



Montana Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

News of the Week February 10, 2021

Prayers of the Week

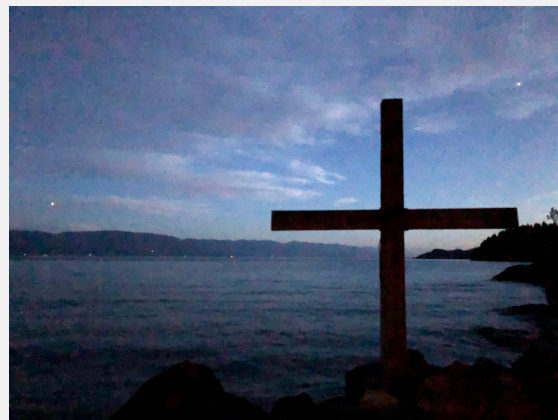
Please remember in your prayers this week:

For the family of retired pastor Earnest Larson, who died February 6th.

From the Montana Synod Prayer Calendar:

Peace Lutheran Church, Greybull, WY
Trinity Lutheran Church, Cody, WY
Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Columbia Falls

Allegheny Synod



Words from the Bishop: Nice to be Kind



2021 Montana Synod Assembly Registration

The 2021 Montana Synod Assembly will be held as a virtual meeting
June 4-5.

Tutorials will be available to help voting members with participation.

[Click here for the registration link for the Synod assembly.](#)

Multiple voting members can be registered at the same time when you click on the form. Please note, there will be no physical registration or physical payment allowed this year. Please insure that each individual voting member has their own unique email address and has the ability to check it regularly.

There will be no visitor registrations accepted, the assembly will be streamed on Youtube, so any non-voting individuals can watch there. **Registration will close April 15th.**

If you have any questions about the registration process email:
cmccarty@montanasynod.org

Synod Council Spotlight: Sue Ost

I live in Havre, Montana, where I am a member of First Lutheran Church.

My career was spent at MSU-Northern, working in Accounting and Finance, and I retired 8 years ago as Chief Financial Officer. I am currently the part-time Music/Worship Coordinator, Choir Director, and Bell Choir Director at First Lutheran, as well as serving on several committees there. I am a volunteer tax preparer



for AARP, which I really enjoy. My husband, Allan, and I are ELCA Mission Builders. We spend our summers traveling around the United States working on building projects at ELCA churches and camps. We've done that since 2013 and it is a great program.

In my 6 years on Synod Council and my 6 years as Synod Treasurer, I have learned a great deal about the Synod! Under the leadership of Bishop Jessica Crist, and now Bishop Laurie Jungling, the Council has learned the technical aspects of the Constitution and how it applies to the governance of the Synod. We've learned about the challenges and joys of serving such a wide geographical area with many different types of congregations and

members. I think the most important thing I've learned from this experience is that the ELCA, and our Synod, operate on a "grass roots" type of governance. We're very careful to include all types of representation on the various committees and the Council. Changes are not made from the "top down" as in the old days. All members have a voice, and the system in place allows those voices to be heard before democratic decisions are made. Sharing information with all members is a challenge, but it's one that we as a Council are constantly discussing and trying to improve.

Serving on the Synod Council as an officer of the Synod really does connect me to my faith and to the church. I believe in the church, in the ELCA, and what it stands for. By serving this way, I am supporting the church now and into the future. It's so important that we carry on, and by sharing whatever skills and talents we have been given, we can all help to ensure the life of our church far into the future.

PPP Round Two information:

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Reopens:

The Paycheck Protection Program reopened on January 11, 2021. The PPP provided 5.2 million loans worth \$525 billion supporting more than 51 million jobs during the initial round of funding and an additional \$284 billion has been allocated in the second round.

Applications for this latest round of PPP funding will be accepted until March 31, 2021. For those who did not apply for a PPP loan in the First Draw the same terms apply as the original program and First Draw applicants will be prioritized before Second Draw applicants.

- Non-profit organizations and churches qualify for PPP funding.
- Loan amounts are 2.5x the average monthly payroll up to \$2M.
- 1% fixed interest rate.
- Payments are deferred for 6-months.
- 5-year repayment period.
- PPP loans are 100% entirely forgivable if 60% of the funds are used toward qualifying payroll costs and employment levels are maintained.

To be eligible for a Second Draw PPP loan, organizations must use the full amount of the first PPP loan and must demonstrate at least a 25% reduction in gross revenue between comparable quarters in 2019

and 2020.

For more information regarding the Paycheck Protection Program contact:

Peggy Paugh Leuzinger Peggy.PaughLeuzinger@elca.org

Dennis Trotter dennis_trotter@mac.com

Or visit the Small Business Administration Paycheck Protection Program website: [SBA Paycheck Protection Program](#)

Serving on the Congregation's Council

Church councils provide positive leadership within a congregation. As a support to your council, we have prepared five short videos, ranging from five to ten minutes, that are intended as an introduction to the work of councils and their role within the church.

[Click here to access the videos](#)



Montana Outdoor Ministries worship

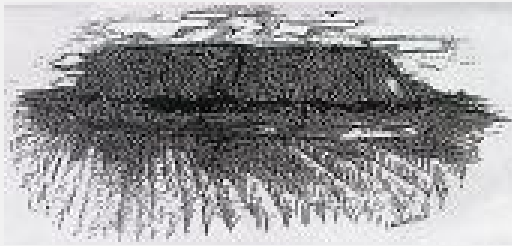
Your Montana Lutheran Outdoor Ministries are excited to worship with you on Sunday, February 14th - Transfiguration Sunday! Together, Christikon and Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp will be sharing a full, virtual worship that we invite you to use for your Sunday Worship. The service will include music, the readings of the week and a sermon, communion (and the option to share our service without communion), and other elements of worship. It will be shared next week, but in the meantime, here is an order of worship to plan and prepare.

We thank you for your care and support of your camps. We hope you will join us for worship!

[Click here to access the videos!](#)

[Download the bulletin here \(no Communion\)](#)

[Download the bulletin here \(with Communion\)](#)



***The William and Blanche Hetzel
Foundation, Inc.***

**P. O. Box 22276
Billings, MT 59104-2276**

2021 Grant Applications are now available on our website

www.hetzelfoundation.org

Application due date is March 15, 2021

**If you have questions please contact Kerry at 406-656-1969 or email her at
hetzelfoundation@gmail.com**

Hammer and Dance

What do this summer's wildfires and current severe winter weather events happening in the east and mid-west right now have in common? Lots!!

In this month's Hammer and Dance we consider the varied impacts of diminishing Arctic sea ice on many disaster which continue to get more intense. Do you know what the "Blue Ocean Event" is? Five years and counting - give or take.

I also take a brief glimpse at how we in ELCA Region 1 states are doing with COVID-19 vaccination distributions. The process of vaccinating our populations will have much to do with when and how our recovery proceeds.

You can [download the February Hammer and Dance here](#).

You can [read the February Hammer and Dance online here](#).

We're moving into a new world. There's lots to talk about this Lent.

Dave Brauer-Rieke
Region 1 Disaster Preparedness Project Manager

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