



MINISTER *to* MINISTER

August 23, 2024

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PRESIDENT'S PAUSE // BE ENCOURAGED

What Does It Mean to Be Lutheran? // Back in 1938, as the church in Germany was being thrown into confusion by the Nazi war machine, Lutheran pastor and theologian Herman Sasse wrote a book called *Here We Stand*. It asked the question, "What does it mean to be Lutheran?" We're asking a similar question today: What does our unique confession of faith mean as we travel in a chaotic culture that is both indifferent about and hostile toward the church? What does it mean to be Lutheran as we relate to one another within our church? [Read more](#)

WORKER UPDATES // BE IN PRAYER

Pray for those in need of guidance, affirmation, healing, relief, and assurance.

Prayer Requests

- Rev. Mark Barz (Crown of Life, San Antonio) - healing from blood clot
- Vicar Devin Jackson (Trinity, Fairfield) - recovery and continued cancer treatments after surgery

New Calls

Commissioned

Accepted

Sarah Valencia, DCE, CrossRoad, Katy to DCE, St. John, Cypress

Ordained

Declined

Rev. David Murillo, Sr., St. Paul, San Antonio to Holy Cross, Miami, FL

Rev. Andrew Guagenti, Sole, Holy Cross, Shelbyville, KY to Sole, St. Paul, Vernon

Undecided

Rev. Phil Doublestein, Sole, The Church at Brooks, San Antonio to Assoc., Word of Life Fellowship, Cibolo
Rev. Micah Drengler, Assoc., Living Word, The Woodlands to Sole, Redeemer, Beaumont
Rev. Andrew Guagenti, Sole, Holy Cross, Shelbyville, KY to Sole, Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls
Rev. Eric Wenger, Sole, Lakes Area Christian Fellowship, Rome WI to Sole, St. Paul, Plano

Upcoming Installations

Rev. Scott Herbert // September 8, 3:00 p.m. //ITP, Zion, Tomball

Ordination Anniversaries // August

65 years

Rev. Walter Harms (8/1) - Em., Austin

45 years

Rev. Ruben Dominguez-Martinez (8/8) - Em., McAllen

Rev. David McKnight (8/12) - Em., San Antonio

40 years

Rev. Craig Whitson (8/26) - Em., Coldspring

35 years

Rev. Greg Lorenz (8/13) - St. Paul, McAllen

30 years

Rev. Arthur Maynard (8/7) - Em., Pipe Creek

Rev. Ken Watson (8/7) - Em., Brenham

Rev. Jim Sturgis (8/14) - Em., Portland

20 years

Rev. Ray Van Buskirk (8/1) - St. Peter, Houston

Rev. Robert Lutjens (8/8) - St. John, Wharton

Rev. Aaron Lytle (8/15) - Oikos, Houston

Rev. Jon Meyer (8/29) - Holy Trinity, Lexington

15 years

Rev. Chris Brynstad (8/9) - King of Kings, Round Rock

5 years

Rev. Paul Terral (8/11) - Faith, Gainesville

Funeral Announcements

Nancy L. Niekerk, mother of Rev. Tim Niekerk (Salem, Tomball), joined the Savior's side on Saturday, August 17. Her graveside service was officiated by Rev. Joel Krueger and Rev. Tim Niekerk on August 20 at Ozark Memorial Park Cemetery (Branson, MO). Please keep the Niekerk family in your prayers.

DISTRICT NEWS // BE INFORMED

Call for Nominations: Registration for the 2025 Texas District Convention opens on September 5! Nomination forms for board positions, committee positions, and District Secretary, as well as descriptions of these positions are available for download NOW. Nominations for these positions will close November 4, 2024. Please click the following link for detailed instructions. [Learn more](#)

Texas District Treasurers Workshop: Congregation Officers, Treasurers, and Business Managers are invited to a one-day workshop on Saturday, October 5th. We will discuss tools available to congregations through the Texas District and Synod including best practices and resources, stewardship, fraud prevention/controls and more! [Learn more](#)

Professional Church Workers Conference: Registration for the 2024 Professional Church Workers Conference at Redeemer, Austin on October 14-15 is now open! Early bird registration ends September 15. **Sponsor and Exhibitor Information now available.** [Learn more](#)

"A Life Called" Event at CUNE: Can you think of a youth in your congregation that would make a great church worker? Encourage them to attend Concordia University, Nebraska's church work visit event, "A Life Called", on October 13-14, 2024. They will learn about CUNE's church work programs and scholarship opportunities, attend classes, connect with current faculty, students, and other high schoolers interested in church work, tour campus, and stay overnight in the residence halls. [Learn more](#)

Beginning Teachers Retreat: Registration for the 2024 Beginning Teachers Retreat at Camp Lone Star on October 4-5 is now open! Please register by September 12. [Learn more](#)

Lutheran Religious Life Survey: The Lutheran Religious Life Survey is an annual survey exploring the experiences and beliefs of LCMS members. This year, LCMS churches, districts, schools, and other bodies can register to receive a unique survey link to gather unique demographic information about their own institutions. [Learn more](#)

Intentional Transitional Pastor Events: Have you wondered exactly what Intentional Transitional (aka Intentional Interim) Ministry is or if it is right for you? Lutheran Transitional Ministry Association (LuTMA) has an upcoming online [discernment event](#) and [basic training event](#). [Learn more](#)

Set Apart to Serve FREE Curriculum: *Set Apart to Serve (SAS)*, an initiative of The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod, is now making its new church work recruitment curriculum available for congregations to order. Lutheran schools may also still place orders if they have not yet done so. The number of kits available is limited, so order your free kit now. [Learn more](#)

2025 Lutherans for Life Essay Contest: The Lutherans For Life Council of Federation Presidents sponsors an essay contest each year for students in two grade categories: 6-8 and 9-12. [Learn more](#)

[READ MORE DISTRICT NEWS](#)

RESOURCE TOOLBOX // BE EQUIPPED

Site Savvy // 2025 Texas District Convention Page: Preparations for the 2025 Texas District Convention are already underway! Keep an eye on the Convention page as updates and resources are rolled out. [Learn more](#)

EVENTS & LINKS // BE CONNECTED

Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2024 // Pastor's Wives Retreat // [Learn More](#)

OCTOBER 4-5, 2024 // 2024 Beginning Teachers Conference // [Learn More](#)

OCTOBER 5, 2024 // Texas District Treasurers Workshop // [Learn More](#)

OCTOBER 14-15, 2024 // Professional Church Workers Conference // [Learn More](#)

JUNE 5-7, 2025 // Texas District Convention // [Learn more](#)

View more events and submit publication requests at the following links

DISTRICT EVENTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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