



# Montana Synod Weekly Announcements February 27, 2023



*“May the Lord give strength to [the Lord’s] people! May the Lord bless [the] people with peace!” (Psalm 29:11).*

Dear friend,

A year ago today we watched in horror as Russia invaded Ukraine. Millions of Ukrainians fled their homes to find safety in neighboring countries — and many were welcomed by our partners in the region. Your extraordinary generosity enabled Lutheran Disaster Response to accompany our neighbors in Eastern Europe immediately.

In “War in Ukraine: Eastern Europe One Year Later,” you’ll read about people who directly benefited from your gifts. Their resilience, coupled with your support, is a testament to God’s abiding presence, even in extraordinary circumstances.

## **READ THE REPORT**

As the war continues, so does our work. Our partners are constantly adapting to new phases of refugee assistance. Providing food, clothing and a warm place to rest has now evolved into community integration — finding people jobs, enrolling children in school and securing permanent housing for refugees.

Amid grief and hardship, God grants us the strength to see moments of

hope. It's in these moments that I am most thankful for your commitment to stand with our neighbors in Eastern Europe.

With gratitude,

The Rev. Daniel Rift  
Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response Fund  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

P.S. Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response are important for the readiness of our partners around the globe to take action whenever and wherever disaster strikes. Can disaster survivors count on your support?

### **Additional Ways to Give**

Checks or money orders can be sent to:

**Lutheran Disaster Response**  
**P.O. Box 1809**  
**Merrifield, VA 22116-8009**

Give by phone at 800-638-3522 or [online](#).

## **Chico Pastoral Conference Registration now open!**

The Pastoral Leader Conference at Chico will be April 11-14 (Tuesday - Friday).



To reserve a room contact Chicodirectly and state you want a room with the "Pastor's Conference."

If you have any questions about registration feel free to contact Marlow Carrels at [mcarrels@gmail.com](mailto:mcarrels@gmail.com).

**[Click here to register](#)**

## **Sermon Manuscripts Will Be Available to Use in Congregations Who Do Not Have a Called Pastor**

As a pilot project in the Lenten and Easter seasons, several pastors (including rostered Synod Staff) have agreed to provide a Sermon Manuscript for each of the Sundays in Lent and Easter. The Sermon manuscript is a gift to the LPAs and worship leaders/leaders in congregations who serve in the places where there is no pastor. Please follow the link to find the sermon each week and use it as it is needed. This is one more way in which the Montana Synod leaders are providing resources to strengthen us. The Manuscripts will be found on the Synod's website and the Manuscript for the upcoming Sunday will be posted by 12 noon on Saturdays. (Maybe before, but at least by 12 noon on Saturdays for the upcoming Sunday. The Sermons will be based on the Revised Common Lectionary.)

LPAs, please feel free to use this resource made possible by the generosity of the pastors in the Synod if it is needed. Pastors, if you would like to be added to the list to provide a Manuscript, please contact me. (It is good order to credit who wrote the sermon and where they serve.)

We are stronger together as the Montana Synod and this is one way that all of us can be a part of equipping one another for the ministry of the Gospel.

Please contact me if you have questions about this in general or contact Colter at [cmccarty@montanasynod.org](mailto:cmccarty@montanasynod.org) about any technical aspect of this.

Pastor Peggy Paugh Leuzinger  
Director for Evangelical Mission for the Montana Synod  
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406 451 8461 Cell



## Hetzel Grant Applications now open!

The applications are [available to download here](#). Please read carefully as we have made some changes.



**WSYG & WYLE Registration**

# Price Increase on March 6!

Has your group registered for the Western States Youth Gathering (WSYG) and/or the Western States Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (WYLE)? If not, we strongly encourage you to register today to secure a lower registration price, as prices are increasing on March 6th!

If you have any questions about Western States, you are always welcome to email [info@spselca.org](mailto:info@spselca.org).

[Register here](#)



## March, 2023

*Information for our Congregations*

Christikon is an extension your congregation's ministry.

**Bus Attendants needed for 2023**— Would you or someone you know be willing to ride with youth on their way to Christikon? Yes? Please call Kerry in the office at 406-656-1969 or email at [secretary@christikon.org](mailto:secretary@christikon.org) for details. It pays a daily rate as well!

**Don't miss out on the Early Registration Discount for youth campers: Register by April 1<sup>st</sup> and save \$25 in any youth session.** If you don't have the camp brochure mailed to you, pick one up at the church, or register online.

**Adults and families: Check out the special focus** for each of the family/adult weekends next summer at Christikon: work projects, faith formation, and Bible study will be woven together with worship, meal fellowship, re-creation, folk dancing and much more. Check out camping for adults and families online at [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org).

**Annual Benefit Auction is on April 30<sup>th</sup>** at the Billings Depot. We are looking for items for the auction such as: fishing trip, weekend getaway, dinner out, themed baskets. Have an idea? Let us know! Watch for more details as they become available on our website.

**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 24<sup>th</sup> Street West • Billings, MT 59102**  
406 656-1969 • [secretary@christikon.org](mailto:secretary@christikon.org) • [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)

**Registration for summer camp** is filling fast! Pastors and Lay adults (nurses, maintenance, kitchen, grandparents, general helpers!) we need your help! Please apply at [www.flbc.net](http://www.flbc.net) Call 406-752-0662 if you have questions!!

**March 1st, at 11:59 pm** is the last chance to receive \$100 off your summer youth week long registration! Sign up today. Some weeks are filling up fast!

**Summer staff is still needed**, if you are 18 or older...(no maximum age...spend June 5-Aug 18, at FLBC!! A variety of positions are open. \$400 per week, plus lots of perks!! (and the best part....the most transformational summer you will ever have!!)

Mark your calendars!  
May 14th- Mother's Day Brunch...Come and help out...and eat free!! :)

May 26-29-Memorial weekend Work/family retreat! FREE! Great way to introduce your kids/grandkids to what camp is like!

FLBC Women's retreat with Dr. Meggan Manlove-June 9-11



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### Synod Staff:

#### Bishop

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#### Associate to the Bishop

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