



Montana Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

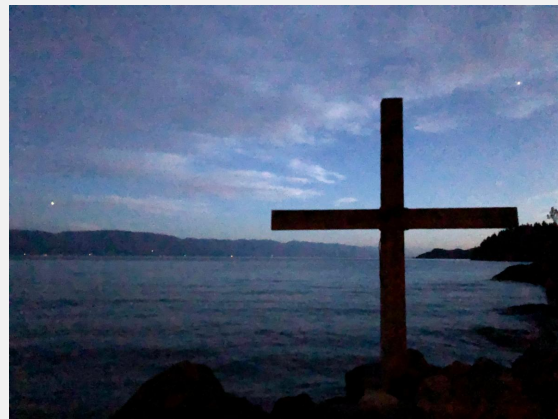
News of the Week **January 20, 2021**

Prayers of the Week

Please remember in your prayers this week:

For Pastor Tom Schlotterback and family as they mourn the death of his father, William Carl Schlotterback

For all experiencing loss and sickness due to the Covid 19 surge in cases and all those who work to treat those who are sick.



From the Montana Synod Prayer Calendar:

St. James Lutheran Church, Columbus

Broadview Lutheran Church, Broadview

Western North Dakota Synod

As people who pray, we turn to God as our nation experiences turmoil and conflict:
God of all the ages, in your sight nations rise and fall, and pass through times of peril.
Now when our land is troubled, be near to judge and save.

May leaders be led by your wisdom; may they search your will and see it clearly.
If we have turned from your way, reverse our ways and help us to repent.

Give us your light and your truth, let them guide us; through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of
this world, and our Savior.

Amen.

Words from the Bishop: Affirmation



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Parochial Report Information

We have received multiple questions on how congregations should reflect the proceeds from a PPP loan on their congregational reports. After review of the form (Form A Congregational Report for the year ending December 31, 2020), the recommendation from the Churchwide office is that the receipts from PPP loans be reflected on line 17e, which represents "All other receipts". It would be helpful if you notate that these receipts represent proceeds from a PPP loan.

Save the Date!

February 12th, 9:30am - Noon: **Bishop's Convo Lite**

More details to come via email!

Healing of the Nation from the Montana Synod Staff



**...and, the original adaptation from Pastor
Doug Peterson**





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DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

P.B.O NO: 930004573

Date: 20th January 2021

**TO : ALL MEMBERS OF ELCSA COD
ALL DIOCESES IN ELCSA
ALL DIOCESAN PARTNERS**

RE: NOTICE OF DEATH: Mrs. JD Manong (Mma-Bishop)

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ

It is with a deep sense of shock and sadness that I have to inform you, of the passing on of Mrs. JD Manong, the wife of Bishop M.Z Manong, early hours of today the 20th January 2021 in Kimberley. They were married for 29 years and were blessed with 2 (two Children), Kabelo and Bongiwe.

Mrs. Manong was an active member of the ELCSA Prayer Women's League on all levels of the ELCSA. She was elected the Additional Member of the St George Parish, and Deputy Chairperson of the Northern Cape Circuit and the Director of the ELCSA COD Diocesan Prayer Women's League.

Funeral arrangements will be communicated at a later stage.

We ask you to keep the family, Bishop M.Z Manong, Kabelo (Son), Bongiwe (Daughter) and the whole extended family in your prayers.

We bid Mma Manong farewell with the words of I Corinthians 15:54:

"When the perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:

"Death has been swallowed up in victory"

Yours in Christ's Service

Tlaisego Adam Khunou

DIOCESAN EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



Diocesan Council Members: Bishop M.Z. Manong; Mr. T. H. Wakefield; Ms. A. Mthethwa; Dean G. De Vries Bock; Dean M Mbiza; Dean G. De Wee; Dean N.N. Mokobane; Dean N. Brandt; Rev. J. A. Grispe; Mr. M.W. Jongolo; Mr. S. Malebo; Mr. W.H.V. Julius; Mr. J. Raudt; Rev. J.A. Standaar (DET); Rev A. T. Khunou (DES); Ms. J.D. Manong (PWT); Mr. G. V. Morule (PML); Mr. M.A. Matshidiso (YAL); Mr. B Van Wyk (YL)



Dearest leaders in ministry,

We regret to inform you that, at this time, the Chico Pastoral Retreat has been postponed again this year. We, as a board, simply did not feel that the risk of in person meeting outweighed the gain of being with our colleagues after Easter.

That being said we are planning *something*. The Chico Planning Board will be offering some kind of get together the week after Easter. As of now it will be online, but it may be more re-connection and renewal than educational. We don't have details yet, but expect some things to be coming down the pike in the weeks to come.

Have a joyous season after Epiphany,

The Chico Planning Board



Winter Thursdays (and 1 Tuesday) with NRIT

Vital Congregations: What are they and how do they do it?

Feb. 11, 10 to noon

Most people in a congregation wonder at some point how their congregation is doing and how it could be a center for God's mission. What are the signs of life and health in congregations? This can be an anxiety producing question. We worry sometimes about "survival". We yearn and grieve for days that are past and wonder about what God might be doing in the days to come.

There are layers of grief, but there are also signs of hope and life and dare we even say, new life, in congregations today!

Free Class.

To register: www.montanasynod.org – Click on the "Faith Formation" tab, top of the page and click on NRIT. Scroll down to find these class.

GO & DO NEWS

A newsletter from ELCA World Hunger

[Click here to see the whole newsletter](#)

2021 ELCA WORLD HUNGER LEADERSHIP GATHERING

Registration extended! This signature event on Jan. 20-23 gathers ELCA World Hunger's leaders for a time of networking, idea sharing, learning and planning for our shared ministry to address hunger and its root causes. We know that our future church is younger and more diverse — who do you want to be at the center of the conversation and our ministry together, and how will you invite them in?

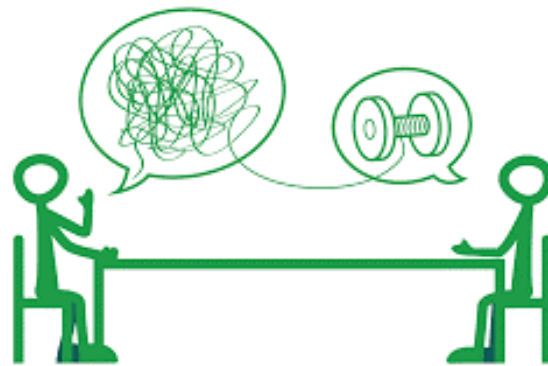
[REGISTER & INVITE](#)



Coach's Corner

Coaching begins with the client's holy discontent...

a desire to seek change and work for it. Many pastors and church leaders have coaches to help them with an idea they'd like to implement, or a change that needs to be made, or a plan that needs work.



The work begins with a dream, not a deficit.

Coaches connect dreams to concrete actions that create change for individuals and congregations.

Find out more:

<https://www.montanasynod.org/coaching-in-the-montana-synod.html>

Empowering leaders who power ministries.

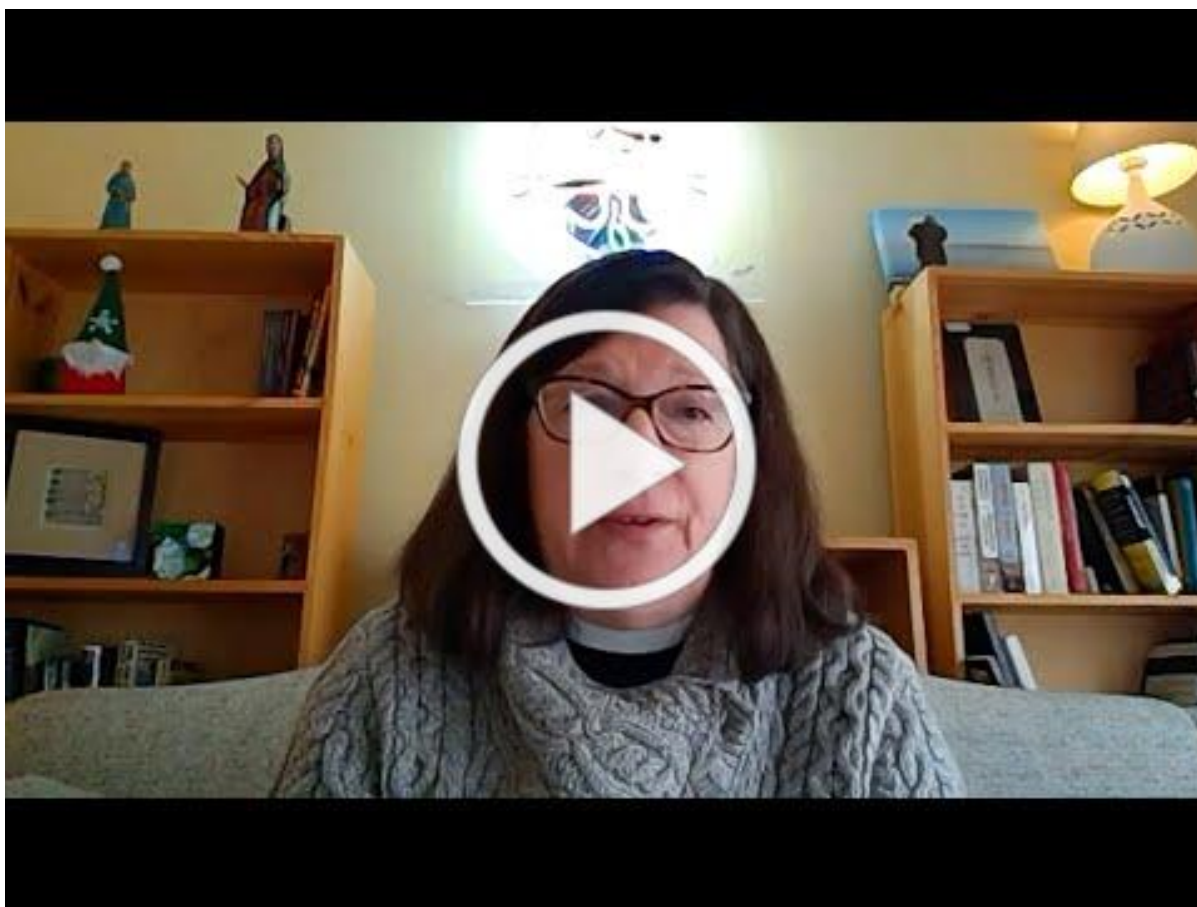
News from MAC

[Click here](#) to see the full January newsletter from MAC.

[Click here](#) to download a Prayer for Montana from MAC. First prayed at MAC Connect 2020 for MT, all her children, & the 2021 Legislative Session



Churchwide Future Church Discussion



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