



Montana Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Montana Synod Weekly Announcements June 28, 2021

The Synod Office will be closed on July 5th in observance of Independence Day

2021 Chico Gathering November 2-5, 2021

Welcome all ministry leaders to the deferred Chico Gathering! This past year has been unusual – so why shouldn't our Chico Gathering be?!? We will retain our traditional schedule of free afternoons

(ahhh – for some, that's all you needed to hear!); however, this year will be a hybrid event with the Bishop's Convocation. We understand that not all ministry leaders attend the Chico event, however the Bishop's Convocation is a required event. Therefore, we are working on a virtual attendance option for the sessions.

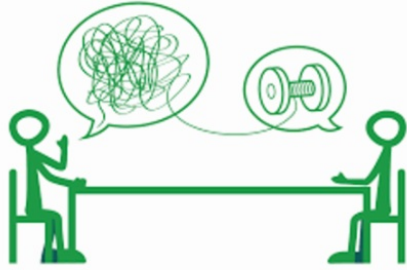


Mark your calendars and watch for further information (theme, schedule, etc.) in coming months!

Room Reservations: you may make room reservations immediately by contacting Chico Hot Springs directly (www.chicohotsprings.com or 1-406-333-4933). There are rooms blocked out for our event – indicate you are part of this group.

Gathering Registration: watch for registration information in early September.

Coach's Corner



IN WHAT WAYS CAN COACHING HELP ME?

Coaching can be used for a myriad of opportunities, including but not limited to:

. Find out more:

<https://www.montanasynod.org/coaching-in-the-montana-synod.html>

Contact: Ps. Peggy PaughLeuzinger , DEM for Montana Synod at:

ppeuzinger@montanasynod.org

Or: Marilyn Hall, Montana Synod Coaching Coordinator at:

marilynlovestocamp@yahoo.com

Personal leadership growth
Growing as a head of staff
Leading as an council president or chairperson
Skillfully dealing with conflict
Council development
Empowering evangelism
Congregational transformation
Strategic Planning
Multiplying Leaders
Building Ministry Teams
Worship, Stewardship, or Mission Development



**The Third Biannual
Fall Sojourn to Holden
September 26th - October 3rd**

**Now is the time to make plans for a
special week at Holden Village and
invite your friends!**

Holden is a retreat center for adults and families, nestled in a beautiful valley in the Cascade Mountains of Washington State.

Fall is a wonderful time to visit the Cascade Mountains. While at Holden Village you will have the opportunity to create your own rhythms of each day according to your interests. Teaching sessions and opportunities for creative engagement will be bountiful. You are encouraged to take time for rest and recreation - hiking, fly-fishing, weaving, other crafts, and a host of other activities. Please spend some time exploring Holden's website (holdenvillage.org) and consider exploring the Village in person.

After the busy summer schedule, fall is quieter and a beautiful time to visit. This late September week will feature the following teaching staff.

- **Rick Brown, PhD - Clean Energy as a Core Strategy to Address Climate Change.** Rick is Founder and President of TerraVerde Energy from 2009-2020. He has led a team that has developed over \$4,500 Million in clean energy projects. He has also been deeply involved in California legislation and regulation regarding clean energy and has been called on by the California Public Utilities Commission, California Energy Commission, and the Legislature to provide expert testimony on a wide range of clean energy issues
- **Pr. Jessica Crist - The Doctrine of Discovery — How Rick Santorum (and just about everyone else) Got it All Wrong.** Jessica has degrees from Yale and Harvard and is the former Bishop of the Montana Synod. She coordinated the ELCA's commemoration of the women's ordination anniversaries and currently co-chairs the ELCA's Task Force implementing the 2016 repudiation of the doctrine of discovery. She has been an advocate for Native American issues.
- **Pr. Mark Gravrock - The Reign of the Gathering God: The Gospel of Mark for 2021** Mark is a teacher and pastor, and has found the same vital center of joy in each setting of ministry: the place where the living word of God intersects with real, concrete daily life. He has taught Bible, Greek, and Christian spirituality for 22 years at Trinity Lutheran College in Washington.

If you are interested or have questions, contact Darius Larsen ASAP at:
dariuslarsen@msn.com.

To discover more about Holden Village, go to:
www.holdenvillage.org/visit.

Please do whatever you can to promote this week in your church community.

Christikon Clips

July 2021

Information for our Congregations

To: Campers/Guests registered for Christikon in 2021

Fr: Pastor Mark

Re: Camp Preparation & Travel

We're thankful for the progress made in the Covid fight, that we know much more about how it spreads than we did last season, and that all staff received vaccine before



arriving for the summer. While we aren't fully back to "normal" conditions, vaccines are widely available for anyone 12 and up in most, if not all, areas of the country. We continue to strongly encourage everyone who can to get the shot before coming to camp.

In consultation with our camp physician and county health director, this is the latest update regarding Covid 19:

Guest/Group Preparation and Travel:

- Quarantine unnecessary if all group members fully vaccinated
- For those not vaccinated, we ask them to limit outside contact in the 10 days prior to leaving for Christikon
- We suggest groups limit contact while in route (i.e. rest stops over convenience stores, ordering food to overnight lodging rather than eating out, etc.). Again for groups fully vaccinated, they can travel more freely

While at Christikon, some protocols remain:

- hand washing/sanitizing stations in place before each meal
- cabin bunks remain further apart and all cabins equipped with ventilation fans
- most activities and programming done outdoors
- all will mask when singing at worship
- we'll continue limited our practice of joining hands during meal and worship prayer

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.

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Upcoming FLBC Retreats & Events

Visit <https://flbc.net/annual-programming/> to learn more about our year-round programming and to find information on how to register for each of these retreats.

Summer Family Weekends - Register 2 weeks ahead of time

July 2 - 4 & July 16 - 18, 2021

Spend time on the lake, enjoy Bible Study sessions led by Pastor Barb Gwynn & Pastor Scott Hedegaard (weekend 1) and Pastor John Lund (weekend 2).

<https://flbc.net/annual-programming/summer-family-weekend/>



BACKPACKING WITH THE BISHOP! - Register by August 8

August 22-26, 2021

Join FLBC Staff and Bishop Laurie Jungling for a backpacking trip through the Jewel Basin. Find more information at <https://flbc.net/backpackingwiththebishop/>

Labor Day Weekend Retreat - Register by August 20

September 3-6, 2021

Join FLBC for this *free* retreat over Labor Day Weekend! Enjoy good food, fellowship and fun, while helping camp with some work projects!

<https://flbc.net/annual-programming/labor-day-family-camp/>

Grief Retreat - Register by August 27

September 10-12, 2021

This retreat is for any adult (18+) who has lost a loved one such as a partner, friend, parent, or child. You are invited to spend a weekend at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp; there will be opportunities for learning and fellowship, and time for peace and quiet.

<https://flbc.net/annual-programming/grief-retreat/>

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