



MINISTER TO MINISTER

The Texas District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

February 17, 2023

Visit us online at txlcms.org

District Announcements

ATTENTION All Congregations

It's time to submit last year's stats!

During the second week of January, every congregation will have received a letter containing a web-link and login information to access its electronic annual statistical report form. **The due date for submitting congregation statistics for the previous year (2022) is the last day of February 2023.** Timely submissions enable the Synod "to plan current and future ministry efforts and to lend accuracy and integrity to the Synod's delegate representation and voting processes for the upcoming **Synod Convention** (July 28 - August 3, 2023).

For the Synod convention, Phase 4 ([click here for more information](#)), in addition to official notices in the Reporter and Lutheran Witness and a few special mailings to your congregation's office address, your pastor, congregation, and lay leaders with accurate emails registered on the annual (February) lay leader report will receive timely reminders. **Your church administrator can update lay leader records at any time at lc.lcms.org.** Please ask the person who maintains these records on behalf of your congregation to make sure these email records are kept up to date (through LISN for Congregations at lc.lcms.org), as the old "It's Time" postcards will no longer be sent.

If you have not received the above-mentioned mailing the with a web-link and login information, please contact rosters.stats@lcms.org or the LCMS Church Information Center at 888-843-5267.

Texas District Theological Convocation 2023

Theme: "The Unique Treasure of the Gospel"

May 8-10 at St. Paul, Waco (1301 Hogan Ln, Waco, TX 76705).

Registration is now open for the 2023 Texas District Theological Convocation! [CLICK HERE](#) to register your spot and get the early bird discount. Entrance is \$95 until March 12, at which time the cost will increase to \$105.

"In the Texas District, we have been blessed with many 'Theological Immigrants' into the LCMS. They are now our fellow pastors, deaconesses, and teachers of the church who have discovered the comfort and joy of our theology. Their joy is an inspiration to those

who have been in this tradition for a long time and may struggle at times to fully appreciate the treasure we have been given. Join us for three incredible days of learning and growth as we dig deep into the Scriptures and Confessions connected to real on-the-ground stories of that treasure that has been discovered by people in our very own district!"

Missional Youth Retreat (MYR)



The Missional Youth Retreat (MYR) is back at Concordia University Texas!

During MYR students will engage in meaningful experiences and meet fellow high school students, all on our beautiful nature preserve campus. It's going to be an unforgettable week!

This experience is excellent for young people with demonstrated leadership potential who have a calling for ministry and are passionate about sharing the Gospel in their daily work and vocation.

[INFORMATION & REGISTRATION](#)

IIM Discernment Online Workshop

"What is Intentional Interim Ministry, really?"
"Is this a ministry for me?"
"How do I get started?"

These questions and more will be addressed in a livestreamed online workshop, held **February 21, 2023, 1-3pm**. See if Intentional Interim Ministry is a good fit for you.

Phase 1 online training begins **April 20**.



Lutherans for Life National Essay Contest

It is again time for our Lutherans For Life National Essay Contest sponsored by the LFL Federation Presidents. Students in grades 6-12 have the opportunity to speak, write, and strengthen their convictions about the sanctity of life. Deadline for submissions is **April 1, 2023**. For more information about the Essay Contest, please [CLICK HERE](#) or [email Barb Geistfeld](#), Lutherans for Life Assistant Director of Volunteer Relations.

Central Texas Men's Retreat

Redeemer Lutheran Church and St. Paul Lutheran from Austin are hosting a **Men's Retreat at Camp Lone Star in La Grange, March 3-5**.

All men from the Central Texas Area are invited to a time of rest, fellowship, study of God's word, and worship together. The special guest speaker is Pastor Will Weedon from St. Paul Lutheran Church in Hamel, IL who will lead in reflections upon I & II Thessalonians. The event includes a chili cookoff Friday night, Worship and Breakfast on Saturday morning, and a steak dinner Saturday night. A brief church service will be held before dismissal on Sunday morning. Please join us!

INFORMATION & REGISTRATION

Mission Support Center Construction Progress

Want to keep up with the construction progress of the Texas District Mission Support Center? Just bookmark [THIS SITE](#). The photo shown is updated every hour.

District Prayers

For Gospel Ministers & Ministries

Father, send Your Holy Spirit to prepare the hearts of those yet to know Jesus, and bring His love and good news through these ministries & mission workers.

- St. Paul Lutheran Church, Dallas - Charles Cooper
- Umoja International Lutheran Church - Absalom Nasuwa
- Eritrean Evangelical Lutheran Church, Houston - Maaza Teodros
- S.O.O.N. Church, Third Ward, Houston - Rev. Howard Thomas, III
- Oromo Evangelical Church, Dallas - Gabriel Tule
- Evangelist Stephen Deskin - Shepherd of the Hills, San Antonio
- Evangelist Dalia Diaz - Faith, Grand Prairie

For expanded weekly prayer lists click [Mission Prayer Partner!](#)

For Peace and Assurance

Father, we thank you for the life of service of Rev. Tom Hadley, who passed away February 12. To his friends and family, grant peace and assurance in the victory of Your Son's resurrection.

Arrangements

- **Rev. Tom Hadley (Em., Campbell)** - wife Cynthia and daughter Jennifer, wife of Rev. Mark Hotopp - memorial service will be held Monday, February 20, 3:30 p.m. at Tree of Life, Garland. Meal to follow. Memorials designated for Veritas Community Church & Academy - Scholarship Fund.

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. -Romans 8:38-39

For Healing, Strength, and Encouragement

Dear healing Jesus, hear our prayers for...

- **Rev. Joe Ardy (Immanuel, Clifton - IIM)**
 - **Mrs. Betty Baden, wife of Rev. Tom Baden (Bethel, Ballinger)**
 - **Rev. Don Black (Trinity-Downtown, Houston)**
 - **Rev. Mario Casillas (Trinity, Port Arthur)**
 - **Rev. Dan Chambers (Evangelists, Kingsbury)**
 - **Rev. Walter Dube (Living Word, The Woodlands)**
 - **Rev. Art Farrow (Trinity, Commerce)**
 - **Mrs. Marleny Franco, mother of Rev. Mauricio Franco (St. Paul, Harlingen)**
 - **Rev. Fred Gersch (Em., Dallas)**
 - **Mr. David Goeke (Concordia, San Antonio)**
 - **Mrs. Cynthia Hadley, wife of Rev. Tom Hadley (Em., Campbell)**
 - **Rev. Chris Johnson (Em., Hewitt)**
 - **Mr. Tim Kerkman, son of DCE Randall & Sandra Kerkman (Em., Austin)**
 - **Mrs. Mary Kent, mother-in-law of Rev. Byron Williams (St. Paul, Dallas)**
 - **Mrs. Nancy Loomis, widow of Rev. Richard Loomis (Memorial, Katy)**
 - **Mrs. Evie Mann, wife of Rev. James Mann (Em., Cedar Park)**
 - **Mrs. Betty Michalk, wife of Rev. Wilbern Michalk (Em., Georgetown)**
 - **Rev. Gary Miller (Abiding Savior, Zapata)**
 - **Mrs. Eunice Otte, mother of Rev. Jim Otte (St. Paul, Fort Worth)**
 - **Rev. Rick Pfaff (Em., Boerne)**
 - **Mr. Bruce Rudi (Em., Concordia, San Antonio)**
 - **Rev. Jon Scicluna (Beautiful Savior, Arlington)**
 - **Mr. Danny Simms (Redeemer, Baytown)**
 - **Mrs. Laurine Watson, wife of Chaplain Joe Watson (Buckley AFB, CO)**
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Call Central

New Calls

Gracious God, we give You thanks and praise for our church workers, and their opportunities to serve. Give them Your Spirit's gifts of wisdom, discernment, and faith to trust you in their decision making.

Commissioned

Undecided

AJ Vega, DCE, ACTS Church Leander, Leander to DCE, St. John's, Denver, CO

Ordained

Accepted

Rev. Ted Benson, Assoc. Resurrection, Spring to Senior, Resurrection, Spring

Undecided

Rev. Phillip Allman, Sole, First, Orange Grove to Sole, St. John, Pecatonica, IL

Rev. Matthew Peeples, Candidate to Director of Kairos Network, LINC Ministries Intl.

Rev. Craig Schinnerer, Candidate to ITP, Trinity, Amarillo

Upcoming Installations

Lord, thank you for providing undershepherds for your flock. Please work through these men in their new callings, to love and lead with the heart and Spirit of Christ.

Rev. Ted Benson
Rev. David Edge
Rev. Charles Ridley

Senior, Resurrection, Spring - 3/5/2023, 8:15 a.m.
Grace, Denison - 2/19/2023
Fishers of Men, Sugar Land - 2/19/2023, 8:30 a.m.

Upcoming Ordination & Installation

SMP Pastor-elect Joel
Hall

Faith, Mexia - 3/5/2023, 4:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events

2023

February 21, 1-3pm
IIM ONLINE WORKSHOP
Intentional Interim Ministry discernment workshop

INFORMATION & REGISTRATION

March 3-5
CENTRAL TEXAS MEN'S RETREAT
Camp Lone Star, La Grange
*Hosted by Redeemer, Austin & St. Paul,
Austin*

March 9-11
**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS
CONFERENCE**
Embassy Suites, San Marcos
Registration Deadline: February 13

REGISTER

May 8-10
TEXAS DISTRICT THEOLOGICAL CONVOCATION 2023
"The Unique Treasure of the Gospel"
St. Paul Lutheran Church
1301 Hogan Ln, Waco, TX 76705

INFORMATION & REGISTRATION

June 4-8
MISSIONAL YOUTH RETREAT
Concordia University Texas, Austin

June 7
**MRR LEADERS DAY (MARKETING
RECRUITMENT & RETENTION)**
Salem Lutheran School, Tomball

REGISTER

July 17-19
**TEXAS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS
CONFERENCE**
Drury Plaza Hotel, San Antonio

July 29-August 3
LCMS CONVENTION
"We Preach Christ Crucified" I Cor. 1:18-25
Milwaukee – Wisconsin Center
[Call for Nominations](#)

Stay Connected

Want to keep up to date with ALL our latest news? Subscribe to these District newsletters:

CATALYST

News and insights about mission efforts in the Texas District

MESSENGER

Monthly e-newsletter of Districtwide happenings and opportunities

MISSION PRAYER

Subscribe for mission prayer requests delivered to your inbox

**HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT CHURCH
DOOR?**

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