



News of the Week September 27, 2023

Prayers of the Week

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

For the family and friends of retired
ELCA Deacon Bonnie Olsgaard from
Missoula, who died at home last week
surrounded by family.

**From the Montana Synod Prayer
Calendar:**

First Lutheran Church, Savage
Grace Lutheran Church, Skaar
Saco Lutheran Church, Saco

Northwestern Ohio Synod
Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod



Words from the Bishop: Update on 2024 Guidelines



[Click here to download the 2024 Compensation Guidelines](#)

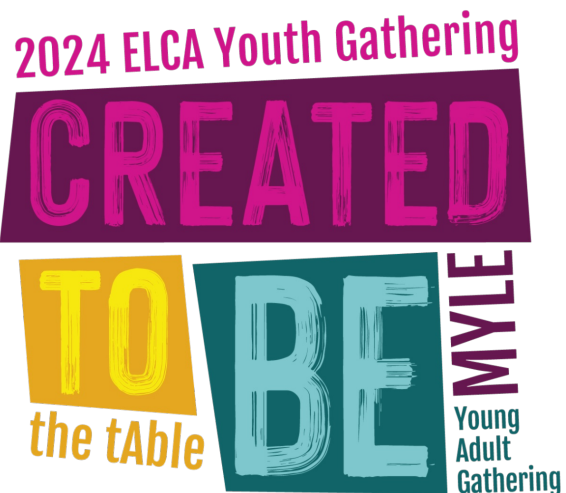
Registration is open for the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans next July 16-20. Several youth leaders met via zoom recently to talk about the registration process.

There were questions regarding those congregations with a small number of youth attending, and it was decided that the congregations would have the option of registering together so that they could then be housed together. This will help with sharing adult leaders and combining in rooms, if there were not enough youth of the same sex from one congregation to fill a room. Gretchen Munding, from St. John's Lutheran in Helena has generously offered to be the adult contact for this group.

If you would like to join in with several other congregations to be a large Montana group, please contact her at stjohns@helenastjohns.org. This means that she will be the one who sends in the registration for everyone in the group, after she has received the registration information for each congregation. She plans to do the registering on Sept. 28.

Each group with travel to New Orleans separately, and we will meet there. It may be possible for groups that are near each other to travel together. We will be talking about this as the Gathering gets nearer.

If you have more questions, please contact Pastor Brenda at bfrelsi@montanasynod.org



GENEROSITY 101: PRACTICAL STEPS FOR CONGREGATIONS WEBINAR: OCT. 2, 2023 6:30 – 7:30 PM



On Monday, October 2, 2023, from 6:30 – 7:30 pm, Congregational Stewardship Committees, Congregational Council leaders, Pastors and LPAs are invited to join in a Zoom webinar with Rev. Tim Brown, (the speaker at the 2023 Synod Assembly) and Director for Evangelical Mission in the Montana Synod, Rev. Peggy Paugh Leuzinger.

This will be a time to learn and discuss practical steps for congregations to align values and mission around stewardship in congregations. We will consider generosity through the lens of abundance, rather than scarcity. There will be time for questions with the leaders at the end of the session for those who would like to remain on the Zoom.

Please register for the webinar using the link below, in order to receive the Zoom invite link.

A Second Session with Rev. Brown and Rev. Leuzinger is also scheduled for Mon. Dec. 4, 2023 again from 6:30 – 7:30 to discuss “What can we do now?” as your congregation approaches the end of the fiscal year. There will be suggestions and conversation about how to “make the ask”.

[Click Here to Register](#)

Sermon Manuscripts Available

Montana Synod leaders have been providing manuscripts for use in congregations through the Lent and Easter seasons. We are happy to announce that these manuscripts will be provided throughout the entire year! Thank you to the leaders in the Montana Synod who are providing these manuscripts every week. They can be found and downloaded on the [Montana Synod website here](#).

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

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