



Montana Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Equipping for Ministry

Montana Synod Weekly Announcements April 24, 2023



WOMEN OF THE ELCA GATHERING
SEPTEMBER 21-24, 2023 | PHOENIX
WELCATG.ORG

Meet up with women across the United States and the Bahamas as we gather for the Triennial Gathering to be held in our own back yard – Phoenix, AZ! Women from the Grand Canyon Synod will be the host Synod and our own Bishop Deborah Hutterer will serve as Worship Leader!

Head to WELCATG.ORG to register and find out more information. Early bird, from March 1 until April 30 is \$375.00. After May 1, \$425.00. Hotel accommodations are located on the web site. If you had already registered for the 2020 Pandemic Scheduled Triennial, you can update your information on the website.

If you would **Just Love** to Volunteer, make sure to indicate that on your registration. Someone will be giving you a call. What better way to become involved and learn from some amazing speakers and sponsors. Plan ahead for the traditional Run, Walk and Roll on Saturday morning. . . and many other life changing events.



advocacy

ELCA Farm Bill Listening Sessions

The U.S. Congress is working to draft a new, five-year Farm Bill. “You may already know Farm Bill reauthorization is underway,” says John Johnson, ELCA Program Director for Domestic Policy. This impacts all of us who eat, including those of us who struggle with hunger. Beyond our bellies, we’ll feel the impact of farm bill policy decisions through our vocations. “Many of you work on farms, in businesses, and help to feed hungry people not only in the United States but around the world,” he observes.

What Is the Farm Bill and Why Now?

The farm bill is legislation that is critical to addressing hunger in the United States and globally. It covers federal nutrition programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), environment, trade, foreign aid and rural development. The bill impacts the lives of Lutherans and their communities – among us are farmers and ranchers and Indigenous communities and global partners and low income Americans. Congress is preparing to reauthorize the bill in 2023. Each reauthorization provides an opportunity to improve or expand programs that ensure access to fresh and healthy food while addressing root causes of hunger.

What Is a Listening Session?

ELCA farm bill listening sessions are virtual gatherings where ministry leaders, members of congregations, and those with valuable lived experiences gather our opinions and experiences informed by faith values on stewardship, justice and serving our neighbor. This input will equip one another and the many communities of this church for farm bill advocacy that reflects those values, including our ELCA Witness in Society advocacy staff. These viewpoints, opportunities, concerns and hopes for a future farm bill will inform ELCA advocacy and help shape the ultimate law that Congress passes.

When Are They Happening & How Can I Register?

At this time, three, 1.5 hour listening sessions are scheduled in April 2023. Register for any, but each session will feature some discussion specific to the region of a particular time zone.

- Eastern & Central Time Zone focus
- Tuesday, April 18 – 6 p.m. ET / 5 p.m. CT
- Register – <https://bit.ly/ELCAfarmbilllisteningEasternCentral>
- Pacific Time Zone focus
- Friday, April 21 – 12 noon PT [3 p.m. ET)
- Register – <https://bit.ly/ELCAfarmbilllisteningPacific>
- Mountain Time Zone focus
- Tuesday, April 25 – 6 p.m. MT (8 p.m. ET)
- Register – <https://bit.ly/ELCAfarmbilllisteningMountain>

Conclusion

Current legislation is set to expire in September 2023, and our faithful action can impact reauthorization decisions. On Capitol Hill, our faith-centered perspectives will inform ELCA advocacy as we advance priorities toward a just world where all are fed. "We need your expertise, and we need your comments, hopes and dreams for how this Farm Bill can make a better world," invites Johnson. Please be part of a Listening Session to Inform ELCA Farm Bill Advocacy.

Christikon Benefit Auction

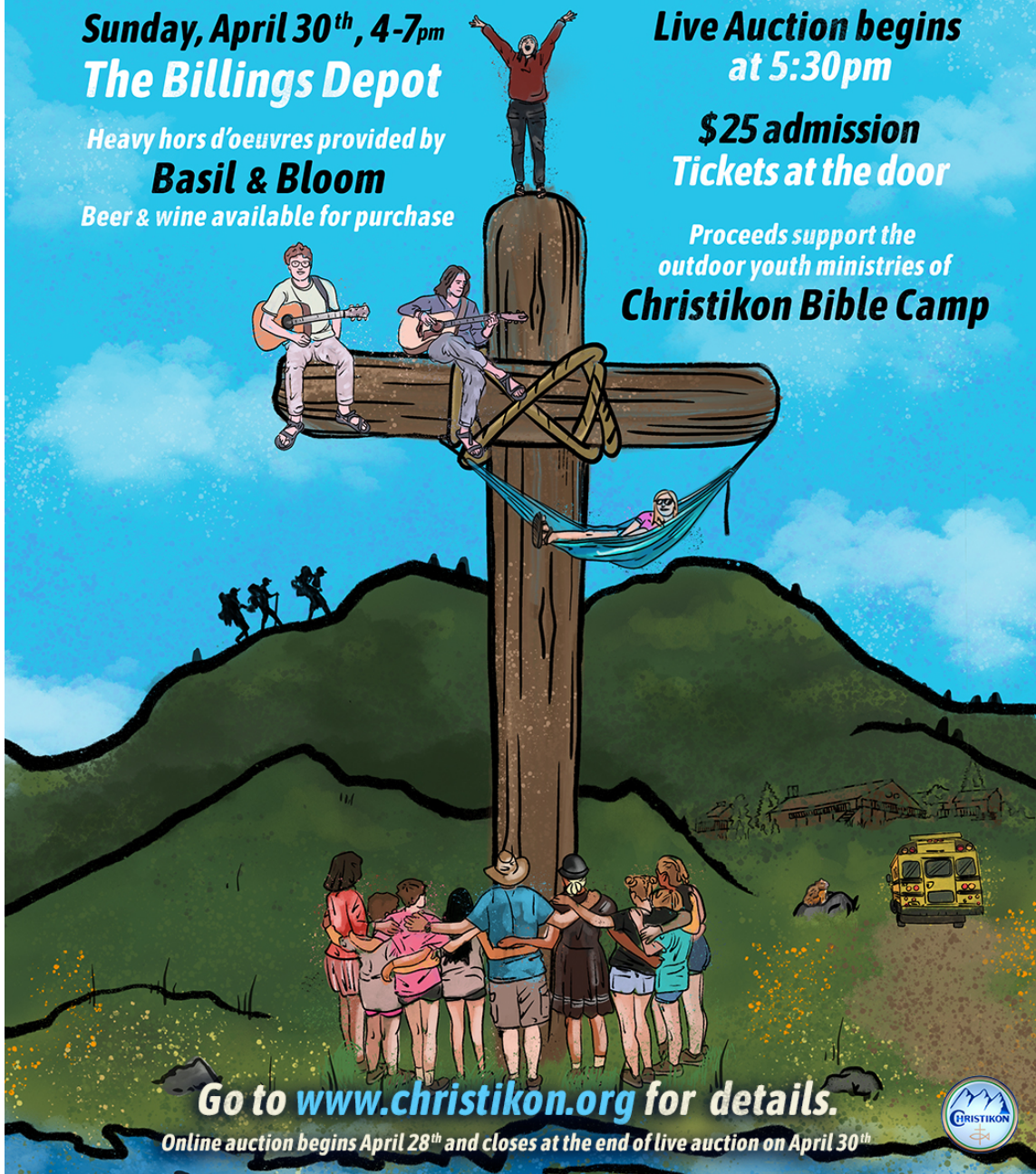
Sunday, April 30th, 4-7pm
The Billings Depot

Heavy hors d'oeuvres provided by
Basil & Bloom
Beer & wine available for purchase

**Live Auction begins
at 5:30pm**

\$25 admission
Tickets at the door

Proceeds support the
outdoor youth ministries of
Christikon Bible Camp



Go to www.christikon.org for details.

Online auction begins April 28th and closes at the end of live auction on April 30th



We have some wonderful auction items and you can look at them now [Christikon BetterWorld Link to items](http://www.christikon.org/BetterWorld) . More are being added every day. Online bidding begins April 28th at noon and ends on April 30th at 8pm.

Truth & Healing Movement

Over the next months the ELCA will provide opportunities to learn the true history and current realities of Indigenous people. It is these truths, truths that have been ignored by most for hundreds of years, that will bring healing for both Indigenous people and non-Indigenous people.

Some of these opportunities will be calls to individual action, and some will be activities that congregations and small groups should coordinate and participate in together. All these opportunities can be easily promoted by sharing links on social media or other communication platforms.

[Click here to see all of the opportunities and to register for them!](#)

Current Class offering:

Indian 101

April 18, 20, 25, 27th

STEP BY STEP... WE REMEMBER 5K MMIP - IN PERSON COMMUNITY EVENT

WHERE:

Salish Kootenai College, Pablo, MT

WHEN:

Saturday, May 6th, 2023

8:30 am - 9:30 am Registration
10:00 am Welcome/Prayer/Honor Song
10:15 am Personal Testimonials
10:30 am Walk/Run Begins
12:30 pm Closing Ceremony/
Victory Song

Register today with Rising Hearts at
events.elitefeats.com/23justice
or

on-site proceeds go to your local
CSKT MMIP Victim Services
Assistance Fund

*Be sure to wear RED in solidarity
for the event!*

**Preorder your shirts
by scanning QR code:**



MAY 5-7, 2023
REGISTER:
<https://events.elitefeats.com/23justice>

**The Step By Step...We Remember
5K MMIP Walk/Run helps:**

- Raise Community Awareness
- Promote Individual Engagement
in Prevention
- Supports Families
- Honors Those Who Are Missing
- Shows Unity & Respect

FOR MMIP VIRTUAL
&

TRIFECTA:

VIRTUAL + IN-PERSON 5K

INFORMATION VISIT:

events.elitefeats.com/23justice

Community

Sponsors:



MAY 7-13, 2023

Spring Sacred Arts

Grünewald Guild

Celebrate the waking of Plain Valley

PAINT, FABRIC, METALWORK, AND SOUL COLLAGE

A WEEK OF ARTISTIC AND SPIRITUAL PLAY.

FACILITATED BY SCOTT BURNETT AND LAURIE RUDEL



office@grunewaldguild.com

509.763.3693

19003 River Rd
Leavenworth, WA 98826

May 7-13 Spring Sacred Arts

Since 2015, Spring Sacred Arts Week has been a special springtime week that gathers curious creatives together for a week of artistic and spiritual play. Facilitated by Scott Burnett and Laurie Rudel, it is a time to celebrate the waking of the Plain Valley while exploring our personal and communal creative depths. Choose from four different courses to explore: acrylic painting, mosaic fabric art, or soulcollage.

Learn more and register here:

<https://grunewaldguild.com/spring-sacred-arts-2023/>

Summer 2023 Program

Join us for either a 3-day, 4-day, or 5-day art course this summer at the Grunewald Guild! Everything from woodcarving to etching to weaving to drawing will be offered. Explore your own creative process in the beautiful Plain, Valley among a community of creative play.

Learn more about each course and register here:

<https://grunewaldguild.com/summer-program-2023/>

Summer staff needed! It's going to be an awesome summer! Minimum age 18! Here is a link to our staff application: <https://flbc.net/work-at-flbc/>

Blessed Easter and Earth Day, April 22nd!

Get outside, and do something wonderful to care for God's beautiful creation that we are blessed to be caretakers of!

Memorial weekend, May 26-29, 2023

Come for all or part of this FREE fun, working, growing weekend, as we care for God's creation at FLBC. Registration required by May 12th.

Registration@flbc.net or call 406-752-6602. Pastor Carol Seilhymer, from Northridge Lutheran will be our Bible study and worship leader. This is a great weekend to bring family members for a "taste of camp!"

Adopt a Bench!



As we celebrate 80 years of ministry, we are working to re-do the outdoor chapel. \$750 will pay for a bench, and you can have your church name, family name, Bible verse, etc engraved on the bench! 28 benches are needed!

Positions open at FLBC

Summer Arts and Crafts Director; Summer staff chaplains (2 week minimum) ;Year round maintenance assistant; Year round Food Service Director... Please see application information, and job descriptions on our Website. Contact margie@flbc.net Is God calling you to a new adventure??

Outreach Ministry October 2023-April 2024

FLBC staff will come to your congregation, 1x per month to lead a youth and or family night. Contact our office if your congregation is interested!

There is still time to register for summer youth camp and family camp weekends We have an awesome summer staff hired, and they are eager to meet you! It's going to be a fun, faith filled summer! Please join us at FLBC as we explore our summer theme, "Holy Trinity. Wholly Love"



April, 2023

Information for our Congregations

Christikon Benefit Auction In Person and Online

Christikon Benefit Auction – Quilts, Vacation Get-aways, and a Whole Lot More will be on Sunday April 30th at the Billings Depot. Items are some of the finest artistry including a variety of hand-made quilts, art work, gift baskets, getaways, jewelry and so much more.

April 28-30 Online

Watch for the link to our auction platform on facebook at www.facebook.com/Christikon Like our page and share it with your friends! Watch for sneak peeks!

Campers: Don't forget to register for one of our many sessions available this summer!

How about Work Weekend? Bring your family and enjoy camp/fellowship and more while helping to prepare camp for the season! We look forward to welcoming you to camp! Go to www.christikon.org and find your session!

It is the mission of Christikon to awaken and nurture faith in Christ

exploring God's creation and the adventure of life together .

CHRISTIKON

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