



Montana Synod Weekly Announcements June 19, 2023

Faithful Innovation Sampler

Sunday, June 25, 2023

2:00 – 4:00 PM Mountain Time on Zoom

Get a taste of what Faithful Innovation Learning Communities are all about! Join Faithful Innovation Learning practitioners from several Synods across the ELCA for a Question & Answer time and to sample training exercises.

What is the Faithful Innovation process? Contact Pastor Peggy Paugh Leuzinger, Director for Evangelical Mission to find out more details about this introduction to the Faithful Innovation process.

Register here: <https://forms.gle/WvFQ23R5T4br9LZT8>

All participants are asked to register by Sat. June 24th. You will receive an email with the Zoom link upon registration.

Schedule:

2:00-2:45 Welcome, Introductions, Dwelling in the Word

2:45-2:50 Intro to listening practices “Share a story of a time when you were most spiritually engaged and energized in your local church.”

2:50-3:05 Breakout Groups

3:05-3:15 Report back

3:15-3:45 Panel discussion with 3 – 4 Faithful Innovation teams

What did they learn?

What are they doing now? (how has the practice of listen—act—reflect become part of their life together?)

3:45-4:00 Time for questions

YAGM Announcement

Dear friends,

I'm happy to share some updates about the [Young Adults in Global Mission \(YAGM\) program](#), which invites young adults into a transformative year of service and fellowship. Over the past few years, the YAGM team have had conversations with program partners, participants and alums and explored ways to enrich the YAGM experience for all involved. Now, we are excited to announce two changes to the YAGM application process:

- 1) Young adults ages 21-35 are welcome to apply for YAGM. This expands the previous age range of 21-29 to align more closely with [ELCA Young Adult Ministry](#).
- 2) Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, year-round. The timeline for decisions and the period of service for program participants will remain the same as in previous years:

- Jan. 15 — Priority deadline for the upcoming service year.
- Feb. 1 — Final deadline for the upcoming service year.
- August — YAGM participants depart for service.

Through YAGM young adults learn what it means to serve in a spirit of accompaniment as they walk alongside global church companions. They become immersed in new communities and form deep relationships. And they confront issues of poverty, racial privilege, gender privilege, economic disparity and globalization, all through the lens of faith.

We hope these changes will make YAGM more accessible across our church community, giving more young adults the opportunity to step out into the world. If you have questions about these updates or would like to chat about anything YAGM-related, please reach out to me at MaeHelen.Jackson@ELCA.org.

Thank you for your support and partnership!

Mae Helen Jackson

Interim Program Director, Young Adults in Global Mission

ELCA Vital Congregational Training: Part 1

Is your congregation ready to take some steps (even small steps) toward renewal or revitalization? Are you ready to try some new things, share some ideas, gain a greater understanding of the broader mission, bring clarity about your own congregation's mission, acquire knowledge on how to live that out in community, gain confidence to share what you have learned with the world, and find new allies from within a cohort of congregations? Then, you are invited to attend the 2023 Summer Session of the ELCA Vital Congregations Training, Part 1.

This is a fast paced co-creative and co-experimental Training facilitated by leaders with steep experience in redeveloping congregations as well as added guest presenters from a variety of settings with a wealth of knowledge. These principles and more will be explored: focusing on Jesus and justice; being expectant of the Holy Spirit; living as disciples of Jesus; engaging the neighborhood/community; multiplying leaders who are young, diverse and bring fresh insights; and aligning with purpose and core values.

This will be a four-session training. The training sessions will be held two times per day from 11:30-1:00 p.m. and from 5:30-7:00 p.m. on Thursdays -- June 29th, July 13th, and July 27th. You may choose the best time each day that works for you. All sessions will be recorded and available to all registered participants. Pastors and congregations are encouraged to come as teams of 3-5 people for a time of inspiration, learning, planning, sharing, experimenting, visioning, and implementing.

NOTE: This training is for people who have not attended an ELCA Vital Congregations Training or who would like a refresher before attending the Fall 2023 Part 2 Training.

Contact DEM Peggy Paugh Leuzinger for further information or with questions.



Montana Rural Ministry: Hope and Possibility Led by Dr. Mark Yackel-Juleen

Held in Great Falls on October 11th and 12th.

This retreat will provide a time for rural congregation members to share ideas, ask questions and think through possibilities for smaller congregations. We'd like to invite both pastors and lay people to this ecumenical gathering as a time to envision the future.

Begins after lunch on Oct. 11th and ends at lunchtime on the 12th.

Registration fee is only \$25 and supper will be provided. Participants need to provide their own lodging.

Go to montanasynod.org and click on the "NRIT Store" button below the blue logo to learn more about classes and to register.

Registration Closes Today June 19, 2023

Final Chance to Register for the 2023 Annual Conference of the Lutheran Transitional Ministry Association (LuTMA)

For all Pastors in permanent or interim calls.
First Time Attendees: \$200.00 rate.

Registration Closes Today June 19, 2023

2023 Annual Conference
Tuesday-Thursday, June 27-29, 2023

Maritime Conference Center
692 Maritime Blvd
Linthicum Heights, Maryland

Main Presenter
The Rev. Dr. Tod Bolsinger
Senior Congregational Strategist
and Associate Professor of Leadership Formation

BA, California State University, Northridge
MDIV, PHD, Fuller Theological Seminary

**Conference Topic:
Transition and Transformation:
Leadership in Deeply Disruptive Cultural Crises.**

Author of these books:
Canoeing the Mountains (2015)
Tempered Resilience (2020)
Leadership for a Time of Pandemic (2020)

Hotel Room Reservations:
Room Reservations at the Maritime Center:

Go to: <https://gettaroom.b4checkin.com/mccbwi/#main>

Click on Group Code at top of the page
Enter the Booking ID# 3474
Select dates for your stay.

This will be a hybrid conference.
(in-person & online)
Visit the LuTMA website

[Link to the LuTMA Website](#)
(Go to tab: Annual Conference)



June, 2023

Information for our Congregations

We're excited to welcome our first fulltime Assistant Director, Taryn Hauglie, to the leadership team. She starts June 1, and summer staff report the next day for the start of Staff Training. Our first campers arrive on the 19th.

Family Adult Camps: We welcome Dr. Eric Meyer who is an Associate Professor of the Theology Department at Carroll College to the Continuing Ed Retreat along with Pr. Kent Claussen Gubrud of Christus Victor Lutheran Church in Apple Valley, MN and Paul Waldum instructor at MSU Bozeman and

professional artist from Livingston, MT. Watch for more details coming on our website. Mountain Weekend – watch for more information on our website.

Register at www.christikon.org.

Campers! There is still room in our on-site sessions. Please visit our website to register. www.christikon.org

We have a few trails spots available – call the office for availability. 406-656-1969.

Remember to pray for your congregation's ministry through Christikon this summer, for the summer staff, and for all who join in the Christikon life.

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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406 656-1969 • director@christikon.org • secretary@christikon.org •
www.christikon.org

FLBC Updates

Make plans to come to FLBC July 2nd 1-9pm for the 80th anniversary birthday party! History, swim, hikes, saunas, picnic, Concert with Just Move (formally AGAPE), worship campfire with singing through the decades!! All are welcome, no need to register, for the day, just come!! (we do have a few spots available for the whole weekend. Please contact the FLBC office to register.



We have room for Staff in Training, June 18-23. for those entering 10th-2023 HS graduates. Come to learn what it means to be on staff, and come back for another week, to BE a staff person! Apply today!!

Summer family weekend July 21-23 with Pastor JP Carlson, MSU Campus Ministry! A great weekend relaxing weekend, of fun, food, water activities, and Bible Study. Do as much or as little as you want! Register with FLBC today!

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