



# MINISTER *to* MINISTER

September 20, 2024

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## PRESIDENT'S PAUSE // BE ENCOURAGED

**Texas Messenger (September) // What Does It Mean to Be Lutheran? (pt. 2):**  
"...Always the Gospel. Many rites, liturgies and customs are beautiful and beloved. They can assist in conveying God's Word. But Lutheran identity is always in Christ alone, the cross and empty tomb, His expected return, and His grace-born-and-bestowing gifts for the world..." [Learn more](#)

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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 David Blajeski (Shepherd of the Prairie, Franklin) - recovery from rotator cuff surgery
- Rev. Tim Dinger (Em., Bridge City) - diagnosed with cancer
- Vicar Devin Jackson (Trinity, Fairfield) - recovery and continued cancer treatments after surgery
- Rev. James Kretzmann (Em., Cedar Park) - recovering after seizure

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### New Calls

#### Ordained

#### Undecided

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

Rev. Tab Ottmers, Sole, Immanuel, Fairview to Sole, St. Paul, Vernon

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## Installations

Maria Barron Baladez // Commissioning & Installation, November 3, 3:00 p.m. // Deaconess, Comunidad Cristiana Expansion, Rockwall  
Fabiana Dos Santos // Commissioning & Installation, November 3, 3:00 p.m. // Deaconess, Comunidad Cristiana Expansion, Rockwall  
Rev. Phil Doublestein // November 3, 3:00 p.m. // Assoc., Word of Life, Cibolo  
Rev. Micah Drengler // November 3, 3:00 p.m. // Sole, Redeemer, Beaumont  
Jaime Gonzalez // Ordination & Installation, November 3, 3:00 p.m. // Sole, Comunidad Cristiana Expansion, Rockwall

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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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## DISTRICT NEWS // BE INFORMED

**2025 Texas District Convention Registration:** Register NOW for the 2025 Texas District Convention. [Learn more](#)

**Call for Nominations:** 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](#)

**Retiro Ministerial Distrital 2024:** Invitamos cordialmente a nuestros líderes de Iglesia de habla hispana del Distrito de Texas, LCMS, a unirse a nosotros para un tiempo de aprendizaje, conexión con Dios y con otros ministros de la iglesia, y para disfrutar de un momento de comunidad y reflexión en el hermoso Campamento Lone Star. [Aprenda más](#)

*We warmly invite our Spanish-speaking Church Workers of the Texas District, LCMS, to join us for a time of learning, connection with God and fellow church workers, and enjoy a time of community and reflection in the beautiful surroundings of Camp Lone Star. [Learn more](#)*

**Texas District Spiritual Renewal Retreat:** Join us for an enriching retreat designed for DCEs, DCMs, DFLMs, Pastors, Deaconesses, Interns, and anyone serving in churches! This event offers a time of renewal, fellowship, and growth as we dive into relevant topics, share experiences, and strengthen our bonds within the church community. [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 TODAY (9/20). Hotel recommendations are now posted. [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](#)

[READ MORE DISTRICT NEWS](#)

## RESOURCE TOOLBOX // BE EQUIPPED



**Congregational Resource // Treasurers Workshop, Oct 5:** This will be an invaluable event for treasurers, business managers, and any staff or volunteers helping congregations take steps toward greater financial health. See the "Texas District Treasurers Workshop" article above for additional information. <https://youtu.be/D-a9mmfbMxg>

## 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](#)  
OCTOBER 20-22, 2024 // 2024 Hispanic Church Workers Retreat // [Learn More](#)  
FEBRUARY 3, 2025 // Texas District Spiritual Renewal Retreat // [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](#)

## Helpful Links

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[MISSION PRAYER](#)

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