



Montana Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

News of the Week, August 3, 2016

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Follow Us!



Prayers for August 7, 2016 Twelfth Week of Pentecost

Please remember in your prayers this week:

The community of Hamilton and Faith Lutheran Church as they deal with fire.

Montana Synod Voting Members at the Churchwide Assembly:

Beverly Bell
Pastor Tammy Bull
Bishop Jessica Crist
Traci Gibson
Tom Gossack
Rick Mikkelson
Alicia Moe
Deb Oldfield
Ben Peterson
Carly Tattoo
Pastor Brad Ulgenes



From the Montana Synod Prayer Calendar:

Our Redeemer's Lutheran, Helena
New Life Lutheran, Helena
St. John's Lutheran, Helena

ELCA Churchwide Assembly, New Orleans

Words From the Bishop - The ELCA gathers in Churchwide Assembly



Next week, close to a thousand voting members from across the ELCA will meet in New Orleans for a Churchwide Assembly, under the theme: "Freed and Renewed in Christ: 500 Years of God's Grace in Action." The "500 years" refers, of course, to the upcoming 500th anniversary of the Reformation. In our Synod we have a number of things going to commemorate the 500th: a series of educational materials on our web site, prepared by our Reformation Task Force; a May 2017 trip to the Luther lands with the Bishop; a joint service with the 2 Roman Catholic Dioceses on October 30, 2017.

This year's Churchwide Assembly is not likely to be as contentious as some past Assemblies have been. For one thing, there is no social statement on the agenda. The social statement on Women and Justice will be up for adoption in 2019. But even in the absence of social statements, the Churchwide Assembly is important.

This will be the first Assembly we have had since we moved from a 2-year to a 3-year cycle. It will also be the first Assembly chaired by Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. A number of things have happened since the Assembly last met. A Theological Education Advisory Committee met for 2 years and made recommendations for the future of theological education. A churchwide conversation on the future direction of the ELCA was initiated, and we participated in it in our Synod at the Assembly. The Assembly will have opportunity to learn more about both these processes, as well as to contribute feedback.

The Assembly will elect a new Vice President. Carlos Pena, the current vice president, has decided not to seek another term. The position of Vice President is for a lay person, and it is a volunteer position. The VP chairs the Church Council and is involved nationally and internationally, representing the ELCA.

The Assembly will also consider a proposal to merge the "lay rosters" (AIM, Diaconal Minister, Diaconess) into a single roster of word and service (deacon.) This continues some of the work that was left unfinished by the Ministry Study done at the beginning of the ELCA.

The Assembly will note an ecumenical milestone. After 50 years of intense Lutheran-Catholic Dialogue, we have come to agreement on a number of crucial issues. The "Declaration on the Way," which will be up for the Assembly's reception, was formulated by Catholic and Lutheran scholars, and outlines 32 areas of agreement achieved during the last 50 years. This is an historic moment in the history of the church.

The "Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery," passed by our Synod Assembly and forwarded to the Churchwide Assembly, will be up for discussion and vote. And there will be other memorials from other synods on a variety of issues.

The Assembly will adopt a budget, elect members of the Church Council, and conduct other business. But business is not all that a Churchwide Assembly is. It is daily worship, fine preaching, phenomenal speakers, opportunities to learn more about the ministries of the larger church, ecumenical partners and other partners. It is an opportunity to meet with your prayer partner, do Bible study, meet ELCA Lutherans from around the US and the Caribbean.

Our delegation will be sharing our experiences with you while we are there, through writings and videos of the event. You are encouraged to invite voting member to speak with your congregation or cluster when they return, or any time this fall. They are listed, along with their contact information, on pp. 119-120 in the directory. I ask you to pray for the Churchwide Assembly, and for our Montana Synod voting members during this week.

Being a voting member at a Churchwide Assembly is a wonderful experience. It is not too early to be thinking of candidates for 2019. We really welcome people from across the synod, all age groups, ethnicities, and points of view. It is a wonderful opportunity to see the church in action. The selection will take place at the 2018 Synod Assembly. This year, for the first time, there is

a concurrent "Grace Gathering" for people who are not voting members. Depending on the response, it may become an ongoing thing.

Finally, the Churchwide Assembly is usually livestreamed. If you want to watch it, go to www.elca.org, or the front page of montanasynod.org, or contact Colter McCarty in our office. (cmccarty@montanasynod.org).

Blessings!

Jessica Crist, Bishop

Greetings from South Africa

Dear friends,

Greetings from Johannesburg, South Africa. We have just returned from 2 months in the US on Home Assignment. It was a fruitful time visiting sponsoring congregations and the opportunity to attend the Summer Missionary Conference in Chicago and see family and friends.

July is midwinter in Southern Africa. It is the dry season but following the failure of two consecutive rainy seasons the current El Niño-induced drought is the worst in 35 years. The severe drought conditions have already taken a serious toll on lives, livestock and livelihoods and the situation could deteriorate further if urgent assistance is not provided.

The devastating drought has affected an estimated 40 million people across region. More than 23 million are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance.

On July 26, 2016 the Southern African Development Community (SADC) declared a Regional Disaster and launched a Regional Appeal for Humanitarian and Recovery Support amounting to US\$2.4 billion.

The Appeal is a formal request to the international community to provide assistance to affected member states. Five member states, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Swaziland and Zimbabwe have already declared national drought emergencies. The Republic of South Africa has declared a drought emergency in 8 of the country's 9 provinces. Mozambique has declared a 90-day institutional red alert for some southern and central areas. (Responding to the Appeal, the United States has pledged US \$300 million, while the United Kingdom and the European Union pledged £72 million Pounds, and €60 million respectively, towards humanitarian assistance.) <http://www.sadc.int/news-events/news/sadc-launches-u24-billion-appeal-assist-millions-hit-el-nino-induced-drought/>

Already in May last year the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi led by Bishop Joseph Bvumbwe sent an emergency appeal to the ELCA for support to enable the Evangelical Lutheran Development Service (ELDS) to deliver assistance and support to 22,000 people (4,000 households) in Phalombe and Chikwawa districts with the focus on drought recovery and capacity building activities. ELCA Global Mission was able to send US\$50,000 in response to this urgent request.

See the recent related article in the Huffington Post written by Ryan P. Cumming Program Director for Hunger Education in the ELCA World Hunger office. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/ryan-p-cumming/end-hunger-the-single-mos_b_11136672.html

Thank you for your participation in God's mission locally and globally. Thank you for your continuing prayers and support through the ELCA World Hunger and ELCA Global Church sponsorship programs.

Yours faithfully,

Philip Knutson
ELCA Global Mission
Regional Representative - Southern Africa
Johannesburg
July 29, 2016
www.southernafricanconnections.wordpress.com

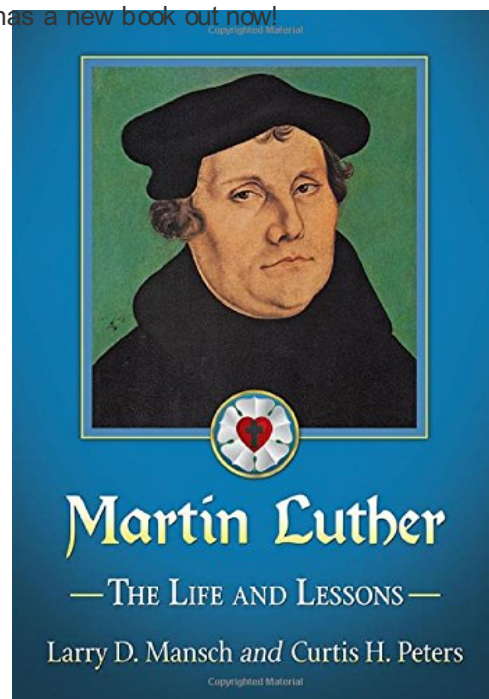
Book Signing Opportunity

Larry Mansch from Immanuel Lutheran in Missoula has a new book out now!

Martin Luther: The Life and Lessons was co-written with Dr. Curtis Peters, a Lutheran pastor and professor of religious philosophy. The reviews have been great so far! The book will be featured at the Montana Book Festival in Missoula on September 23rd and 24th.

Larry is available for book signings at Lutheran churches anywhere in Montana, and is happy to donate proceeds to the churches.

If you want more information please contact:
Imansch@aol.com



Rockin' Mountain Flavor Fest

a kicked-up brew & barbecue fundraiser

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KALISPELL, MT 59901



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or visit www.ilcorp.org



Immanuel Lutheran
— COMMUNITIES —

www.ilcorp.org | (406) 752-9243 | 185 Crestline Avenue | Kalispell, MT 59901
Immanuel Lutheran Communities is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit retirement community providing care for seniors. Tax ID: 81-0247706.
The estimated fair market value for goods received in exchange for your donation is \$25 per ticket.

Help and Prayer Need Continues

In early June a tornado hit the town of Baker, Montana, damaging and destroying homes and causing bodily injury. As the community was putting their lives back together, another storm hit again last week bringing severe winds and damaging hail. American Lutheran Church was damaged and will need windows and a new roof. Many more homes and vehicles were damaged in the second storm.

Right now the community of Baker needs your prayers for strength during recovery; prayers to help mend lives and emotions damaged in these storms. Please keep them in your prayers and if you have a minute, let Pastor Reba or Pastor Bruce know you are thinking of their community. They can be reached at trinity1@midrivers.com or at PO Box 786, Baker, MT 59313-0786.

Anyone wishing to send donations to the victims of this disaster may send a check to the Tornado Relief Fund, Montana Synod, 3125 5th Avenue South, Great Falls, MT 59405. 100% of your donations will reach the victims. Any funds received in excess of the needs of the Baker disaster will remain in the fund to assist with victims of future disasters.

Teaching Children about Martin Luther and the Reformation

The Rev. Amanda Applehans prepared a curriculum, Teaching Our Children about Martin Luther and the Reformation, for Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 6. It was presented at a workshop during the June MT Synod Assembly by Lorie Hughes, Region 1 Network Advocate for the Christian Education Network of the ELCA. The curriculum includes learning workshops for art, music, games, drama, publication, and movie. It also includes lists of valuable resources for this topic - books, movies/videos, Playmobil play set, etc. This curriculum can be used in many ways - lessons to choose from for one to six weeks of Sunday school or Wednesday ministry programs, rotation Sunday school, VBS, special emphasis during October 2017, or any way individual churches choose to use it. It could also be adapted for use as an intergenerational event. [Click here](#) to download the curriculum.

Pastor Amanda's email address is astamp001@luthersem.edu. She is very willing to accept questions and comments. She welcomes feedback and information on how the curriculum is used.

Lorie Hughes' email address is glsmahughes@bresnan.net. She welcomes questions and comments about the workshop. She is also happy to share information about the Christian Education Network of the ELCA - www.faithfulteaching.org.

Grace Gathering August 10-13

There is just one week left to register for the 2016 Grace Gathering! Registration closes July 17. Reserve your spot today! The Grace Gathering will be held in partnership with the 2016 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in New Orleans Aug. 10-13.

The gathering will bring people together from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Participants will see the Churchwide Assembly in action, worship with voting members, engage in experiential learning and attend a variety of workshops that will focus on Reformation history and theology, 500th anniversary observances and the Lutheran witness in action today. The complete list of workshops is available on ELCA.org/GraceGathering/Gathering-Details/Workshops.



Registration for the Grace Gathering is open until July 17.

Learn more and register at ELCA.org/GraceGathering. We hope to see you there!

The Grace Gathering team
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Pre-Retirement Seminar coming in September!



Northwest Washington Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

We are delighted to host one of these events in our synod!

If you're over age 50 and within 15 years of retirement, a pre-retirement seminar is a great way to get planning off to a strong start or keep the momentum going. Hosted by Portico and a certified Ernst & Young financial planner, the seminar will answer the important questions you may have about retirement, including:

- How much money will I need when I retire?
- What health care options will I have in retirement?
- As I approach retirement, how can I manage my investment risks?
- How can money be distributed from my ELCA retirement account to create a steady stream of income in retirement?

This upcoming seminar will be held on Friday, September 23, 9am-6pm at:

Advent Lutheran Church – 4306 132nd St SE, Mill Creek, WA

Cost is \$35/person or \$70/couple. Breakfast and lunch are included!

[PLEASE register online by August 23 HERE.](#)

Augsburg Fortress Book Promotion

Get over 15 free books on the Reformation for your church!

Host a Reformation 500 Bookstore and introduce your congregation to engaging and affordable resources on the Reformation while growing your library!

Educate your church on the history of the Reformation, Martin Luther's writings, and their impact on Christianity today.

Sign your church up to host a Reformation 500 Bookstore- it's simple, educational, and FREE!

Hurry, the deadline to sign up is August 15th!

[Click Here to learn more!](#)

A Way to Bring Congregations together and Raise Funds for Mission.

Greetings!

I am pleased to announce that the three ELCA churches of Helena raised a net \$2,748 from the Chili Cook-off in January, and \$9,445 from the Steak Fry. We are transferring funds to the Synod House campaign for \$8,169 and to FLBC for \$4,024 for the combined fundraisers. Part of these were transferred in January after the first fundraiser.

I am just ecstatic about the nearly \$12,200 raised through our joint congregational efforts and the hard work of hundreds of volunteers! God has led us to see the need to support these critical joint ministries, and blessed us with ministry, fellowship, love, and success as we worked hard together to make this happen. And while we met our goal to support these two ministries, we had the benefits of working together in faith as 3 congregations, and inspiring our members to work together on this effort.

I hope this is only the beginning of increased joint ministry, and in particular, would like to see these events become an annual part of our ministry, to raise funds for other ministries we share.

Many thanks for the leadership of our Pastors and ministry teams, of Joy, and of all the volunteers who made this happen! Please pass this email on to members of your teams that worked with you. Please also ensure your congregations are informed of these results.

Clayton Schenck

Choir robes to donate

Lonsdale United Methodist Church in Sidney has choir robes to give away. There are three sets: one red, one blue, one green. They are willing to help get them to their new home.

If you are interested contact Melanie Martin-Dent: mmartindent@yahoo.com

Boundaries Training

The Eastern Washington Idaho Synod is offering a Boundaries Workshop on August 18, from 9-3 at Central Lutheran Church, Spokane. Pastors Mark Nelson and Janine Goodrich, both experienced trainers through Faith/Trust Institute, will lead the session.

If you have not yet had boundaries training, or need a refresher, this is an opportunity.

To register, contact Cathy Steiner office@ewaidsynod.org.

Mission Support

We want to thank the congregations who have given us an intent for mission support and who are keeping up. And we want to remind other congregations who are not keeping up with mission support that we plan our budget based on congregational statements of intent. If congregations do not follow through, all our ministries suffer.

We encourage "first fruits" giving. Even if your congregation is only receiving a percentage of what you anticipate, please remember your commitment to the wider church. If you receive less than you budgeted, you can still send on a portion.

Thank you,

The Montana Synod Officers

The Luther 5

August Newsbrief: Luther and the Anabaptists

As a teenager, I lived in southeastern Pennsylvania, near Lancaster, and saw the Amish people in that area. At the time, I thought they were quaint people in old-fashioned clothes, driving with buggies and horses, and that they made really good food, especially jams, jellies, and pies. I thought they were just local to Pennsylvania and did not realize until years later that they also lived in other places in the U.S. And then I found out that the Amish were part of a larger movement, also springing out of Reformation times, called the Anabaptists. It wasn't until I came to the Montana Synod that I discovered that there was a colony of Hutterites in the area, also part of the Anabaptist movement. This month's newsbrief, "Reformation Neighbors: Lutherans, Hutterites, Mennonites, and Amish", by Paul Seastrand, covers the basic history of the Anabaptist movement, how they divided into different groups, what the characteristics of each group are, and where they settled in North America. I invite you to take a look at the August newsbrief and use it as an introduction to these different groups of people and what they believe. They are much, much more than just their cooking and their horses and buggies!

-Rev. Tonya Eza

[Download it here](#)

FOR EVERY
HOUSE
IS BUILT BY
SOMEONE,
BUT THE
BUILDER
OF ALL
THINGS IS
GOD.
H E B R E W S 3:4

The new address for the Synod Office is:

**3125 5th Ave S
Great Falls, MT 59405**

The Synod Office has a New Address!

**3125 5th Ave S
Great Falls, MT 59405**

Previous news and notes:

The Montana Synod will be hosting Pastor Edwina Letshwiti, from Douglas, South Africa in September and October

Pastor Edwina will serve with the staff at Our Redeemer's Lutheran in Helena in September and serve with some of the congregations in Billings in October.

The Montana Synod is requesting monetary funds to help cover the costs of bringing Pastor Edwina to Montana. If you or your congregation would like to give, please make checks payable to the Montana Synod, and designate for "South Africa Pastor". Thank you!



Available Retreats

Daring Walk-Finding Resilience & Authenticity in Serving and Leadership



For anyone who is connected to church ministry-volunteers, staff, assistants-all those who serve and lead in ministry.

INFUSE Worship

October 23 - 25

A retreat for worship pastors/worship leaders. A time of spiritual renewal, wholeness and developing a deeper understanding of what it means to live a lifestyle of worship.

Exploring Transitions:

Crossing Over

October 31 - November 2

For all those experiencing life transitions. A time of letting go, listening and trusting God's guidance when we face the unknown.

[Click Here to Register](#)

Thinking about Tech

Now that our office is moved, the phones work, and all our computers talk to each other again (whew) I wanted to give a quick reminder to all congregations in the Montana Synod. I am available to travel to your congregation and consult with anyone interested in future tech needs, or current problems.



Lets schedule a trip if you need help with:

- Web design
- Software questions/training
- Computer trouble
- Social media strategies
- Office networking
- A/V worship needs

Give me a call at the Synod office: 453-1461

Email: cmccarty@montanasynod.org

A big thank you to all who have donated books to the Fort Peck Tribal Adult Correctional Facility! A special shout out to Pr. Brian Stein-Weber of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary who sent a box of books. PLTS is a great partner to our Synod.

Blessings to all,
Pr. Chris
Spirit of Life, Fort Peck Reservation

Youth and Family Director Needed

Bethlehem Lutheran Church (ELCA), Kalispell, MT

We are seeking a candidate to work together with staff, parents and volunteers to encourage, equip, mentor and guide youth in their faith journey as our Youth and Family Director. This is a newly expanded full-time position that will have responsibilities for K-12 youth and their families. The compensation is \$25,000-\$30,000 dependent on experience and includes benefits and subsidized housing.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church is located in NW Montana's scenic Flathead Valley, and only 30 minutes from the entrance to Glacier National Park. We are one of the founding congregations of the Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp (20 miles south of Kalispell) and host FLBC's office staff on our campus.

A complete position description can be found at <http://www.bethluth.org>. To apply, send a cover letter and resume to office@bethluth.org. Screening will begin July 15th and applications will

Travel to Germany with Bishop Crist Time to Register!

A Billings travel agent is organizing a Montana Synod trip to Reformation sites in Germany in May, 2017. Information was sent to every congregation, and it has been advertised in our news of the week. Although the trip is more than 9 months away, the agency needs some indication about the interest in the trip, which will be accompanied by Bishop Jessica Crist.

Please read the information below and contact Brian Mathis with questions and indications of interest.

[Click Here](#) for information about a Montana Synod trip to Germany to visit Reformation sites in May of 2017. Join Bishop Crist and others from around the Synod on this trip to Wittenberg.



Montana Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

**The 500th Anniversary of
Martin Luther's 95 Theses (1517-2017)**

May 9-18, 2017

**Travel to Germany
With Bishop Crist**

The Montana Synod is offering a chance to tour Germany to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of Martin Luther's Nailing of the 95 Theses to the doors of the All Saints Church in Wittenberg.

[Parish Papers for July and August are up on the Website!](#)

God's Work, Our Hands

On Sunday, Sept. 11, 2016, congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will again join together for "God's work. Our hands." Sunday. Whether we clean parks and roadways, visit the elderly and homebound or bake cookies and write thank you notes for first responders, this dedicated day of service celebrates the work you do every day and gives us the opportunity to share God's love with all people.

The 2016 "God's work. Our hands." Sunday will also mark the 15-year anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States.

The Rev. Stephen P. Bouman, executive director for ELCA Domestic Mission and former bishop of the ELCA Metropolitan New York Synod at the time of Sept. 11, shares the story of an ELCA pastor who served as a fire department chaplain.

"When the first plane hit the first tower he rushed across the Brooklyn Bridge to the site where firefighters were mustering," said Bouman. "He was asked to anoint the heads of firefighters with oil with the sign of the cross, for those who wanted this baptismal remembrance. They then rushed into the building. Survivors making their way down the smoky stairways remembered those brave rescuers, heads glistening with oily crosses, rushing to rescue, baptized for this moment."

Reflecting on this, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton said, "In baptism we have been marked with the cross. We are the ones who go into the broken places of the world. We are the ones who, by showing up on 'God's work. Our hands.' Sunday, shine the light of the cross in our communities."

Now is a good time to begin exploring opportunities for your congregation to participate in "God's work. Our hands." Sunday.

As you begin making plans for the day of service, we ask that you register your congregation. This will help us share and tell stories about the good work that we do together. [Click here to register.](#)

Visit ELCA.org/dayofservice where you will find helpful resources for your planning for 2016. This includes an updated study guide designed for congregations to discuss what it means to serve with a joyful heart. You'll also find the 2016 version of the toolkit, bulletin inserts, posters and more. A new worship resource will be available later this spring.

Old Lutheran will once again have T-shirts available for purchase. The bright-yellow shirts provide a wonderful visual impact across the ELCA. The deadline for ordering your congregation's personalized T-shirt with Old Lutheran is Aug. 19.

If it's not possible for your congregation to participate on Sept. 11, please consider another day for your service activities.

Following the 2015 dedicated day of service, the Rev. Jason Adams, pastor of Reformation Lutheran Church in Las Vegas, described what the day meant for his congregation. "Of course, in our vocations we are serving neighbors every day, but when we are serving together, we are growing together as the people of God."

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday celebrates who we are as the ELCA - one church, freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor. We look forward to doing this work together again this year.

Pilgrimage to Germany, Palestine, and Israel

Pastor Paul Rowold of Polson will be leading a Pilgrimage to Germany, Palestine, and Israel from October 4-18. He has led numerous groups in the past, and emphasizes renewal of body and spirit, with significant contact with the Christian peoples in each country. Included in this trip are guided visits to the major Reformation sites (including Erfurt, Mansfield, Eisleben, Wittenberg, and Eisenach, with the Wartburg Castle) and the significant sites in the Holy Land. Visits to the homes of Christian families and worship in Bethlehem and Eisenach will highlight this Pilgrimage.

The 15 day experience departs from New York JFK and includes breakfasts and dinners at 4 star hotels each day. Cost is \$3225 per person (based on double occupancy). For detailed itinerary, contact Pastor Rowold at 406 883 5864 or paul.rowold@gmail.com



NRIT News:

The following events require pre-registration:

Our first digital offerings are now available on our website. When you purchase the classes, you will have access to them throughout 2016 so can offer the class as a multi-session adult study or watch on your personal computer at your convenience.

DIGITAL EDUCATION

Learning Our Place: Wilderness and Wonder from a Biblical Perspective

With Dr. Kathryn Schifferdecker, professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary This course explores the book of Job and several biblical texts for insights about God, creation and humanity. What kind of world is this? What is our place in this world? How does the Bible speak of wilderness and wild creatures? What about "acts of God?" Cost of 12 months of access to the class is \$40

Syria in the Bible and in the Early Church: A Heritage at Risk

With Dr. Thomas Lee who served for many years as Lutheran campus pastor at the University of Montana, Missoula, where he also-as a faculty affiliate-taught biblical Hebrew and Aramaic in UM's Religious Studies Department. During the 1980s and into the 1990s he served on the staff of two archaeological projects in the Kingdom of Jordan and one in the Republic of Syria. In recent months we've become aware as well of the tragic loss of Syria's rich cultural heritage at the hands of ISIS and by those who profit from the looting and sale of antiquities. This loss of antiquities and the humanitarian tragedy are not unrelated. As Dr. Amr al-Azm, a former official in the Syrian Ministry of Antiquities who now teaches Middle Eastern History and Archaeology at Shawnee State University in Ohio, reminds us: "A people without a history is a lost people . . . and history without people is meaningless." Not only the Syrians, but we too are deeply invested in Syria's history as evidenced by the bible and in the history of the early church. The loss of Syria's cultural heritage, then, is not only a tragedy for the Syrian people, but a tragedy for us as well. In this NRIT presentation by Tom Lee, we will explore the importance of ancient Syria for the bible and the church and will attempt to convey some sense of the threat posed by the Syrian civil war to our common cultural heritage.

The Cost of the class is \$25. After the percentage taken out by the online registration company, the remaining amount of each registration fee will be sent to the American Schools of Oriental Research for their "Syrian Heritage Initiative." ASOR's "Syrian Heritage Initiative" is committed to assist in whatever ways possible the preservation of antiquities under threat by the Syrian civil war.

To purchase these classes, go to www.nrit.org. Click on the NRIT logo on the upper left side of the page. This will bring you to the NRIT home page. Under the logo, to the right side, click on NRIT Digital Education Store. Then click on the class you would like to access. You will need to pay online with a credit or debit card. After you have placed your order, you will be sent an email with all of the access information. Look for more offerings to come!

Christikon Clips

As you are reading this clip, we are readying for our last sessions of the season. We have hosted over 550 campers this season including Developmentally disabled adults, youth, families, and adults. We would welcome scholarship gifts as you are able for a wonderful group

of new campers!

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 retreats scheduled this fall and there are still retreat times available to visit Christikon! Call Kerry in the office and reserve a time.

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

Blessings to all of you who support Christikon with prayer, time, skills, and financially. We are grateful.



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

CHRISTIKON • 1108 24th Street West • Billings, MT 59102
406 656 1060 • secretary@christikon.org • www.christikon.org

Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp

Retreats, Events, and Updates:

[For additional information about these great upcoming retreats and events, check out our website at \[www.flbc.net\]\(http://www.flbc.net\)! Also, watch for our 2016 Summer Brochure around Christmas! Be sure to register early for your first choice of weeks and programs!](#)



September 2-5: Labor Day Family Camp

Family, faith, and fellowship on Flathead Lake as summer comes to a close. What could be better? [CLICK HERE](#) for more information!

October 7-8: Delegate Retreat & Annual Meeting

Are you an FLBC delegate or ambassador for your congregation, excited to share the story of this ministry? Mark your calendar! This no cost Delegate Retreat will equip you to serve your congregation as the FLBC connection. On October 8th the retreat concludes with the Annual Meeting/Celebration!

November 11-13: Crazy About Quilting Retreat

New and experienced quilters alike are welcome at this great retreat! Gather your friends and go crazy with quilting this weekend! [CLICK HERE](#) for more information and to register.

December 2-4: Family Advent Retreat

You won't want to miss this retreat as we prepare for the coming of Jesus' birth! Give your family or friends the Christmas gift of this retreat by registering today! [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

[Rev. Nathan Clements, Associate Director](#)
[Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp](#)
[603 S Main St](#)
[Kalispell, MT 59901](#)
[\(406\) 890-5104 \(cell\)](#)

Upcoming Events, etc.



September

11 God's Work Our Hands
23-24 Synod Council

October

14-15 Bishop's Convocation

Please put these important dates on your calendar:

2016 Bishop's Convocation, October 14-15, 2016, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Helena, Montana
2016 First Call Theological Education: November 7-9, 2016, Great Falls

2017 Montana Synod Assembly: June 1-4, 2017, Best Western Heritage Inn, Great Falls

2017 First Call Theological Education: November 6-8, 2017, Great Falls

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Find upcoming issues of **The Parish Paper** [here](#)

To see what's coming up on the Montana Synod Calendar, go [here](#)

To download or view our Clergy Roster, Congregational and LPA Directories, find them [here](#)

Roster Transitions are updated mid-month and may be found [here](#)

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## Amazon Smile



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*This e-letter is intended to convey information from synod staff, ministries and congregations, and we reserve the right to edit all submissions. All items must be received by the Monday before publication on Wednesday. Send submissions to [Colter McCarty](#).*

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