



## Montana Synod Weekly Announcements May 15, 2023

### Assembly registration is now closed

**Voting members**, watch for an email to be sent out tomorrow with information that will be needed for attending the assembly.

If you are not a voting member but would like to watch the assembly, both days will be live streamed on our Youtube channel Friday and Saturday. Links will be provided in the news the week of the Assembly as well as on the front page of the Montana Synod website.



New Indian 101 Class  
**June 1, 10:00-noon CST**

Class summary:

The general population knows very little about the Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island. Even the most basic topics are often grand mysteries. This is by design; for centuries the colonial project has prioritized the complete erasure of Native people. “Indian 101” explains some of these basics to build a foundation for students to stand in solidarity with Indian people across the United States as we work together to dismantle longstanding systems of oppression.

[Get more info about the next sessions on the ELCA Truth & Healing website here.](#)

These classes will not be recorded. However, if you are interested in having the class offered for your congregations, cluster or synod, contact Vance Blackfox, Director of Indigenous Ministries & Tribal Relations through the ELCA website below:

<https://elca.org/indigenous>

# Trauma & Spiritual Care

Finding God in the broken places in ourselves & others

led by Rev. Matthew Kuempel,  
MA, MDiv, LMHC, CMHS

Hosted by Region 1 Bishops



Join rostered leaders from Region 1 in this five-session course on trauma informed care. Utilizing readings, videos, & small & large group discussions, this class will give spiritual caregivers tools to increase their own resilience while caring for others.

Participation in all five sessions is critical because each session will build on the one that came before & will honor the group dynamic that will evolve in times of potential vulnerability as learning takes place.

Sessions will be held on Tuesdays & Thursdays beginning June 6 from 12:00-2:30 (Pacific Time) via Zoom. Participants will earn 12.5 CE credits.

## SCHEDULE & RESOURCES

- Introduction to Trauma-Informed Care (June 6, 2023)
- Trauma & Me (June 8)
- Trauma & You (June 13)
- Trauma in Congregations (June 15)
- Trauma in Community (June 20)

Cost: \$100

Suggested Reading: *What Happened to You?* by Bruce Perry & Oprah Winfrey

## REGISTER HERE

<https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/7162414>

Register by June 1

The ZOOM link will be emailed to participants on June 2nd



Matthew Kuempel is a licensed mental health counselor with a specialization in child and adolescent mental health. He served congregations in the mid-west, was a jail chaplain, a child and family therapist, & is currently working with incarcerated youth through Lutheran Community Services.



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



Montana DPHHS Faith and Community Based Services

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

### Faith and Community Based Services Coordinator...

April was a great month for the Office of Faith and Community Based Services (OFCBS) to visit some of the smaller communities of Montana. To

list of a few these great communities like; Wibaux, Glendive, Sidney, Browning, Cut Bank, and many more. Enjoyed lunch with seniors at two centers both very near to borders; Fairview where just a look down the road meant gazing on the fields of North Dakota and Sunburst where if you miss the exit a sign a few minutes down the road warns last exit before entering Canada. As the OFCBS begins to focus on issues revolving around seniors, human trafficking, and families it is evident that the faith community, local organizations, and Montana State agencies are excited to collaborate, for the benefit of Montanans.

I have had many questions about Summit events in the future. OFCBS is looking at

four Summit events in the fall of 2023 and several smaller roundtable events to follow around the State. Once host locations are scheduled, we will release the locations and details. Summits will seek to bring large group of resources with focuses on the Office of Faith and Community Based Services strategic plan of community engagement. Round tables will be smaller and better suited for many of our Montana communities. Round tables will have the much of the same information as the Summits but presented in a smaller forum mostly by the OFCBS staff.

Do you have a project, event, news, or resource you would like to get into the bulletin? Share with me a half page styled add in a Jpeg or PDF. Note this information in this bulletin can be shared with congregations, organization, coworkers, and friends.

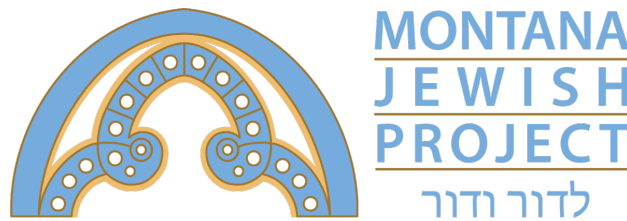
Rob Lawler, Faith and Community Based Services Coordinator.  
Rob.lawler@mt.gov

## ELCA World Hunger Grants

The ELCA Domestic Hunger Grant process is open for ministries in the Synod to submit a Letter of Inquiry (LOI) which briefly describes the project proposal. Information about the LOI and the Domestic Hunger Grant process can be found at <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/ELCA-World-Hunger/Get-Involved/Domestic-Hunger-Grants#apply>

Ministries interested in applying are encouraged to fill out the LOI form. The Domestic Hunger Grant application for 2024 awards closes May 31st.

Please contact Pastor Peggy Paugh Leuzinger, Director for Evangelical Mission for the Montana Synod with questions about the process at [ppleuzinger@montanasynod.org](mailto:ppleuzinger@montanasynod.org)



Dear MJP Supporters and Friends,

We are so fortunate to receive donations from people across Montana and out of state. Our growing library is stocked entirely with books for children and adults that several of you have donated. Our Judaica collection is also growing—again all from your generous donations. We now have some beautiful artwork and items needed for Jewish ritual observance and prayer.

Judaism is a tradition in which history and memory are central. Knowing something about the person's life whose book we hold, whose kippa we use, or whose shofar we will blow during the High Holy Days makes using them all the more special. This is especially true for items donated in someone's memory.

Recently, Jim Gray of Missoula, donated several boxes of books and Judaica from his mother, Shirle Gray. You can read about Shirle here. Thank you, Jim, for trusting us with your mother's books and beautiful Judaica. We believe that in using them, we are helping keep her memory and legacy alive.

We'd also love to hear from others who have sent books and Judaica and art to us if you have stories about them that you'd like to share. We're launching a blog feature on our website for this. Or perhaps share a story of an item you own that makes your Jewish life feel deeper because of its history.

Thank you to all of you who have shared financial contributions, your time, and the books and Judaica that are making our space inside historic Temple Emanu-El come alive.

Gratefully,  
Rebecca Stanfel  
Director and Board President, MJP

To sign up for newsletters from the Montana Jewish Project and for more information, [click here!](#)



### Check out the NRIT page of the synod website for:

- Summer/Fall In-person NRIT Events (mark your calendars, more info coming soon.)
- Recommended Online Classes
- Boundaries Training Information

<https://www.montanasynod.org/nrit>



### May 2023

*Information for our Congregations*

**There is still room to register for camp this summer!** Space remains in most youth sessions and families/adult sessions, including the **Work Weekend, May 26-29. Families register online.**

**Special guest speakers** become part of the Christikon life this summer during sessions for adults and families. During Continuing Education Retreat (July 25-28) we feature **Dr. Eric Meyer. Watch for topic** details on our website for both Continuing Ed and Mountain Weekend. Come spend a few days of relaxation, learning, and faith growth with us. Full

details can be found on our website [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org).

**We covet your prayers for Christikon's** this summer, for our summer and fulltime staff, and for all who join in the Christikon life.

### CHRISTIKON

1108 24<sup>th</sup> Street West • Billings, MT 59102  
406 656-1969 • [director@christikon.org](mailto:director@christikon.org) • [secretary@christikon.org](mailto:secretary@christikon.org) •  
[www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)

## FLBC Updates

Summer is almost here! The leadership staff arrive May 21, and the rest of the staff arrive June 4<sup>th</sup>, with the first campers coming June 18<sup>th</sup>. Please pray for these amazing young adults who will share the love of Christ with campers this summer!

There are still lots of openings for summer camp, for youth and families! Sign up today! Need a campership? Contact Jan at the FLBC office

**Memorial weekend retreat** Join the camp staff, and Pastor Carol Seilhmyer, from Northridge for discussions, worship, fun, new friends, first taste of summer camp (great to get to know camp, and introduce children who may be a little nervous about camp, and its **FREE!!** Go to our [web site](#), or call 406-752-6602 to sign up!

**June 9-11 is our annual Women's retreat** with Rev. Dr. Meggan Manlove, who will be leading the sessions on "Sharing our Faith Story" Fun, laughter, and chocolate and wine! AND Pr. Meggan is the Bishop elect (as of April 29<sup>th</sup>) for the Northwest Intermountain synod of the ELCA! To register go to our web site, or call our office. FLBC is still in need of a Crafts Director, Chaplains, and male counselors, please help us recruit! THANKS



---

### Synod Staff:

#### Bishop

Laurie Jungling: [ljungling@montanasynod.org](mailto:ljungling@montanasynod.org)

#### Associate to the Bishop

Brenda Frelsi: [bfrelsi@montanasynod.org](mailto:bfrelsi@montanasynod.org)

#### Director for Evangelical Mission

Pastor Peggy Paugh Leuzinger: [ppleuzinger@montanasynod.org](mailto:ppleuzinger@montanasynod.org)

#### Director of Technology and Communications

Colter McCarty: [cmccarty@montanasynod.org](mailto:cmccarty@montanasynod.org)

#### Office Manager

[office@montanasynod.org](mailto:office@montanasynod.org)

#### Director of NRIT

Jenny Kunka: [j.kunka@nrit.org](mailto:j.kunka@nrit.org)

---

[Click here to be taken to the newsletter archive](#)



Montana Synod, ELCA | 1221 24th St. South, Great Falls, MT 59405-5034

[Unsubscribe cmccarty@montanasynod.org](mailto:cmccarty@montanasynod.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by cmccarty@montanasynod.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!

---