Montana Synod Weekly Announcements

October 4, 2021

Click below for the Emmaus Campus Ministry Newsletter!

A Virtual Oktoberfest!
In care of our community we will celebrate online, with a special event on Sunday, October 24.
See page 2 for details!
It’s not too late to donate an auction item! Drop it off with a note, call John or email ecmumt@gmail.com.

Revisiting Our History

By Rev. John Lund
Years ago, in the early stages of the Missoula Interfaith Collaborative we asked if mainstream Protestant, Catholic, Evangelical, and Interfaith partners could work together on community needs and got to a yes rather quickly. We then moved to nonprofits like the YWCA and soon forged a partnership that led to the Meadowlark family homeless center. More recently we have expanded to neighborhoods, the Food Bank, the Health Department, unions and other groups (close to 40) with a new name—Common Good Missoula—and energy building along the way.

All Nations Health Center was also approached as a possible organizing partner. As an Indigenous organization they had some hesitation working with historically white organizations, but also expressed an interest, as the needs are great. However, after coming to a few meetings, the All Nations leadership told the Common Good leadership that we would have to do some serious and in-depth education and work on the history of colonization and its ongoing impacts before they could go any further with us.

With that directive, we have been working for almost two years on building a series of workshops called Wrestling with the Truth of Colonization. We have been building relationships with All Nations leaders and with CSKT tribal leaders, elders and educators. We will be ready to run the workshops for all Common Good partner organizations and members in October and November on Zoom.

Part of our pre-work for these workshops is to research and understand our own personal connections with colonization as well as the institutions we represent. Here are a few snapshots:

First, on my father’s side my great-grandfather was a logger in Upper Michigan at the beginning of the 20th century when the region was stripped of the great White Pine trees and mined of copper and iron. Meanwhile my Finn great-grandparents were able to homestead a plot of land for almost nothing and become landowners and farmers in the UP as well.

Eighty-five years later when I was in college at Northern Michigan University, I came across a student who was from the Ojibwe tribe that resided for hundreds (or thousands) of years in that same region where my ancestors logged and farmed. I ran a Lutheran youth group and I asked my new friend if he would like to come and talk about his tribe.

(Please continue reading on page 3.)
Hi Lutheran friends,

I'm Mikayla, a priest in the Episcopal Diocesan office and a Chaplain at (the newly-minted) Logan Health Medical Center in Kalispell.

Just like the rest of the world, we're hiring. Our department is expanding with a new part-time (with benefits!) position and additional on-call shifts... meaning one would get mighty close to 40...
hours/week. Do you know anybody looking?

And for those who are interested, an extra bit about what's going on with our team:

My supervisor is a powerhouse ordained woman (Disciples of Christ) who is really working to edify and entrench the role of chaplaincy in our facility. We know that the spiritual care department was recently eliminated at Community Medical Center in Missoula and the national trend to devalue spiritual care makes this work imminently important. Part of her task in legitimizing the field, and its role in our facility, is to insist that her chaplains are educated professionals. As such, she is searching for applicants with at least one unit of CPE.

For more details, please reach out to me (mtcto@diomontana.com) or better yet, the boss lady: tdeal@logan.org

Cheers,
Mikayla+

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**Announcements from FLBC**

**Mark your calendar for October 1st (Friday):**
Volunteer and Pastor application/registration opens for Montana folk!! Plan your week at camp as a pastor or adult volunteer (Camp Grandparent, etc) Serve as a resource to our staff and campers, as well as helping FLBC with basic functions like dishes, cleaning, maintenance work, and more, while enjoying time with the FLBC community in God's Great outdoors on Flathead Lake.

The application/registration opens for out-of-state, Pastors and adults on November 1st! Beat the crowd who want to come to "the last best place" ....Montana!! Information/FAQs as well different application options (printable vs online app) will be available at https://flbc.net/donate-volunteer/#volunteer

FLBC is also looking to hire a paid Staff Chaplain/Weekend Coordinator for Summer 2022! Contact Margie Fiedler at margie@flbc.net for more information.

**Day Camp Sign-Ups for Summer 2022 are opening on October 14th (Thursday) at 10am**! FLBC would love to help your congregation do Day Camp in your community this upcoming summer. Day Camps are a great outreach opportunity! Sign up on October 14th by contacting the FLBC office at 406-752-6602 or carlee@flbc.net. Have questions or want to learn more? Day Camp Coordinator, Carlee, would love to talk to you!
Upcoming Retreats/Events (learn more at https://flbc.net/annual-programming/):
- Saturday, October 9th, 2021: Fall Harvest Festival & Auction AND the FLBC Annual Meeting
- November 4-7, 2021: Quilting & Crafting Retreat
- December 3-5, 2021: Advent Retreat

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