



MINISTER *to* MINISTER

April 4, 2025

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PRESIDENT'S PAUSE // BE ENCOURAGED



Mission Story // Catalyst Innovation Lab 2025: Year two of the Texas District Catalyst Innovation Lab met last month. Exciting new and innovative ministries are happening in the Texas District. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=paWB5qmgLXI>

WORKER UPDATES // BE IN PRAYER

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

Prayer Requests

- Rev. Dr. Alan Abel (Em., Lorena) at the passing of his wife, Audrey
 - Rev. Randy Bard (Bethel, Bryan) at the passing of his father, Rollin
 - Family of Mr. Stephen Brennan (Em., Spring) at his passing
 - Family of Rev. Dick Greenthaner (Em., Killeen) at his passing
 - Mrs. Erica Miller & Rev. Josh Miller (ACTS, Leander) - praise for birth of daughter, Mirabelle
 - Rev. Dr. Wilbert Sohns (Em., Gatesville) - recovering from RSV
 - Mrs. Catherine Stoppenhagen, wife of Rev. Norman Stoppenhagen (Em., Austin) - uterine cancer
-

New Calls

Commissioned

Accepted

Krista Rodriguez, Teacher, Redeemer, Austin to Teacher, Springfield, Springfield, MO

Undecided

Mr. Sugita Tetsuya, Dir. of Music, Bethel, Bryan to Dir. of Music, Holy Cross, Kearney, NE

Ordained

Accepted

Rev. Tom Obersat, Candidate, Casper, WY to Sole, Trinity, Eden

Declined

Rev. Tim Sims, Sole, St. John, Chester, IL to Sole, St. Paul, Vernon

Undecided

Rev. Brad Akey, Assoc., Zion, Seymour, IN to Sole, Redeemer, Fredericksburg

Rev. Kyle Winter, Sole, Church at Creston, Kalispell, MT to Sole, Trinity, Weatherford

Installation

Rev. Duane Bamsch // May 4, 4:00 p.m. // Sole, Our Redeemer, Wichita Falls

Rev. James Jennings // May 10, 4:00 p.m. // SMP, Gethsemane, Houston

Rev. Tom Obersat // April 27, 3:00 p.m. // Sole, Trinity, Eden

Rev. Travis Pittock // April 6, 4:00 p.m. // Sole, Emmanuel, Littlefield

Rev. Ed Weber // April 6, 3:00 p.m. // Sole, Immanuel, Mercedes

Funeral

Mrs. Audrey Abel, wife of Rev. Dr. Alan Abel (Em., Lorena), was called on Saturday, March 29, 2025 into the company of heaven to laud and magnify God's glorious name evermore. Her funeral was held April 3, 2025 at St. Paul, The Grove.

Mr. Rollin Bard, father of Rev. Randy Bard (Bethel, Bryan), joined his Savior's side on March 25, 2025. His funeral will be held at 12:00 p.m., Saturday, April 5, 2025 at Bethel, Bryan (4221 Boonville Rd), followed by a light lunch.

Stephen M. Brennan (Em., Spring) was called to glory Wednesday, March 12, 2025. Despite his battle with Wegener since 2017, his faith, dedication, and love for the Trinity-Klein community never wavered. As a teacher, athletic director, and coach,

Steve touched countless lives, always striving to make a difference. His passion and impact will never be forgotten. Please keep his family in your prayers during this difficult time. Memorial Service will be Saturday, April 5 at 10:30 a.m. at Trinity-Klein, Spring (5201 Spring Cypress Rd).

Ordination Anniversaries // April

20 years

Rev. Larry Knobloch (4/10) - *Trinity, Riesel*

10 years

Rev. Nelson Hernandez (4/19) - *Candidate, Houston*

DISTRICT NEWS // BE INFORMED

Congregational Statistics (Deadline Extended): It's that time of year again—time to share your congregation's story through numbers! And with the national convention coming up in 2026, your input this year is crucial. We need your statistics by **May 2, 2025**, and we've made the process as straightforward as possible. [Learn more](#)

Rio Grande Valley Flood Recovery: The RGV has had 22 inches of rain in 25 hours leading to extensive flooding and damage. In an effort to support their recoveries, we have created a form for volunteer interest (see following link). Once the assessments are complete and they are ready to receive volunteers, you will be notified. Please do **NOT** self deploy. [Sign up for volunteer updates](#)

Black Ministry Family Convocation 2025: Registration is open for the Black Ministry Family Convocation, hosted by Saint Paul Lutheran Church & Christian Academy in Dallas, Texas and the Rev. Byron Williams. Adult Registration is \$175 per person, Youth Registration is \$75 and the Banquet is \$45 per person. [Learn more](#)

[READ MORE DISTRICT NEWS](#)

2025 Convention Info Center

Convention Credentialing: Voting congregations, ensure your delegates are properly credentialed, using the [2025 Voting Delegate Credential Form](#). The deadline for Advance Submission (strongly encouraged for a smoother check-in) is May 5. Credentialing *does not* replace convention registration. Both must be completed. [Learn more](#)

Slate of Nominees Available to View: The slate of nominees for District President and Area Vice Presidents as well as for District Secretary, Boards and Committees is now available. [Learn more](#)

2025 Texas District Convention Registration: Register NOW for the 2025 Texas District Convention. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MAY 23.** [Learn more](#)

RESOURCE TOOLBOX // BE EQUIPPED

Worker Wellness // KINDLE Next Callings: Launching October 13-16, this cohort is for second-chair ministry workers who plan to retire in the next 10 years or less. Participants receive encouragement, support, and renewal and connect with others on the same path. 2nd chair ministry leaders are better equipped to share and live out the Gospel in a changing environment. Both the individual and the congregation are engaged in a process that has a positive impact and can be replicated for years to come. [Learn more](#)

EVENTS & LINKS // BE CONNECTED

Upcoming Events

MAY 2, 2025 // (Updated) Congregational Statistics Reports Due // [Learn more](#)
MAY 5, 2025 // District Convention Voting Delegate Credential Form Advance Deadline // [Learn more](#)
MAY 23, 2025 // District Convention Registration Deadline // [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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