



MINISTER TO MINISTER

The Texas District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

October 13, 2023

Visit us online at txlcms.org

2023 Pastors Conference // October 23-24

REGISTER

District Announcements

October Is for Church Worker Appreciation

October is Church Worker Appreciation Month! Consider how you can encourage your church's workers as they steadfastly serve your congregation and/or school. [CLICK HERE](#) for some ideas for appreciation.

Hispanic Ministry Retreat

¡Una invitación especial! este mes de octubre, ven y participa en el Retiro Distrital de Ministerios Hispanos. Tendremos talleres, conferencias y devociones bajo la dirección de distinguidos pastores del Distrito. En un ambiente de adoración, reflexión e inspiración. Este retiro es un momento crucial para el liderazgo Hispano, donde podremos cultivar nuestras relaciones, compartir nuestras experiencias y fomentar el crecimiento ministerial. ¡Los Esperamos!

Mark Your Calendars! October 15-17, be a part of the Hispanic Ministry Retreat! Dive into enriching workshops, conferences, and soul-stirring devotions led by esteemed district pastors. Join us for a time of worship, reflection, and inspiration. It's more than a retreat; it's a cornerstone for Hispanic leadership. It's a great opportunity for our Hispanic church workers to strengthen relationships, share stories and experiences, and grow in faith and unity. We're excited to see you there!

LEARN MORE

Kidney Needed

Rev. Rick Pfaff is in need of a kidney donor! If you are blood type O+, 17-70 years old and in good overall health with no cancer or diabetes, you may be eligible. Contact Pastor Pfaff at txpfaff@gmail.com or visit www.livingdonor-MethodistSA.com to complete the questionnaire.

Concordia Symphony Orchestra Texas Tour

The Concordia Symphony Orchestra, from Concordia University Irvine, will be making appearances in Texas under the baton of Dr. Jeff Held. The CSO is featured on annual PBS broadcasts across the nation, and is one of the most engaging collegiate ensembles in Southern California. Please join us live in Dallas, Austin, Cypress, and Houston. Admission to each concert is free.

Thursday, Oct. 12, 7:00 PM - Zion Lutheran Church, Dallas
Friday, Oct. 13, 7:00 PM - Bethany Lutheran Church, Austin
Saturday, Oct. 14 4:00 PM - St. John Lutheran Church, Cypress
Sunday, Oct. 15 2:30 PM - Trinity Lutheran Church, Downtown Houston

Wurstbraten in Walburg

The 51st annual Wurstbraten will be held at Zion, Walburg (6001 FM 1105, Georgetown) on November 6, 4:00-7:00 p.m. The meal is drive-thru only. Bulk sausage is on sale November 5 and 6 while supplies last.

[LEARN MORE](#)

CTSFW 85th Anniversary Special Focus

The Seminary Guild of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (CTSFW), will be celebrating its 85th anniversary in February 2024. To mark the occasion, the Guild is inviting congregations, schools, groups, and individuals throughout the Synod to participate in the Legacy Project, which puts a *Pastoral Care Companion (PCC)* in the hands of every field worker at CTSFW.

The Guild is aiming to raise \$8500 for its 85th anniversary. If you'd like to help equip future church workers with a trusted and treasured resource, you may donate online at ctsfw.edu/LegacyProject or you can send a check to:

Concordia Theological Seminary Guild
Box 8, 6600 N. Clinton Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Catalyst Innovation Lab

Got an innovative idea? Need money? The Texas District is announcing a new pilot project: the Catalyst Innovation Lab. Its objectives are to encourage and support ministries using innovative methods to catalyze mission movements and to inform future mission efforts for other district ministries. Grants may be requested for up to \$25,000.

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE NOVEMBER 15, 2023.

Please click below for more information about how and where to apply, what makes the best projects, etc.

LEARN MORE

Lutherans for Life Essay Contest

It is that time of year again. The annual Lutherans For Life National Essay Contest is officially and publicly open. We have had many awesome essays coming in from Texas, and our students have won at the national level more than once.

Click here for information: [2024 Lutherans For Life Essay Contest - Lutherans For Life](#) (then click on the Texas Link in the middle of the page.)

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.

- Camp Lone Star, La Grange - Aaron Littman
- St. Mark, Houston - Rev. Matt Popovits
- The Family of Faith, Fairfield - Rev. Doug Krengel
- NewChurch, Katy - SMP Rev. Frank Hart
- Grace Divine, North Richland Hills - Evangelists Vr. Sammy & Meletre Roberts
- Christ Memorial Preschool, Houston - Barb Tanz
- Gethsemane Lutheran Preschool, Houston - Kim Perry

For specific requests by the list above, click here: [Mission Prayer Partner!](#)

For Peace & Assurance

Father, we thank you for the lives of service of Rev. Hiram Orea (Em., Dallas), who joined you in glory on June 15, 2023, and of Mrs. Martha Finky. To his friends and family, grant peace and assurance in the victory of Your Son's resurrection.

Mrs. Martha "Marty" Finke, wife of Rev. Norm Finke (Em., Waxahachie) and mother of Rev. Greg Finke (Trinity, Houston) was called to the Lord October 11, 2023. Her memorial service will be held at Christ the King Lutheran Church (301 Hwy 287 Bypass West, Waxahachie) on Monday, October 16 at 11:00 a.m. Family visitation will begin at 10:30 a.m. A luncheon will immediately follow the service. Memorials may be made to KIMA, the independent mission agency to help the Lutheran Synod of Mexico and its ministry.

For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. -Romans 14:8

For Healing, Strength, and Encouragement

Dear healing Jesus, hear our prayers for...

- Mrs. Betty Baden, wife of Rev. Tom Baden (Bethel, Ballinger)
- Rev. Don Black (Trinity-Downtown, Houston)
- Rev. Jonathan Bontke (Beautiful Savior, Austin)
- Rev. Mario Casillas (Candidate, Port Arthur)
- Rev. Walter Dube (Em., The Woodlands)
- Mrs. Marleny Franco, mother of Rev. Mauricio Franco (St. Paul, Harlingen)
- Mr. David Goeke (Em., San Antonio)
- Rev. Wayne Graumann (Em., Tomball)
- Mrs. Cynthia Hadley, wife of Rev. Tom Hadley (Em., Campbell)
- Rev. Robert Hill (Em., Hooks)
- Mr. Bill Lubben (Em., Harlingen) - being placed on Hospice; prayers also for wife, Judy
- Rev. Chris Johnson (Em., Hewitt)
- Mrs. Fern Holaday, wife of Rev. Dr. Robert Holaday (St. Paul, Vernon)
- 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. Judith Kurth, wife of Rev. Richard Kurth (Em., Dallas)
- Mrs. Nancy Loomis, widow of Rev. Richard Loomis
- Phedra Lutjens, daughter of Rev. Robert Lutjens (St. John, Wharton)
- Mrs. Evie Mann, wife of Rev. James Mann (Em., Cedar Park)
- Mrs. Betty Michalk, wife of Rev. Wilbern Michalk (Em., Georgetown)
- Mr. Ted Nelson (Em., Houston)
- Mr. Bruce Rudi (Em., Concordia, San Antonio)
- Mrs. Debbie Shockley, wife of Rev. Robert Shockley (Em., Jacksonville)
- Rev. Wendell Stavig (Em., Spring)
- Mrs. Laurine Watson, wife of Chaplain Joe Watson (Buckley AFB, CO)

Call Central

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 and future seasons of ministry.

New Calls

Commissioned

Undecided

Laura Ross, DCE, Redeemer, Fredericksburg, VA to DCE, St. Mark, Houston

Ordained

Declined

Rev. Mark Harris, Candidate, New Braunfels to Sole, Messiah, Corpus Christi

Undecided

Rev. Jeff Doria, Assoc., St. John, Cypress to Sole, St. Paul, Thorndale

Rev. Tim Eden, Assoc., Bethel, Bryan to Sole, Trinity, Grandview, MO

Rev. Chris Hull, Sr., Zion, Tomball to Sole, Immanuel, Macomb, IL

Rev. Doug Kregel, Sole, Family of Faith, Houston to Sole, Immanuel, Bridgman, MI

Rev. Tab Ottmers, Sole, Immanuel, Fairview to Sole, Epiphany, Bastrop

Rev. Ben Spaulding, Assoc., Memorial, Katy to Sole, St. Luke, Ann Arbor, MI

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. Ben Jore, Sole

11/5/23, 10:30 a.m. at St. John, Umland

Rev. Jeff Lee, ITP

11/5/23, 4:00 p.m. at Faith, Stephenville

Isaac Lujang, Asst.

Ordination & Installation: 10/14/23, 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul, Fort Worth

Luis Morales, Sole

Ordination & Installation: 11/5/23, 4:00 p.m. at Cristo El Salvador, Del Rio

Ordination Anniversaries

October

70 years

Rev. Richard Wagner (October 4, 1953) - Em., Austin

30 years

Rev. Kyu Dong Yi (October 19, 1993) - Grace Korean, Colleyville

Upcoming District Events

2023

October 15-17
HISPANIC MINISTRY RETREAT
Camp Lone Star, La Grange

[LEARN MORE](#)

October 23-24
PASTORS CONFERENCE
"What a New Generation Needs from the Church"
Texas District Mission Support Center,
Round Rock

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