

Montana Synod Weekly Announcements December 18, 2023



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2024

The theme for the 2024 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be "You Shall Love the Lord Your God ... and Your Neighbor As Yourself" (Luke 10:27). Resources for the week, January 18-25, 2024 or whenever you choose, have been jointly prepared and published by the Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity and the World Council of Churches' Commission on Faith and Order, and they can be downloaded here.



NRIT Retreat at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp, 3pm January 29^{th} – 9am January 31st

Words of Wonder: Using Writing to Nurture our Relationships with the Bible, our Congregations, and God.

This retreat offers a combination of presentation, small group activity, quiet time for writing and contemplation. (And did we mention that there is a sauna?)

Led by Dr. Kaethe Schwehn, author and professor at St. Olaf College Cost: \$265 includes class, food and lodging **Registration Deadline: January 15**



Zoom: Thursday, Jan 25th and Thursday, Feb 1 from 1pm to 2:30pm both days

NRIT Facilitated Video and Group Discussion: Presiding Bishops Elizabeth Eaton and Michael Curry Respond to Christian Nationalism

Using materials from "Christians Against Christian Nationalism," an organization endorsed by both ELCA Bishop Eaton and Episcopal Bishop Curry, participants will discuss how our Lutheran and Episcopal beliefs contrast with Christian Nationalist views.

Cost \$20 for both days (*Note corrected date. First class will be held January 25^{th} , not January 24^{th} .)

Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp Happenings FLBC has some openings for year-round staff! We are seeking a Maintenance Coordinator and an **Office Administrator**. If you are interested, please go to FLBC.net to find position descriptions and instructions for applying.

There are still openings for Young adult retreat, Dec 27-29 and for the Ski and Board retreat, January 12-15. All retreats include great fun, games, Bible Study, worship, playing in the snow, relaxing, and great food. For more information and to register. Go to www.flbc.net!



Join NRIT at FLBC for the educational retreat with Dr Kaethe Schwehn, professor at St Olaf, Jan 29-31. Our theme is "Words of Wonder using writing to nurture our relationships with the Bible, our congregations, and God. "Besides wonderful Educations sessions and worship, with Dr. Schwehn, and continuing ed credits, there will be time for relaxing, enjoying FLBC's new sauna, hiking, reading, and just catching your breath before Lent. Open to all pastors, spouses, LPA's and interested adults. To register go to: www.montanasynod.org/nrit/html

Registration for week **long Family Camp opens Jan 15th, 2024, at 10am.** Please call the office, 406-752-6602 or email **office@flbc.net**, or registration@flbc.net Family means "family of God," so single adults, couples, single parent families, and couples with children are all welcome. This week fills fast.... first come first serve. Make memories with your loved ones at FLBC this summer as we explore God's creation under the theme, "Created to Be."

Our staff are enjoying meeting people and working with congregations in our **Outreach Ministry**. We have been to Polson, Sunburst, Helena, Joplin, and Jocko Valley. If you are interested in staff coming to your congregation on a monthly basis, or for a one-time lock in.... contact: Amanda@flbc.net!

Mark your calendars for the Confirmation/Campfirmation Retreat at FLBC, March 15-16. Only 1-2 students in confirmation? come.... a chance for them to build relationships with others around the state; Whether you have 2 students or 20...we guarantee growth, learning and FUN at camp.

Looking for a Christmas gift that brings with it all the fun of a week of camp? Check out our **online camp store!** Sweatshirts, water bottles, T-shirts, stuffed animals are all available today. Check it out today at https://flathead-lutheran-bible-camp.square.site/. Or, if you want to take your giftig to the next level, buy a child a campership, any amount, and we will wrap a gift certificate and mail it to your camper! Or if you do not designate your gift, we will find a child in need to give it to. The best gift can be a week at camp, for a faith growing, fun experience!

Know a young adult seeking adventure this summer? Encourage them to apply to be **FLBC Summer Staff** in 2024! We are hiring cabin leaders, lifeguards, wilderness guides, support staff, leadership staff and more. For more information or to apply head to https://flbc.net/work-at-flbc.

December 2023

As we move into the dark days of winter, and in the midst of a world weary of brokenness and war, we look yet again towards the promise of the coming Christ child. As the gospel writer proclaims,



"The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it."

Shine, Jesus, shine...in our hearts and homes, our community and world.

A blessed Advent and Christmas to you and yours from your Christikon family.

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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