



MINISTER to MINISTER

May 1, 2026

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DISTRICT NEWS // BE INFORMED

ATTENTION CONGREGATIONAL PRESIDENTS

Congregational Statistics Due May 1 (FINAL deadline): Calling all congregational leaders! It's time to update your congregation's statistics online. [Learn more](#)

LCMS Pastoral Formation Committee Listening Session: Have questions about how the LCMS is forming faithful pastors to meet the current and future demands of the holy ministry? Come and talk to the LCMS Pastoral Formation Committee, which includes the two seminary presidents, at the Listening Session hosted at Christ the King, Kingwood on Monday, June 15, 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. [Learn more](#)

MRR (Marketing, Recruitment, and Retention) Leaders Day: June 3, 2026 at Concordia High School, Tomball, keynote speaker Jay Tickle will help your school sharpen your marketing, clarify your message, and grow enrollment. Jay is the owner of Hourglass, a Christian School Marketing consultancy, founder of Banner 61, and a Herzog Foundation Marketing and Enrollment Coach. [Learn more & register](#)

2026 School Administrators Conference: The Administrators Conference will be held July 20-22 at the Drury Plaza in San Antonio (823 N Loop 64). The conference theme is "Far More Abundantly", based on Ephesians 3:19-20, and keynote speakers are Ted Neitzke and Laura Colangelo. [Learn more & register](#)

2026 Pastors' Wives Retreat: The Texas District Pastors' Wives Retreat will be held September 25-27, 2026 at Camp Lone Star in La Grange. Women will hear helpful speakers, address the issues pastors' wives face, rejuvenate, connect, and worship with others who serve in this unique role. [Learn more](#)

Missional Youth Retreat 2026: In the spirit of our synod's "Set Apart to Serve" efforts to recruit new church workers, the Texas District invites young people to consider registering for Missional Youth Retreat (MYR) 2026. May 31-June 4, at Concordia University Texas, rostered LCMS church workers will present ministry options and mission opportunities to young people. [Learn more](#)

WORKER UPDATES // BE IN PRAYER

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

Prayer Requests

- **Family of Mrs. Patricia Biar, former Texas District LWML President** // passing of Patricia
 - **Rev. Larry Knobloch (Trinity, Riesel)** // diagnosed with atrial fibrillation
 - **Mrs. Teri Poole, wife of Rev. Don Poole (Em., Clifton)** // recovering from open-heart surgery
-

New Calls

Commissioned

Accepted

Miguel Ruiz // Director of Parish Music, Messiah, Keller to Director of Parish Music, Our Redeemer, Dallas

Seth Illich // Cand., Liberty Hill to DCE, Christ, Milford, MI

Undecided

Tetsuya Sugita // Director of Parish Music, Bethel, Bryan to Director of Parish Music, Trinity, Crown Point, IN

Ordained

Declined

Rev. Ryan Cramer // Sole, St. Paul, Foley, AL to Sole, Trinity Our Savior, Corpus Christi

Rev. Carl Roth // Sole, Grace, Elgin to Sole, Zion, Tomball

Undecided

Rev. Dr. Keith Aschenbeck // Sole, Grace, Victoria to Sole, Grace, Bradford, PA

Rev. Noah Burgdorf // Sole, Salem, Salisbury, MO to Sole, Resurrection, Fredericksburg

Rev. Mark Harris // Cand., New Braunfels to Sole, Zion, Mission Valley (Victoria)

Rev. Mark Harris // Cand., New Braunfels to Sole, Zion, Schulenburg

2026 Call Days & the Texas District

Vicarages

Micah Cumming (Plano) // to Bethlehem, Jacksonville Beach, FL

Logan Fraley (San Antonio) // to St. Mark, Houston

Kurtis Hankemeier (Winchester) // to Immanuel, St. Charles, MO

John Hansen (Temple) // to Cross of Christ, DeSoto

Nathaniel Pekari // to Lamb of God, Humble

Jacob Reid // to Memorial, Houston

George Ross (Houston) // to Shepherd of the City, Fort Wayne, IN

Brian Schneck // to The Dwelling, New Caney

Ambrose Shaltanis (Plano) // to Trinity, Springfield, MO

Zachary Stuckwisch (League City) // to Trinity, Auburn, IN

Zachary Tews (Houston) // to Good Shepherd, Lincoln, NE

Calls

Travis Galle (Tomball) // to Holy Cross, Golden, IL as Pastor

Michael Saxton (Winchester) // to Grace, Knoxville, TN as Associate Pastor

Sujit Kingston Stephen (Houston) // to St. Mark, Houston as Associate Pastor

Installation

Rev. Tom Zucconi // May 3, 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. // Assoc., Prince of Peace, Carrollton
Rev. Jonathan D. Meyer // May 23, 3:00 p.m. // Sole, Grace, Midland

Funeral

Mr. David L. Goeke (Em., San Antonio) was called to glory on April 29, 2026. His funeral details are yet forthcoming. Please keep David's family and friends in your prayers.

Ordination Anniversaries // May

60 years

Rev. Dr. Jim Haner (5/29) - Em., Dallas

50 years

Rev. Max Biesenthal (5/23) - Em., Denton

30 years

Rev. Robert Hemsath (5/17) - Faith, Huntsville

Rev. Gilberto Flores (5/30) - Em., Corpus Christi

20 years

Rev. Vijay Gurralla (5/21) - Telugu Church of Houston (Our Redeemer), Houston

RESOURCE TOOLBOX // BE EQUIPPED

Mission Insight // Looking Back and Looking Forward: “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now is springs up; do you not perceive it?” (Isaiah 43:18-19a) Which was an ironic thing for the prophet to say to God’s people in exile in Babylon, because he had just reminded them of the past! Verses 16 and 17 recount God’s deliverance of his people another time when they were in exile many years before—that time in the land of Egypt. So, does God want us to look back or forward?

[Read more](#)

EVENTS & LINKS // BE CONNECTED

Upcoming Events

JUNE 3, 2026 // MRR (Marketing, Recruitment, & Retention) Leaders' Day // [Learn more](#)

JUNE 11-13, 2026 // Texas LWML Convention // [Learn more](#)

JUNE 15, 2026 // LCMS Pastoral Formation Committee Listening Session // [Learn more](#)

JULY 20-22, 2026 // School Administrators Conference // [Learn more](#)

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

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