeking 2 individuals to run for Vice president of the Montana Synod. The task of the committee is to collect names of people interested in filling this position. Of the names submitted, we will then choose 2 names to put on the ballot at the Synod Assembly in June.

This position must be filled by a lay person who has leadership experience. Knowledge, or a willingness to learn, regarding fundraising, planned giving and gift annuities would also be helpful. [Attached is a job description](#) for this position.

Office Transition

Due to health reasons Lori Jara is no longer an employee of the Montana Synod. Please continue to send your emails to office@montanasynod.org

Words from the Bishop: Prayers for MMIP

When you remember me, it means that you have carried something of who I am with you, that I have left some mark of who I am on who you are. It means that you can summon me back to your mind, even though countless years and miles may stand between us. It means that if we meet again, you will know me. It means that even after I die, you can still see my face and hear my voice and speak to me in your heart.



-Theologian Frederick Buechner

In 2017, Senators Steve Daines and Jon Tester from Montana introduced a resolution recognizing May 5, as a National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls. It was in response to the murder of Hanna Harris on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation and other abductions and killings of Native women across the United States. Indigenous women are four times more likely to experience violence than non-Indigenous women.

Since 2017, actions on May 5th to honor Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women as well as all Indigenous peoples at the local, regional, and national levels continue to grow across the United States and internationally. These efforts are as varied as the Indian Nations where they are being organized. The silence of tolerance and inaction is being challenged through various actions such as wearing Red on this day and engaging in education and awareness. See below for the list of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People in Montana.

The Montana Synod Assembly will be hosting a Vigil to Remember Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples as we gather together at the beginning of June. But today, on the Day of Awareness, we will remember that we are all children of God, and we are called to honor every life. Today we will honor the lives lost from our presence. Today we will pray for the families, friends and communities who remain behind wondering and grieving. Today we will call for justice on behalf of Indigenous peoples.

Let us pray...

Our hearts are heavy as we come to you, God, seeking your mercy and grace for the Indigenous women and girls as well as all indigenous people who have been taken from us too soon. Provide the families and communities with comfort and peace. Let us not forget that every person has inherent dignity and worth and that violence against Indigenous people is an affront to that dignity and give us the courage to continue to pray, advocate, and work towards a world where every person feels safe and valued.

We pray for guidance and strength as we fight for justice on their behalf. We will not forget those who have lost their lives or the love that remains in their wake. Today, we honor their memory in prayer, grateful for the hope you provide in times of heartache and injustice. Hear us as we offer our prayers and plea for justice. Amen.

[borrowed and paraphrased from MMIW Candlelight Prayer Vigil developed and written by Dr. Kelly Sherman-Conroy (Oglala Lakota)]

What follows is a complete list as of May 2, 2023 of the missing and murdered Indigenous people in Montana (highlights denote women)

Tyana Whitehawk
Shacaiah Harding
Robert Garrett Stewart Jr.
Levi Brian Yellow Mule
James Limberhand
Diane Medicine Horse
Ashley Loring Heavy Runner
Arden Pepion
Robert Grant Alexander
Indica Laroux Antoine
Berea Kadesh Bigby
Howard Delane Burlison
Jermain Austin Charlo
Alicia Chavez
Pernell Albert Dionne III
Heavenly Echo Renee Erickson
Susan Green
Valen Roy Hotomane
Jody Fern Howard
Amy Marie Johnson
Freda Jane Knowshisgun
Leeann Norunner
Tarinia Kathryn Littlelight
Noah Franklin-Mark Lopez
Kaitlin Jaqui McCoy
Hunter Anthony Moskaloff
Zack Peterson
Randoph Chivers PlentyHawk
Jude Dale Pretty Weasel
Thomas Seth Redwolf
Isaah Gilbert Reevis
Richard George Roastingstick
Laraya Rose Rowland
Kiaya Runningcrane
Cortney Runningcrane
Kamille Murray Samuels
Maia Brooke Skull
Chauntel Dawn Sorrell
Boosie Stinson
Sean Lee Tran
Leo Wagner
Merry Walker
Tanner Walker
Angelee Jadereonna Wellknown
Hub Binion Williamson
Gabriel Jose Zavala Jr.

Synod Staff:

Bishop

Laurie Jungling: ljungling@montanasynod.org

Associate to the Bishop

Brenda Frelsi: bfrelsi@montanasynod.org

Director for Evangelical Mission

Pastor Peggy Paugh Leuzinger: ppleuzinger@montanasynod.org

Director of Technology and Communications

Colter McCarty: cmccarty@montanasynod.org

Office Manager
office@montanasynod.org

Director of NRIT
Jenny Kunka: j.kunka@nrit.org

[Click here to give to the Montana Synod](#)

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



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

[Unsubscribe \[cmccarty@montanasynod.org\]\(mailto:cmccarty@montanasynod.org\)](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by cmccarty@montanasynod.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!