



## Montana Synod Weekly Announcements August 16, 2021

### Hammer and Dance Newsletter

Our fire season is more than back in full swing This month's [Hammer and Dance](#) looks at where we are. But more than that - COVID is on the rise, Alaska is shaking and you are invited to help prepare. Enjoy our August issue.

Are fires in the Pacific NW bad? Yes. Are we alone? No. As we prepare for our disasters where we live, please remember those around the world who also struggle.

[Read the Hammer and Dance online](#), or [Download your copy](#). Share it with a friend, your pastor or congregation council. [Invite them to subscribe](#).

Be safe. Wear your mask. Care for your neighbor.

Dave Brauer-Rieke  
Region 1 Disaster Preparedness Project Manager



**Leading Holy Conversations amid Polarization:  
Equipping Followers of Christ to Communicate in Faith-  
filled Ways.**

## A Class Designed for Church Leaders.



We live in a time when it is nearly impossible to communicate with one another with any depth, a time in which our conversations so easily descend into angry retorts, judgmental suspicion, reactive demonization, and hateful dehumanizing until there seems nothing left to do but retreat into same-thinking groups or go to battle with the so-called “enemy.”

How do we as followers of Christ and leaders in Christ’s Church respond to the challenges that intrude into our congregations and ministries? Do we say nothing? Do we engage in the same divisive rhetoric? Do we leave the church altogether? Or do we seek different approaches designed to lower the anxiety level, build up community, and equip us to love one another into faith-filled communication?

This workshop will offer various tools, guidance, and methods so that you can better lead healthy and effective conversations in your communities.

Taught by Bishop Laurie Jungling.

**Class held via Zoom**

**Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> 10am to Noon and 1pm to 3pm.**

Register by going to [www.montanasynod.org](http://www.montanasynod.org) and clicking on the blue NRIT logo.

## LPA Class this fall!

A new class of LPAs will be starting up this fall in Great Falls. If you have a candidate in mind from your congregation, or would like more information, please call the Synod office or email [Candi](mailto:Candi)!

## Singing Plains, Calling Mountains An Original Liturgy from the MT Synod ELCA Changing Climate Task Force

Now available on the MT Synod Website:

Through our baptisms, God brings us into the divine plan for all of creation. We are equipped by the Spirit, then, to care for others and the world that God made. Whole-hearted, intentional stewardship of God’s creation is a serious aspect of what it means to be a follower of Christ, doing God’s work with our hands.

*-Pr. Julia Seymour, Pastor at Big Timber Lutheran Church and member of the MT Synod Changing Climate Task Force*

The Changing Climate Task Force is offering a free liturgy that aims to connect people with their natural surroundings and to cherish and care for those places. The series uses lectionary selections to guide users through four weekly themes.

This is a fully built liturgy with sermon guidance, new songs and new prayers that can easily be used during the six-week cycle on bread at the end of August. The liturgy is constructed so that all or parts of it can be adopted by congregations during any other time of the year as well. The full liturgy is a four-week series and includes written introductions to each text to ground them in the broader context of the liturgy.

Worship settings follow the form of the ELW. Pastor Julia Seymour has written original pieces for the liturgy that will serve and accompany the lectionary selections and Jacob Kvale of Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp has written original service music. The selections include the Kyrie, Hymn of Praise, Holy Holy Holy, and Lamb of God. The music is written to be accessible in a broad range of settings and includes piano accompaniment and guitar chords. Melodies are simple, repetitive, and easy to learn. These pieces will be consistent across all four weeks of the liturgy in order to build familiarity and comfort.

*This free resource is available on the [synod website](#) go to the synod home page and Click on the “Changing Climate Task Force Website.”*

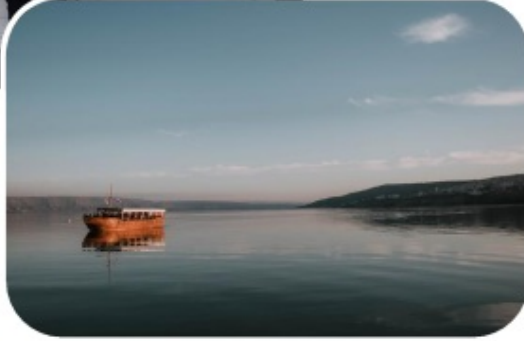


# Holy Land Journey

## Walk Where Jesus Walked

June 20-29, 2022

Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp



FLBC Staff  
& Rev. Arne Bergland, retired from  
Our Redeemers (Helena)

**\$3,290 From Chicago, IL - ORD**

Package price includes:

- Roundtrip airfare
- All nights accommodations in double occupancy luxury hotels
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Eight days sightseeing in modern, air conditioned private bus
- English speaking, government licensed, Christian tour guide on duty
- And much more!

Places of interest

- ✓ Bethlehem
- ✓ Jerusalem
- ✓ Jericho
- ✓ Nazareth
- ✓ Sea of Galilee

Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp  
margie@flbc.net  
1-406-752-6602

## [The Center of Addiction & Faith](#)

**It's Time to Register for Addiction & Faith Conference**

The Center of Addiction & Faith will hold its third Addiction & Faith Conference October 7-9, 2021 in Bloomington, Minn., to give faith communities tools for responding to the addiction crisis. Registration is open for in-person and virtual attendance at [www.addictionandfaithconference.com](http://www.addictionandfaithconference.com).

The Center grew out of the Fellowship of Recovering Lutheran Clergy. Founder Ed Treat was an

active Lutheran pastor in 2018 when he held the first Addiction & Faith Conference. The success encouraged him to leave parish ministry after 25 years and dedicate himself full-time to the Center of Addiction & Faith, which became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 2020.

**Contact:** The Rev. Dr. **Ed Treat**, [pastored@addictionandfaith.com](mailto:pastored@addictionandfaith.com), (651) 356-1073 or CAF director of communications & advocacy **Stephanie Werner**, [stephwerner@hotmail.com](mailto:stephwerner@hotmail.com), (804) 986-2953, @virtualdeacon

Here is a link to the one-page flyer. [https://www.addictionandfaithconference.com/uploads/1/2/9/9/129988162/afc\\_flyer\\_2021\\_updated\\_7\\_20\\_21.pdf](https://www.addictionandfaithconference.com/uploads/1/2/9/9/129988162/afc_flyer_2021_updated_7_20_21.pdf)

### **FLBC is currently hiring for our year-round staff!**

We are seeking a Wilderness/Environmental Education Director and Community Staff. Interested in being a part of the ministry of FLBC or know someone who would be a good fit? Visit <https://flbc.net/employment/#yearround> to see the full job descriptions and instructions for applying.



### **Upcoming FLBC Retreats & Events**

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

#### **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. CEU credits are available through the NRIT**

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

#### **Fall Harvest Festival & Auction**

*October 9th, 2021*

**Help FLBC raise funds to ensure no one is turned away due to inability to pay through camperships! This special event also coincides with the FLBC Annual Meeting (taking place at 2:30 pm on Saturday, 10/9).**

**Crazy About Quilting & Crafting Retreat** - Register by October 21, 2021

November 4-7, 2021

**Bring your quilt and craft projects and work alongside friends old and new on the west shore of Flathead Lake.**

<https://fbc.net/annual-programming/quiltcraft-retreat/>

**Advent "Preparing for Christmas" Retreat** - Register by November 19, 2021

December 3-5, 2021

**Prepare for the Christmas season by taking intentional time to slow down and enjoy the season. Make awesome crafts, cut your own Christmas tree, and soak in time for worship and prayer this Advent.**

<https://fbc.net/annual-programming/advent-retreat/>

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## Christikon Clips



**August 2021**

*Information for our Congregations*

As you are reading this clip, we are readying for the last sessions of our 70th season. We hosted over 550 campers so far this season including youth, families, adults and at risk youth. We have retreats schedule through August.

Our summer staff will be completing their stay with us and will soon be heading back to their lives outside of Christikon.

We look forward to our congregational and family retreats scheduled this fall. A few retreat times are still available.

Call Kerry in the office and reserve a time.

We continue to ask for your prayers for those traveling to camp, our staff, and campers.

Blessings to all of you who support Christikon with prayer, time, skills, and financially. We are grateful!

Please visit <https://christikon.org/donate-to-christikon/> and continue your support.

**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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