



# MINISTER *to* MINISTER

August 30, 2024

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## PRESIDENT'S PAUSE // BE ENCOURAGED

Let's Pray // Jesus said, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."  
(Matthew 11:28-30)

Gracious God, We praise you for the gift of work. You utilize our talents and grant provision through our labors. We confess that we, too often, take our work for granted or grumble about the tasks before us. Forgive us for missing the opportunities to glorify you with all we do and to see how we serve you even when our labor is hard or unpleasant. Thank you for all who serve selflessly and cheerfully and for everyone who labors on our behalf—even those unknown, unnamed, and behind the scenes. Grant all who are looking for work open doors to find the jobs they need, and fill us with gratitude, diligence, joy, and faithfulness in our labors. May our work be a witness to the life you give through our Savior Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

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## WORKER UPDATES // BE IN PRAYER

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

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### Prayer Requests

- Vicar Devin Jackson (Trinity, Fairfield) - recovery and continued cancer treatments after surgery
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### New Calls

#### Ordained

Accepted

Rev. Micah Drengler, Assoc., Living Word, The Woodlands to Sole, Redeemer, Beaumont

### Declined

Rev. Andrew Guagenti, Sole, Holy Cross, Shelbyville, KY to Sole, Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls

### Undecided

Rev. Phil Doublestein, Sole, The Church at Brooks, San Antonio to Assoc., Word of Life Fellowship, Cibolo

Rev. Steve Kieser, Assoc., Faith, Plano to Sole, Trinity, Riverton, WY

Rev. Ethan Luhman, Assoc., Concordia, San Antonio to Sr., Peace, Eau Claire, WI

Rev. Arturo Mendez, Assoc., St. Matthew, Houston to Assoc., Hope, South Sioux City, NE

Rev. Eric Wenger, Sole, Lakes Area Christian Fellowship, Rome WI to Sole, St. Paul, Plano

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## Installations

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

Rev. Jason Moreno // September 15, 3:00 p.m. // Sole, Christ Memorial, Houston

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## Ordination Anniversaries // September

### 35 years

Rev. John Stennfeld (9/10) - *Christ, Austin*

### 20 years

Rev. Oscar Benavides (9/5) - *Water's Edge, Frisco*

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## Funeral Announcements

Mr. Robert E. K. Oettel (Em., San Antonio) was called to glory Tuesday, August 20, 2024. A memorial service was held at King of Kings Lutheran Church, San Antonio on Tue, Aug 27, as well as a funeral service at Trinity Lutheran Church, Mena, AR on Thur, Aug 29, followed by a burial service at Pinecrest Cemetery, Mena, AR. Please keep the Oettel family in your prayers.

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## 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

**Mission Insight // Spiritually Curious:** Recent data shows a majority in America is open to tapping more deeply into their spiritual life—yet this curiosity may naturally be accompanied by tough questions and hard conversations. What can Christians and churches do to better understand and engage with the spiritually curious? [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](#)

*View more events and submit publication requests at the following links*

[DISTRICT EVENTS](#)

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## Helpful Links

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