News of the Week
March 23, 2022

Prayers of the Week

Please remember in your prayers this week:

From the Montana Synod Prayer Calendar:
Faith Lutheran Church, Hamilton
Valley of Christ Lutheran Church, Frenchtown
Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Bonner

East-Central Synod of Wisconsin

Words from the Bishop: What is Forgiveness?
The time has come to register for the Montana Synod Assembly!

Friday, June 3, 2022 ~ 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 4, 2022 ~ 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Billings Hotel and Convention Center - 1223 Mullowney Lane, Billings, MT - 406-248-7151

The Montana Synod Assembly theme this year is, "Equipping for the Gospel" and will be held over two days, June 3-4 at the Billing Hotel and Convention Center. Please be aware that all attendees are responsible for their own room reservations. Call the hotel at: 406-248-7151 and reference the Montana Synod Assembly.

Room Block (Expires May 12, 2022)

We will be having our assembly in person this year! A live stream will be provided but there will be NO online voting. All voting members will need to be present in order to cast their votes.
As per the Assembly Rules:

**Addendum to the 2022 Assembly Rules**

All voting members and visitors will be expected to be fully vaccinated (except for medical reasons) as defined by CDC guidelines at the time of the Synod Assembly. Alternatively, a negative test the day before arrival will be acceptable. Monitoring will be done on the honor system, and each attendee will be trusted to make their own decisions in the spirit of Christ's ongoing call to us to love our neighbor and seek their health and well-being.

Masks will be optional unless circumstances arise that will again require us to wear masks while gathering. The Yellowstone County Health Department and the CDC guidelines will be consulted for recommendations one week before the date of the assembly and a final determination regarding mask use will be made then.

Approved by Synod Council 3/12/2022

A few things to remember before registering:

- Have all information needed to register beforehand including Name, email, physical address, and any meal requirements for each person registering.

- Carefully read all options available before registering, make sure to select the appropriate option for your registration.

- An individual email is required for each person.

- All payments are online only.

- There will be **NO in person registration** at the assembly. All voting members **Must** be registered before the registration cut off date of May 24th.

- There is **no need** to print the tickets generated by Tithely. You will receive your registration packet in person at the assembly.

- Any questions should be directed to Colter McCarty: cmccarty@montanasynod.org

[Register for the 2022 Montana Synod Assembly Here](#)
Register for the Chico Hot Springs Pastoral Conference!

[Click here](#) to go to the registration page and to find out speaker and registration info, as well as instructions on how to make sure you have a room at Chico!

You will need to reserve your room at Chico separately from the conference registration!

Room reservations can be [made here](#).

**Our room discount at Chico expires on Monday, March 28th! Make sure to get your room reservation before then to get our discount.**

*Registration will close April 6th.*

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**Resolutions and Memorials at the Assembly**

*From the 2022 Assembly rules approved by the Montana Synod Council*

**Resolutions and Memorials**

Resolutions submitted by the April 15th deadline will be considered by the Resolutions Committee and presented to the Synod Assembly, if appropriate. Other resolutions will be dealt with as time permits.

**Regarding communication with Churchwide**

The Montana Synod Assembly may only address the ELCA Churchwide Assembly by means of a **memorial**. References: ELCA Constitution 12.11.c and ELCA Bylaw 12.51.21. This bylaw states that a Memorials Committee shall review memorials from synodical assemblies and make appropriate recommendations for assembly action.

The Montana Synod Council may only address the ELCA Church Council by means of a **resolution**. ELCA Bylaws 14.21.11 and 14 pertain to resolutions sent to the Church Council (which involves a report to the Churchwide Assembly). ELCA Bylaw 14.41.11 pertains to resolutions sent to the Executive Committee of the Church Council with referral to, and additional action to be taken by, the appropriate churchwide unit.

The memorial route is the most direct route to the churchwide assembly, but, at the same time, it is perhaps the least effective route. The churchwide Memorials Committee has to work through hundreds of memorials from synod assemblies. Consequently, most memorials (especially if they
are poorly written) wind up with a “do not pass” recommendation. However, reworked resolutions from the ELCA Church Council or a churchwide unit have a tendency to meet with a much more favorable review.

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