



Montana Synod Weekly Announcements October 2, 2023

Last opportunity to join!

**GENEROSITY 101:
PRACTICAL STEPS FOR CONGREGATIONS
WEBINAR: OCT. 2, 2023 6:30 – 7:30 PM**



On Monday, October 2, 2023, from 6:30 – 7:30 pm, Congregational Stewardship Committees, Congregational Council leaders, Pastors and LPAs are invited to join in a Zoom webinar with Rev. Tim Brown, (the speaker at the 2023 Synod Assembly) and Director for Evangelical Mission in the Montana Synod, Rev. Peggy Paugh Leuzinger.

This will be a time to learn and discuss practical steps for congregations to align values and mission around stewardship in congregations. We will consider generosity through the lens of abundance, rather than scarcity. There will be time

for questions with the leaders at the end of the session for those who would like to remain on the Zoom.

Please register for the webinar using the link below, in order to receive the Zoom invite link.

A Second Session with Rev. Brown and Rev. Leuzinger is also scheduled for Mon. Dec. 4, 2023 again from 6:30 – 7:30 to discuss “What can we do now?” as your congregation approaches the end of the fiscal year. There will be suggestions and conversation about how to “make the ask”.

[Click Here to Register](#)



Enhancing Worship with Art: Music, Design, Visual Elements and Themes

Registration deadline: October 5th!

Come, explore, learn and share ideas for music, liturgy and enhancing church spaces to emphasize worship and sermon themes. This workshop will involve singing a variety of songs and liturgies from various resources. In addition to music, ideas will be presented using our senses to enhance worship spaces to highlight seasonal and sermon themes included in the Revised Common Lectionary and Narrative Lectionary. You are invited to bring resources and ideas to share with others. Continuing Education Credits available for rostered leaders and LPAs.

October 7th, 10am to 3:30pm at Northridge Lutheran, Kalispell
Cost: \$25

Montana Rural Ministry: Hope and Possibility

Believing that the future of rural ministry is ecumenical and also knowing that there are hopeful possibilities for rural ministry in Montana, we'd like to invite both pastors and lay people to this ecumenical gathering as a time to ask questions and envision the future.

1pm Wednesday, Oct. 11 through noon Thursday, Oct 12
St. John's Lutheran, Great Falls

Cost: \$25 and supper Wednesday night is provided. Participants need to find their own lodging for Wednesday evening.



**LCM
CAMPUS MINISTRY
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
PRESENTS A DINNER/FUNDRAISER FEATURING**

**A TALK ON IMMIGRATION AND FAITH WITH
PROFESSOR HECTOR V. CASTANEDA J.**



**"THE ERRANT
PILGRIMS AND THE
ELUSIVE PROMISED
LAND"**



**OCTOBER 15, 2023
6:00PM**

**MSU SUB BALLROOM A
PRICE - \$25.00/TICKET
MSU STUDENTS FREE!**



QUESTIONS?

CONTACT JP CARLSON, JP@LCMBOBCATS.ORG

**GVIA invites you to a *Faith Over Fear* training in Bozeman, MT
Thursday, October 5th, **Register by October 3rd!****

Thanks to an incredibly generous grant, **Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign** (<https://www.shouldertoshouldercampaign.org/>), is providing a world class training, worth 6 CEUs, on October 5th from 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM in Bozeman, MT, followed by a celebratory dinner starting at 5:30 PM. Gallatin Valley Interfaith Association (GVIA) is very proud to bring this offering to our associated houses of worship. While the training and celebratory dinner are FREE, participants are required to RSVP to both. To get a taste of this training, look at the following short video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iwt-aRsXeaM>).

A multifaith coalition founded on the notion that anti-Muslim discrimination, like discrimination against other targeted groups, impacts all of us, Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign representatives and their team, including Montanans, will provide a dynamic program with concrete take-aways for being an effective ally. Grounding ourselves in our shared ideals and values, we will consider experiences of inclusion and exclusion in Montana and our nation, learn about Islamophobia, and consider the role of clergy and people of faith in messaging strategies for change. Specifically, we will learn about and practice strategies for being good allies to our Muslim, Jewish, LGBTQ+, and non-white neighbors, including **The 5 D's** (Distract, Delegate, Document, Direct, Delay) and more.

All training participants must RSVP through the Northern Rockies Institute of Theology, a ministry of the MT ELCA Synod, at <https://www.montanasynd.org/nrit.html>. (QR code below) As this website offers numerous classes and trainings, scroll down until you see "Faith Over Fear."

We will offer free coffee, tea, and Wild Crumb delicacies from 10:00 – 10:30 AM at the Fireside Room at Hope Lutheran Church, off South 19th Avenue (2152 Graf Street) before the 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM training. Please bring your own 'Brown Bag Lunch.' After, from 5:30 – 7:00 PM, each LOCAL Gallatin Valley house of worship is invited to bring members to a GVIA-hosted Halal Celebratory Dinner again at Hope. Please RSVP here by Sept 25, if possible: [RSVP for Celebratory Dinner](#). You are welcome to bring a dessert to share.

If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Valerie Webster (406-579-3980; vwebster587@gmail.com).



BOZEMAN MONTANA

October 5, 2023

A training for people of faith to be allies to our Muslim Neighbors, and others in our communities.



FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER, VISIT:
MontanaSynod.org/nrit.html

During this training you will:

- Build stronger local multi-religious networks
- Improve skills and confidence to speak against anti-Muslim/anti-other rhetoric & discrimination
- Increase community discussions to effectively counter anti-Muslim & other discrimination

Participants are eligible for 6 CEUs through NRIT



SHOULDER TO SHOULDER
Standing with American Muslims. Advancing American Ideals.



Invitation for Partners of Rostered Ministers

Spouses & partners of ELCA

Pastors and Deacons are invited to join this free, 12-session, online sacred place to take a deep breath, slow down, and create space to notice God's presence among us. Our goal is to foster community and be refreshed by God and one another. Each week our cohort leader - and fellow pastor's spouse - Susan Berg, will lead us through a curriculum of spiritual practices.

We will meet via Zoom twice-monthly on the second and fourth Mondays of the month, beginning November 13, 7pm-8:30pm. We will skip over a few of the busy weeks - Easter and Christmas for example - and conclude in June.

If your partner/spouse has questions - or is interested in participating - please have them reach out to Susan@lutheransnw.org - soon as space is limited to a maximum of twelve participants.

This is a FREE opportunity!

In 2018, California Lutheran

University received a nearly \$1 million, five-year grant from the Lilly

Endowment to create [Thriving Leadership Formation](#) (TLF) in

partnership with its own Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary and the 11 ELCA synods of Regions 1 and 2. This FREE spiritual practice cohort is one aspect of their larger grant goal of fostering spiritual and contemplative practices in order to enrich life and ministry, and help the church and its leaders thrive.

OTHER Cohorts

While this small group is

specifically for those who are in the unique - and often challenging - role of being partnered with a deacon or pastor, there will be additional cohorts for rostered and lay leaders in our synod forming in the coming weeks – info will be posted here: <https://thrivingleadershipformation.org/cohorts/>



SUPPORT HOLDEN VILLAGE

ONLINE JUBILEE AUCTION

OCTOBER 4 - 8, 2023

About Holden Village

Holden Village is a year-round retreat center, rooted in the Lutheran tradition, that **welcomes all people** into the North Cascade Mountains, above Lake Chelan, Washington.

Your Support

Holden Village **relies on donations** from the auction to help cover costs of daily operations and programs not covered by guest fees, which are kept lower to try to make visits more affordable. You will also have the opportunity to **fund other special projects**.

Bid Online

Get ready to support Holden while bidding on **amazing items and experiences** you won't find anywhere else.

www.holdenvillage.org



 Holden Village

HC 0 Box 2
Chelan, WA 98816

QUESTIONS?
development@holdenvillage.org



October 2023

Information for our Congregations

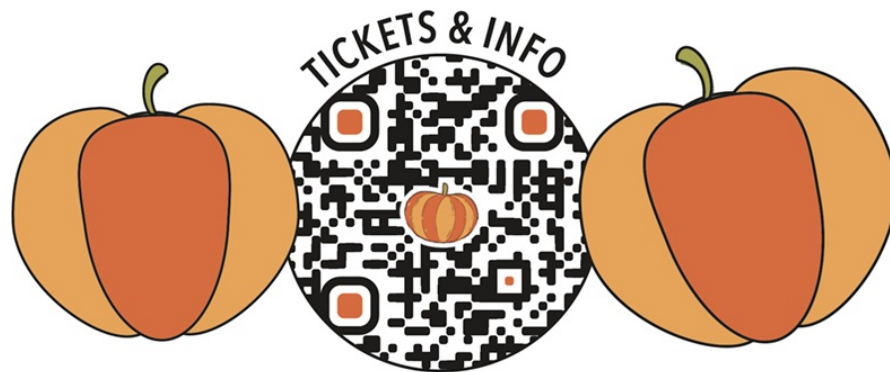
2024 Calendar! The calendar and sessions listing are on our website (www.christikon.org). It's not too soon to start planning for next summer's trip to camp, and we're already accepting reservations! We anticipate a full season and encourage registering sooner than later.

Fall Retreats: We have retreats scheduled through mid-October. Start planning now to bring your group and enjoy fall in the mountains in 2024!

We're thankful for all your prayers this past summer, for the summer staff, for this ministry and for all who have joined in the Christikon life. 2023 held many opportunities for ministry, connections, and time in intentional Christian community. We are grateful.

It is the mission of Christikon to awaken and nurture faith in Christ— exploring God's creation and the adventure of life together.

CHRISTIKON • 1108 24th Street West • Billings, MT 59102
406 656-1969 • secretary@christikon.org • www.christikon.org



Harvest Festival and Auction at FLBC

The Annual meeting, of the FLBC Association will be Oct 14th, at 2:30pm! Our meeting will include worship and the installation of Pastors Grant and Amanda Applehans as Co-Associate Directors! Clergy are invited to vest and process.



We still have a few tickets left for the Harvest Festival and auction, Oct 14th! Get yours today....(Colter can you put the QR code in here, or parts of the flyer?) see flyer attached

Donations are needed for the auction. Do you know a business you could ask for a gift certificate? a fun basket of items? Contact: Events@flbc.net for more information, on how you, your church and your business can help make camp accessible to all. All proceeds go to our annual fund for camperships.

Outreach in your congregation! FLBC is once again offering to come to your congregation to work with youth, or family groups. Once a month is available, October 2023,- April, 2024. Contact Amanda@flbc.net for more information and to sign up!!

Mark your calendars!
Day camp registration opens Oct 10th, first come first serve! Call 406-752-6602 or email Amanda@flbc.net

Staff applications will be open for summer 2024, beginning Nov 1st. Know of someone who might benefit from a summer at FLBC? They will learn leadership skills galore! Minimum age to apply is 18.

Summer registration opens Nov 10th, 2023. Watch for your brochure in snail mail soon. The FLBC web site will be open for registration Nov 10th.

Pastors and volunteers, get your first choice of weeks for summer 2024.
Go to www.flbc.net, beginning Nov 10th, for the application! WE are excited for our theme "Created to Be," as the curriculum for 2024. Psalm 139:14

[Click Here for Tickets](#)

Confirmation! FLBC has had some requests for an on-line confirmation class, with 3-4 retreats at FLBC during the year. The class would/could be for students across the synod who Would zoom together for class, and then gather for retreats, and or a week of summer confirmation camp. Would any of you Pastors/LPS's/lay leaders be interested in this for your student(s)?? Would you be willing to help teach? What curriculum would be the most helpful for your congregation? Please contact Associate Director Pastor Amanda Applehans. Amanda@flbc.net

Grief Retreat: October 20-23, with professional counselor and Pastor Keith. For those adults coping with the loss of a friend, or family member. Registration deadline Oct 6th.

The Bible in 24 hours, October 29-31, (Sunday-Tuesday) Come enjoy FLBC in the fall. Relax, hike, sip some wine, and enjoy learning more about the Bible with Dr. Rachel Wrenn, Biblical Studie professor a Trinity Seminary, Columbus, OH.

Young Adults! Plan now to attend the young adult retreat, Dec 27-29 at FLBC. Ski, play, enjoy the new sauna, with a dip in the lake! Join Baird Linke, and the FLBC staff who will lead the sessions, on the theme: "Spiritual Wilderness" \$100 per person; 18-35 year olds. Registration deadline Dec. 13th.

THANK YOU....for all our amazing 57 summer staff, over 50 volunteers, and over 1200 campers who made the summer of 2023 extra special. THANKS be to God

For questions and more details, or if you would like the schedule of these retreats: call FLBC at 406-752-6602. (leave a voice message, as many of our staff work remotely) or email Registraion@flbc.net.

Synod Staff:

Bishop

Laurie Jungling: ljungling@montanasynod.org

Associate to the Bishop

Brenda Frelsi: bfrelsi@montanasynod.org

Director for Evangelical Mission

Pastor Peggy Paugh Leuzinger: ppleuzinger@montanasynod.org

Director of Technology and Communications

Colter McCarty: cmccarty@montanasynod.org

Office Manager

Oliver Main: office@montanasynod.org

Director of NRIT

Jenny Kunka: 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

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