



News of the Week October 27, 2021

Prayers of the Week

Please remember in your prayers this week:

For Janice Jungling, mother of Bishop Laurie Jungling, who is recovering from a stroke suffered over the weekend. She is beginning rehab today and the diagnosis looks good for full recovery.

Prayers of thanksgiving for the 100 Year (+1) Anniversary of St. James Lutheran in Columbus, MT.

From the Montana Synod Prayer Calendar:

South Dakota Synod



The Gospel in 4 Minutes or Less – Why?



Updates from South Africa

Dear friends,

This past week I attended and presented at the annual Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa (LUCSA) regional youth peer educators' review and planning workshop held in Johannesburg at the Lutheran center. Following strict COVID protocols over 25 young adults shared reports of the highlights, challenges and achievements during the past year in their respective countries and churches. They participated in devotions and in capacity building sessions focussing on psycho-social support, disaster preparedness, mainstreaming HIV&AIDS and Gender Justice, report writing skills, the Sustainable Development Goals, resource mobilization, context analysis and strategic planning for the coming months including World AIDS Day and the 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence.



Thokozani from Eswatini commented, "I have learnt that we can lean on each other as peer educators to spread information and save more people."

Alice from Mozambique put it well, "The LUCSA Peer Educators are known to be activists. They are dynamic, enthusiastic and passionate...with the assistance of the LUCSA HIV&AIDS program we are bringing about change in attitudes, knowledge and behavior... We are part of the new generation that chooses to say, 'I know about HIV&AIDS, I know my status and I can speak freely about prevention...I care about the infected and affected and take responsibility for my own health.'"

ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response programs continue to support sustainable development projects in Southern Africa to assist companion churches as they work to mitigate the impact of poverty, HIV&AIDS, climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic in the communities they serve.

Thank you for your prayers, support and your participation in God's mission locally and globally.

Yours faithfully, Rev. Dr. Philip Knutson
ELCA Regional Representative - Southern Africa / Johannesburg, October 25, 2021

My blog page address is: <https://southernafricanconnections.wordpress.com/>
Please visit my [fundraising page](#). (Note: This fundraising page is set up for individuals' gifts only.)
If you are donating on behalf of a congregation or organization, please visit [ELCA.org/MissionaryGiving](https://www.elca.org/MissionaryGiving) for online giving.



As of October 4th the Synod Staff will begin traveling for essential reasons only.

Also, masks are required in the Synod office

and we ask that if you plan to come into the building for longer than a drop off, that you are vaccinated.

The Synod Office will be staffed, so please always feel free to contact us by phone or email.

The Montana Synod Staff will be providing a recorded sermon following the lectionary for any interested, especially those congregations currently without a pastor. Check the Synod website every Friday or the Vimeo playlist [here](#). These will be provided every week now through the end of the year.

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