



# MINISTER *to* MINISTER

May 23, 2025

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## PRESIDENT'S PAUSE // BE ENCOURAGED

**May Messenger** // The question: Aren't certain works and actions needed to earn God's favor? The answer: No, we are saved by grace through faith. No yoke should be placed on anyone's neck – not circumcision, not any law. The grace of the Lord Jesus is freely given. [Read 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

- Rev. Joe Ardy (Em., Midlothian) - low blood cell count, further medical testing
- Rev. Randy Bard (Bethel, Bryan) - passing of his mother, Kathy
- Rev. Mauricio Franco (St. Paul, Harlingen) - passing of his mother, Marlene
- Mrs. Caitlin Howard, wife of DCE Ryan Howard (Lamb of God, Humble) - passing of her father, Don
- Mr. Michael Kesar (Hope, Friendswood) - kidney removal & transplant surgeries
- Rev. Kevin Lentz (Trinity at Badger Ranch, Woodway) - passing of his father, David, and mother, Juanita
- Rev. Dr. Jim Marriott (Faith, Georgetown) - passing of his father, Thomas
- Rev. Norman Stoppenhagen (Em., Austin) - at the passing of his wife, Cathy

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### New Calls

#### Commissioned

##### Accepted

Dr. Kara Tobaben, Teacher, Prince of Peace, Carrollton to Head of School, Our Redeemer, Dallas

#### Ordained

## Undecided

Rev. James Bretthauer, SMP, Prince of Peace, Medina, OH to SMP, Trinity-Klein, Spring  
Rev. Jonathan F. Meyer, Sole, Zion, Victoria to Sole, St. Paul, Enid, OK

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## Installations

Derek Easterling (Ordination & Installation) // May 25, 4:00 p.m. // SMP, Mt. Olive, San Antonio

Rev. Rodrigo Fernandez // May 25, 3:00 p.m. // Sole, Manantiales de Vida, Houston

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## Ordination Anniversaries // May

### 55 years

Rev. Richard Kurth (5/17) - *Em., Dallas*

### 45 years

Rev. Bob Cheney (5/25) - *Em., Tomball*

### 40 years

Rev. Ricky Adams (5/26) - *Em., Richmond*

### 30 years

Rev. Scott Herbert (5/28) - *Zion, Tomball*

### 20 years

Rev. Karim Baidaoui (5/15) - *Cand., Dallas*

Rev. George Masih (5/15) - *Grace Community, Rowlett*

### 15 years

Rev. Kurt Ulmer (5/22) - *Faith, Wylie*

### 10 years

Rev. Barrett Grebing (5/31) - *St. Paul, Ft. Worth*

Rev. Mark Pulliam (5/17) - *Lazarus, Spring*

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## DISTRICT NEWS // BE INFORMED

**50 Hours of Prayer:** The District Convention is a critical opportunity for fellowship, prayer, praise, and encouragement. And it's not limited only to those in attendance! That we all would honor God in our conduct, bear fruit in our discipleship, and return to our mission fields more knowledgeable, equipped, and eager, we are saturating our entire convention with prayer—all 50 hours—and we need you to help make this goal a reality! [Learn more](#)

**2026 LCMS National Convention:** Save the Date! The 69th Regular Convention of the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod is being held July 18-23, 2026 in Phoenix, AZ. [Learn more](#)

[READ MORE DISTRICT NEWS](#)

## 2025 Convention Info Center

**Convention Online Registration Closed:** Convention registration through WhoVa is now closed (as of 5/23/25). You may still register by calling Cindy Hilewitz (512-926-4272, ext. 240) or emailing her at [chilewitz@txlcms.org](mailto:chilewitz@txlcms.org).

If you have not yet submitted your **Voting Delegate Credentials Card**, please bring it with you to the convention. *Voting delegates must be credentialed in order to vote.*

Lastly, please download and/or print a copy of the **Convention Workbook**.

## RESOURCE TOOLBOX // BE EQUIPPED



**Mission Insight** // The Gospel was given for grassroots growth. Recently trained in the Texas District Evangelist Training Series, Estefania shares how she publicly shares the Gospel and inspires others to do the same. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rrMWJrollMY>

## EVENTS & LINKS // BE CONNECTED

### Upcoming Events

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

JULY 18-23, 2026 // LCMS National Convention // [Learn more](#)

View more events and submit publication requests at the following links

DISTRICT EVENTS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Helpful Links

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