



Montana Synod Weekly Announcements

August 1, 2022

Mental Health Training Available for Faith Communities Across Montana!

One in four people in America will go to their spiritual leader before a professional when they are experiencing a crisis. Do you know the questions to ask to determine if someone is suicidal? Do you know how to access the Montana Crisis Hotline to get someone connected with resources in Montana?



The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services has recently awarded funds to Guided Healing Trails located in Missoula Montana for the purpose of providing evidenced based training to faith leaders in Montana to equip them to respond to mental health crisis.

Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Training is a three step process used to intervene in a mental health emergency. Just like CPR, this 90 minute course equips attendees to have the skills to respond to a crisis and get the person referred to help. There are two options for participation in this training:

- Contact Alicia Kuhlman, ght.alicia1@gmail.com or 406-540-4120 to schedule a training for members of your faith community. You will need to coordinate logistics and marketing within your faith community for this free event.
- Register to attend one of the following virtual sessions open to faith communities across Montana by using this link: bit.ly/QPR_registration

Sessions will be held on the following dates from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

2022 Dates: Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17

2023 Dates: Jan. 19, Feb. 16, Mar. 16, April 20, May 18, June 15, or July 20

Registration NOW Open for Virtual Round Table Discussion for Organizations Serving Native Americans in Montana

August 4, 2022 11:30 Am - 1:30 PM-Virtual Event

The new Office of Faith and Community Based Services (FCBS) was created in January 2022 to serve as a conduit between DPHHS, faith communities and community-based organizations to support communication and service delivery. This round table discussion will focus on organizations specifically serving Native American populations with the goals of sharing about this new office, and also hearing

from participants about how FCBS can support their work.

As we look to expand upon programs and services across Montana – as well as identify those that are working in your communities and could potentially be replicated – you have valuable insights to share as we continue to stand up this new office. We hope you will join Chief of Staff, Charlie Brereton and Tracy Moseman from the Office of Faith and Community Based Services for this conversation.

If you have questions, or would like to register for the virtual event, please contact Tracy Moseman at tracy.moseman@mt.gov.



From our mission partner, Intermountain: What a difference a friend can make

Friendship is a common theme in scripture. The first couple was created for one another because of the need for companionship. The writer of Ecclesiastes bemoans the fate of the friendless, saying, “pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up... if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone?” (Ecc. 4:10-11) And, in Jesus’ last moments with the disciples he told them, “I no longer call you servants... I have called you friends” (John 15:15). Friends are there for us when times are difficult and we need someone to be with us in our turmoil. Over the last few years, the need for friendship and companionship has been acutely felt... especially by those children and families experiencing a mental health crisis. Coming to Intermountain (intermountain.org), those in crisis find not only a mental health organization with clinical expertise and excellence in delivery of services, they find compassion and friendship for the journey towards health. They find healing through healthy relationships.

Did you know that Intermountain can only provide these services because of the wide network of supporters whose prayers and financial contributions have sustained the mission for 113 years? The most valuable and committed supporters we have are part of a group called “Caring Friends.” Caring Friends are our dedicated monthly supporters who understand the value of friendship as expressed tangibly. Following the lead of Jesus Christ, who held up a child as an example of faith and hope in the Kingdom of God, Intermountain’s faith-based Caring Friends have found room in their hearts (and in their monthly budget!) to insure that “not one of these little ones should be lost” (Matthew 18:14).

Intermountain is making a concerted effort to grow the ranks of its Caring Friends in 2022, and there will be some special opportunities for those that join as Caring Friends in the months ahead. But, perhaps you are reading now and feel a tug at your heart to join Intermountain as a Caring Friend right now? If so, you can visit intermountain.givingfuel.com/donate at check the box for “Monthly Giving.”

Over the course of a year, a monthly gift that fits your budget can work wonders in the life of a child at Intermountain. For less than a dollar a day, you can provide for the physical, emotional, and educational needs of a child while providing much needed financial stability to the organization as a whole. You become a trusted and faithful friend to us and to those we serve.

Blessings,



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

Visions of Hope for Vitality and Sustainability in Small Congregations

Led by Dr. Mark Yackel-Juleen, Wartburg Seminary

Class offered via Zoom – September 15 from 10am to 3pm (with a lunch break)

\$60

Trauma-Informed Approaches - Training

Led by Jess Mayerer, MPA and The Ven Dorce Kafka Dvarishkis

Class offered at Hope Lutheran Church, Bozeman MT – September 22 from 9am to 5pm

Free (fully funded by Gallatin Valley Interfaith Association)

“Anxiety Makes You Stupid” and other interesting things to consider about our emotional and family systems.

Led by Rev. Jason Asselstine, Associate to the Bishop

Class offered in-person, the afternoon before the Bishop’s Convo, Oct. 27

Time, location and cost TBD

Heaven, Hell, Death and Judgement

Led by Rev. Julia Seymour, Big Timber Lutheran Church

Class offered via Zoom – November 3rd and 10th from 9am to Noon both days.

\$50

BUILDING YOUR ANTI-RACISM TEAM: NEXT FAITHFUL STEPS

HOSTED BY: THE ELCA
EUROPEAN DESCENT LUTHERAN ASSOCIATION
FOR RACIAL JUSTICE (EDLARJ)

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Session 1: Team Goals

Wed., Sept. 7

Time: 4:30-6 PST, 5:30-7 MT, 6:30-8 CST, 7:30-9 EST

Session 2: Congregation Goals

Wed., Oct. 5

Time: 4:30-6 PST, 5:30-7 MT, 6:30-8 CST, 7:30-9 EST

Session 3: Community Goals

Wed., Nov. 2

Time: 4:30-6 PST, 5:30-7 MT, 6:30-8 CST, 7:30-9 EST

ELCA folks interested in connecting with others in building a synod, campus or congregational anti-racist team.



SCAN QR CODE TO SIGN UP

Upcoming Retreats & Events:

Find more information and register online



at <https://flbc.net/annual-programming/>

Labor Day Work Weekend & Family Retreat

Join us this Labor Day weekend for one last summer celebration with your family! Enjoy all that FLBC has to offer during this great family retreat: swimming, stand up paddleboarding, crafts in the Art Barn, sailing, and much more! Come to help us with some work projects or join us for a weekend of relaxation, or both! Either way, there will be fun, worship, and more for all.

Plus, join us for a **fun run, lake time, and ice cream party** – Dash, Dive, & Dip! – on Sunday, September 4 at

2PM. Make it a part of your Labor Day Weekend Retreat, or come just for the event. \$25/ person supports camperships.

Women's Retreat

September 23-25, 2022 | \$175/person (Full Weekend) \$135/person (Saturday Only)

Join us for a weekend of fun, good company, great food, and rest. Pastor Peggy Paugh Leuzinger, Director for Evangelical Mission at the Montana Synod, will lead our Bible Study focusing on Dwelling in the Word. Plus, spend time enjoying the beauty of camp, doing yoga on the docks, doing pottery, drinking coffee on the deck, and much more.

FLBC Golf Tournament

On Friday, October 7th, 2022, join FLBC for a fun day of golf at Polson Bay Golf Course as we raise funds for camperships! \$150 / player includes green fees, golf cart use, driving range practice & more! Register as a team of 4 or as a free agent. More information can be found online at flbc.net/golf

Can your congregation / business/ organization / family / etc. be a tournament sponsor? From donating a raffle item, to sponsoring a hole, to being the title sponsor, your support makes an un-fore-gettable impact! Contact carlee@flbc.net for more information about supporting the tournament in this way!

Prompts for Prayers of Intercession

As events in the world unfold, you may want assistance in contextualizing the prayers of intercession. ELCA Worship provides “Prompts for Prayers of Intercession” each Wednesday on its Worship Blog and links to them from its Facebook page. For additional resources for crafting intercessions, [visit this annotated list](#).

In this interim time during our search for an Office Administrator, the best way to reach the Synod staff is by email or cell phone. We will of course be checking voicemail messages in the office and get back to you!

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