



News of the Week May 17, 2023

Prayers of the Week

**Please remember in your prayers
this week:**

For the family of Pastor Stan Hoobing, who died January 31 as they celebrate his life at a memorial service at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Boise on Saturday June 3 at 11 AM.

**From the Montana Synod Prayer
Calendar:**

American Lutheran Church, White Sulphur Springs
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Townsend

La Crosse Area Synod



Words from the Bishop: Synod Office Report

Greetings Montana/Northern Wyoming Synod!

Life is busy in the synod office these days as we prepare for the upcoming synod assembly held in Great Falls on June 2-3. Our time, activities and energy are occupied with preparing documents, finalizing the rooms, food and other venue details with the Heritage Inn, planning worship services,

writing reports, and organizing the many behind-the-scenes pieces involved with putting on an assembly for over 250 people. Just when we feel we've gotten something accomplished, two more things emerge for Colter, Brenda, Peggy or I to turn our attention to.

Two weeks ago we reported that Lori Jara, our office manager for several months, had to quit due to some serious health problems. Please keep her in your prayers as she continues to deal with those issues.



On Monday, we hired a new office assistant, Oliver Main, to help us prepare for the assembly as well as manage the receptionist responsibilities we need to keep the office functioning. He is managing the office email (office@montanasynod.org), answering phone calls and processing LPA licenses so please send license requests to him. He is also preparing the many assembly documents for upload to the Assembly website.

Even as we prepare for the assembly, the other responsibilities of the synod staff continue. We continue to work with congregations in various aspects of their transitions, seek potential pastoral leaders, plan future activities, engage with congregation leaders and pastoral leaders who are needing guidance, and envision ideas for equipping the synod for the ministry of the Gospel in the months ahead.

And today we're doing all of this in an eye-stinging atmosphere of thick smoke as the NW winds from Canada send the products of their wildfires down our way. I hope your location is not suffering from the same effects.

As frazzled as we might be in our preparations for our assembly, the staff and I are excited for our time with the voting members from your congregations who are attending the assembly as we gather to do the business of the church and join together in worship, fellowship, and opportunities to grow in our faith. I'm afraid registration is now closed but anyone who is interested in the assembly experience can participate online as once again we livestream the events of the assembly. Watch for the link on the Synod assembly webpage.

Voting members, we look forward to welcoming you to Great Falls in just two and a half weeks.

In the meantime, God's blessings be with you all this week!

2023 Assembly Information

Registration is now closed

[Click here for more information on the Synod assembly](#)

A recording of the Synod assembly worship service with the Trinity Sunday texts will be available on Saturday, June 3 on the Montana Synod website. There will also be a manuscript available to download.

Any questions about the assembly can be directed to: cmccarty@montanasynod.org.



Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples

Join us for this interactive Zoom workshop:

“Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change: Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples”

Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change: Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples

Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples, a program of Friend Peace Teams, offers in-person and online presentations of its workshop "Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change: Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples."

In this 2-hour participatory program, we experience the history of the colonization of Turtle Island, the land that is now known as the United States. The story is told through the words of Indigenous leaders, European/American leaders, and Western historians. We engage with this history through experiential exercises and small group discussions. And we are invited to consider how we can build relationships with Indigenous peoples based on truth, respect, justice, and our shared humanity.

This workshop is appropriate for high school students and adults.

Register for the online version of this workshop on May 21st at 1pm PT = 2pm MT here: <https://friendspeacetteams.org/trr-workshop-may-2023/> or for the June 10th workshop at 1pm PT = 2pm MT here: <https://friendspeacetteams.org/trr-workshop-jun-2023/>

Contact co-director Paula Palmer (paulaRpalmer@gmail.com) for more information.

Sermon Manuscripts Available

Montana Synod leaders have been providing manuscripts for use in congregations through the Lent and Easter seasons. We are happy to announce that these manuscripts will be provided throughout the entire year! Thank you to the leaders in the Montana Synod who are providing these manuscripts every week. They can be found and downloaded on the [Montana Synod website here](#).

[Click here to give to the Montana Synod](#)

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