## Greetings to the Montana Synod Gathering 2021!

Since 1909, Intermountain's caring solutions are designed with one purpose in mind: to provide hope and healing through healthy relationships. Once just the "Deaconness Home on the hill," Intermountain now serves hundreds of clients each day across Montana. Our focus, combined with strategic community partnerships, aides our trained professionals to come along side of children and families overcoming mental and emotional distress. Intermountain is on the front lines of our country's mental health crisis, focusing on injury and distress caused by neglect, abuse, substance use, and suicide.

It has been the faithfulness and generosity of our valued donors who have invested into our mission over the last 112 years that allows us to provide this transformative care and ministry to the "least of these" so they don't fall through the cracks in our patchwork medical care system. From private pay, insurance, and state revenue we are only able to recoup about 75% of the cost of the services we provide. So, the Synod's support isn't only appreciated, it's absolutely necessary for us to continue the mission and ministry. By strengthening and investing in lives of the community's most vulnerable, we are making a difference and extending the reach of God's kingdom as well.

Intermountain is proud to partner with the ELCA Montana Synod and can assist local congregations in a number of ways. We have curriculum on becoming a trauma-informed congregation (*Bruised Reeds and Smoldering Wicks 8-week Bible study*) and a 30-day devotional of inspirational stories (*Hope for Healing*) that bring the best of Intermountain into your ministry context. In addition to these two excellent resources, the *Be Child Wise* book and workbook are designed to specifically help those parenting or caring for trauma-affected children. Our dedicated staff can provide **pulpit supply**, *Moments for Mission*, and *training* based on your ministry needs (*and*, *have partnered with NRIT in the past year to make this accessible throughout the region*). We have **prayer cards** for churches wishing to enable focused and purposeful prayers for the children in our care and "Change for Children" cans and supporting materials for taking a special offering. Object lessons that dovetail into a Change can drive are written for Lent and Advent each year based upon the RCL readings.

Ready to take the next step in partnership with Intermountain and eager to see how it can invigorate your ministry? **Click the blue links in this document for great resources** and contact Teresa Meyer, Donation Stewardship Specialist, at 406-457-4804 or teresam@intermountain.org!