

Encourager

JUNE 2025

Mid-South District LCMS



A Message from Rev. Dr. Roger Paavola, President

"What's in a Name?"

In Shakespeare's famous tragedy, "Romeo and Juliet," Juliet was swimming in a sea of emotions and is led to ask a question that endures through the ages. Shakespeare makes it clear that her emotions were in a rage of the clash she realized that the man she loves was a member of a family despised by her family. The love-struck Juliet then ask, "What's in a name? A rose by any other name would smell as sweet."

The context here is that names are, for the most, part meaningless. Shakespeare apparently was making the point that getting involved in a hasty relationship is worth more than potential family turmoil and a premature death, right? But he ends the celebrated tragedy

about Romeo and Juliet knowing that not all made-up love stories have a happy ending.

What's in a name? Abraham's time before a burning bush revealed the beloved name of our Living God. The holy name of God is spoken by our Savior, Jesus Christ when He declares Himself the "I Am." Yet, the Gospel of Matthew might bear a counter-witness of the significance of a name. When Jesus asked His disciples in Matthew 16, "*Who do people say that I am?*" The disciples answered, "*Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, or Jeremiah, or one of the other prophets.*" But, Jesus asked, "*But, you. Who do you say that I am?*"

Simon Peter, as the most impetuous of the disciples as you can find, was the only one

to responded: "*You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.*" This moment of divine clarity is where Simon Peter, one of the first disciples called to follow Jesus, became an icon of the fledgling movement of Jesus to bring Christianity into the world. It was a statement of faith more than a statement of fact. Yet, it should never be misunderstood that Jesus named Peter as the Rock. Peter's statement was a statement of faith – a confession of Christ Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

Peter was the first disciple to confess that Jesus was the Rock upon which He would build His church. Shortly after making his bold faith-founded statement, Peter also told Jesus that he would never let Jesus die for

the Church. Jesus rebuked Peter and said, *"Get behind me Satan! You stand on the things of man, not on the things of God."* In this regard, St. John Chrysostom a Fourth Century Church patriarch (347-407) served as a priest in Antioch and Bishop of Constantinople. He was named "Chrysostom" (meaning "golden-mouthed") as being well known for his preaching. In a statement attributed to him and a similar statement attributed to St Augustine, the essence of their take on the passage was summarized as, "Christ, you see, built his Church not on a man but on Peter's confession. What is Peter's confession? 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' There's the rock for you, there's the foundation, there's where the Church has been built, which the gates of the underworld cannot conquer."

We appreciate Simon Peter, not because his faith-led, rock-like confession, although it's easy to read his course demeanor. He denied Christ three times the night before Jesus was crucified. He wanted to build three tents for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah on the Mount of Transfiguration. But despite all of his impetuous and brash behavior, we also see his softness, his porousness, and his jaggedness. Yes, he was brash. Yes, he was impatient. Yes, at times Peter was even rude. Despite what secular press has misquoted biblical references to St Peter over the past few weeks, we also realize Peter was so incredibly... human.

One of my favorite stories involving Simon Peter has to do not with the times he had great faith, but the times he could have used a great deal more of it. Just two chapters earlier, in Matthew 14, Matthew willingly captured the story of Peter stepping out into the stormy sea from a boat. He was sure of himself. He was cocky enough to think he could get out of the boat and walk on water... just like Jesus. But, as he walked forward on the white wind-crested waves, he took his eyes off Jesus and began to sink. In a panic, Peter called out to Jesus to save him when he saw the mess he'd gotten himself into. As he sinks, Jesus reaches forth his hand to save him. *"You of little faith,"* Jesus says. *"Why did you doubt?"*

Jesus built His church! Peter's faith-led and emboldened statement is the confession of a man with a sketchy record when it comes to firmness of faith. But it is the confession of this Jesus, the Son of the Living God that we embrace in the Christian Church. Sure, in that moment, Peter was so sure who Jesus was. But in just a few chapters later, he would deny that he even ever knew Jesus. Peter isn't the rock. His rocks had too many cracks.

Jesus built His Church on the rock of faith in the Christ as Peter's confession states. It might be true that the rhythm of faith and doubt are simply two sides of the same coin of relationship with Jesus. There are times where we may experience

something of the divine that seems to make our faith firm. At other times, it seems our faith feels less secure. Remember, Jesus said, *"If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."* Moved any mountains lately?

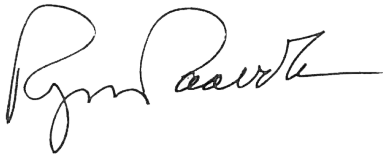
Either way, when we fail and believe in ourselves, when we want to go against convention and jump out of the traditional boat (the Church), it is comforting to know that Jesus still saves us, despite our foibles. As a popular maxim suggests, those cracks in our faith might just be how the light of Christ gets in to invite us into deeper awareness and more glorious revelation.

We believe, preach, and confess that the Holy Spirit inspired Simon Peter to confess Jesus as the Christ and Son of the living God. The Confession of St Peter is a snapshot in the life of an Apostle who had many more ups and downs. Before finally being crucified in Rome, Peter pleaded with his executioners to crucify him upside down because he felt unworthy of being crucified in the same position that Jesus was crucified.

We pray He keeps our Churches steadfast upon the rock of this confession. Christ is our Rock of our Christian faith, so that in unity and peace we may proclaim the one truth and follow the one Lord, our Savior Jesus Christ. It reveals a reality of

our faith that in the eyes of Christ, regardless of the worst thing we have ever done, said, left undone, or failed to do, Jesus the Christ, the Son of the living God, saves us. He knows us for the best we can possibly be, because He died to take away our impetuous, callous, and quivering witness of faith.

Your Servant in Christ +
Rev. Dr. Roger Paavola



Lutheran Community Choir Seeks Singers for District Convention

Christ the King is hosting the Opening Service of the Mid-South District Convention on June 12, and is seeking singers from area Lutheran churches to join the Lutheran Community Choir for that evening. Rehearsals are at Christ the King, 5296 Park Avenue, on May 28, June 4, and June 11 at 6:30PM. (Attendance at two out of three rehearsals will work, with everyone expected to attend the June 11 rehearsal.) The choir will be conducted by CTK's Choir Director Mr. Chris Cardona. For more information, or to add your name to the choir, contact Genie Swan at 901-827-9223 or gswan@ctkmemphis.com. We would love to have you join us as we raise our voices in song!



Mid-South District Receives Two Candidates

The Mid-South District received two candidates for ministry at the Call Service at Concordia Seminary, St Louis on April 30, 2025. Pastor-elect Benjamin Heinz has been called to serve as Pastor for Athens Lutheran Church, Athens, TN; and Michael Saxton has been assigned as a convertible vicar at Grace Lutheran Church, Knoxville. Convertible vicars are assigned to a congregation which has the intention of issuing a Call to the vicar at the end of their vicarage year. There were three candidates from the Mid-South District who received their First Calls at the two seminaries of our Synod. *Pictured (L-R) are Michael Saxton, President Roger Paavola, and Benjamin Heinz.*



22ND REGULAR CONVENTION of the Mid-South District

**June 12-June 14, 2025
in Memphis**

The 22nd Regular Convention of the Mid-South District will take place Thursday, June 12-Saturday, June 14, 2025, at the East Memphis Hilton in Memphis. Delegates will gather under the convention theme "CHRIST: The Church's One Foundation," inspired by 1 Corinthians 3:10-11. The opening worship service and dinner will be hosted by Christ the King Lutheran Church (5296 Park Avenue, Memphis 38119) at 7:30 PM, with The Reverend Peter K. Lange, LCMS First Vice-President, preaching. We pray for safe travel for all those who will be a part of the convention and for God's blessing on our time together.

District Convention Offering to Support Education Debt Assistance Fund for Professional Church Workers

LCMS pastors, teachers, deaconesses and Directors of Christian Education (DCEs) are unique professionals whose careers are an answer to God's call to serve. Fulfilling this call includes education, which can be quite costly. That is why the Mid-South District is committed to supporting these professionals in their ministry by providing financial assistance for pastors and commissioned church workers who are burdened with significant educational debt. The offering gathered at the 22nd Regular Convention will be designated for this special fund. **The Mid-South District is also asking congregations to declare June 8 as "District Sunday," inviting members to share gifts toward the education debt assistance fund.** Please watch for the opportunity to support this fund at your home congregation. Gifts can also be shared online by [visiting mid-southlcms.org](https://visitingmid-southlcms.org), clicking "GIVE" and using the "restricted" field to designate the donation for the CHURCH WORKER EDUCATION DEBT FUND.

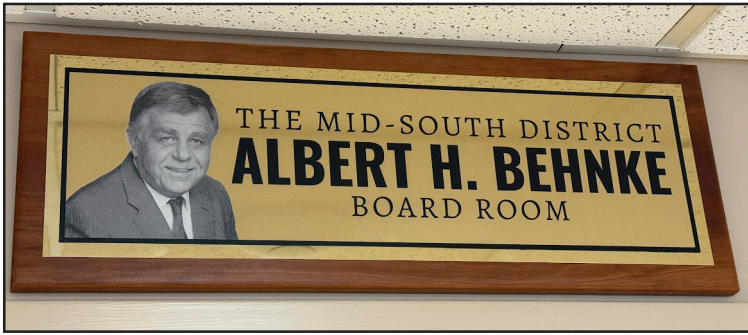
Don't be left in the dark...

Visit mid-southlcms.org

**for Updates & News During the
Mid-South District Convention—
including livestream links!**



Mid-South District Dedicates Board Room In Honor of Former Staff Member, Albert H. Behnke

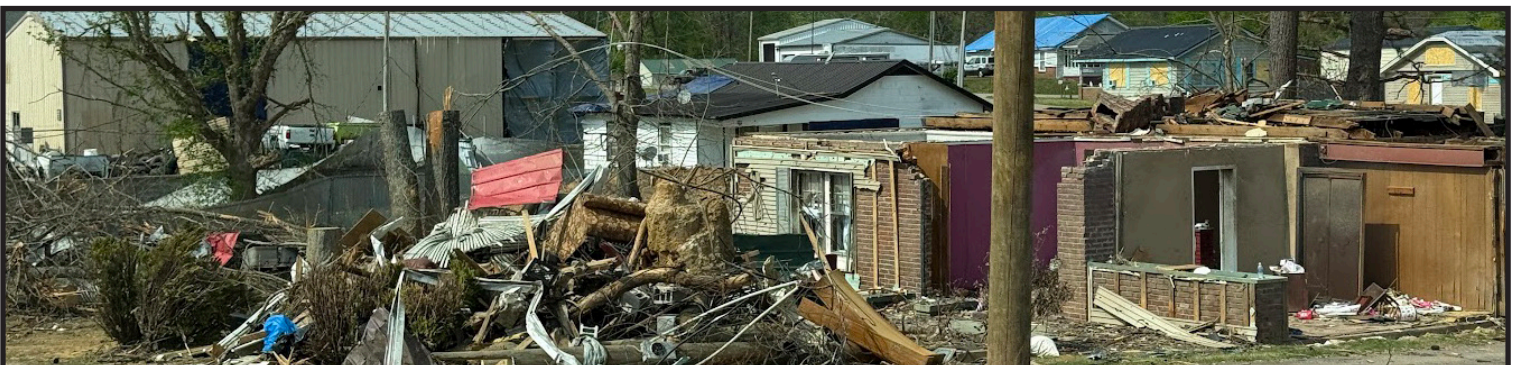


On Saturday, May 10, current and former District Staff welcomed the family of the late Albert H. Behnke to the Cordova, Tennessee office for a very special dedication ceremony. A plaque was unveiled naming the District's primary conference space the "Albert H. Behnke Board Room" in commemoration of the life and work of former Mid-South District staff member, Al Behnke. Al joined the Mid-South District staff in its founding year, 1966, to serve as Business Administrator and to build the new district's

church extension program. He later became the Mid-South's first District Vice President for the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) until his retirement in 1995. Called to glory in 2011, Al Behnke's legacy lives on today through continued district-wide support of the mission of LCEF and other programs that seek the expansion of God's Kingdom, both in the Mid-South and beyond.



The family of Al Behnke pose with the newly unveiled plaque outside the board room dedicated in his honor. Pictured (L to R) are Nick Keeling (holding Al's great-grandchild, Maxwell) with wife, Faith (Al's grand-daughter); Al's daughter, Christy Hill; Al's wife, Fina Behnke; son, Johnny Behnke; daughter-in-law, Bekah with husband, Jeff Behnke (Al's son) and great-grandchild, Rose; and Al's grandson, Jake. What a special gathering!



DISASTER RELIEF NEED CONTINUES ACROSS THE MID-SOUTH

This spring has seen an increase in severe weather activity, impacting numerous communities across the Mid-South. Through the District's Disaster Relief Fund, we are not only able to provide significant recovery assistance to these communities, but also direct grants to storm victims, helping them meet immediate needs as they begin to rebuild their lives. These efforts are made possible through generous donor support. If you are so moved, you may share a DISASTER RELIEF FUND gift at any time by visiting mid-southlcms.org.

District Now Accepting Applications for Student Financial Aid

[DEADLINE JUNE 15, 2025]

To support the education efforts of individuals pursuing a full-time career in church work, the Mid-South District is pleased to once again offer opportunities for student financial aid. To be considered for financial assistance, a student must be a member in good standing in a Mid-South District congregation and be enrolled in a seminary or university to prepare for full-time service to the Church as a rostered worker. Rostered workers are pastors, teachers, deaconesses and Directors of Christian Education.

To be considered for the student financial assistance program, you must first inform the Mid-South District Office that you are or will be a



student enrolled at a synodical school. All related forms, including the financial aid application, are on the District's website. The application deadline is June 15, 2025.

This information may be emailed to Lisa Pennington (lpennington@mid-southlcms.com) or submitted by regular mail to:

Mid-South District LCMS

Attn: Lisa Pennington

1675 Wynne Road

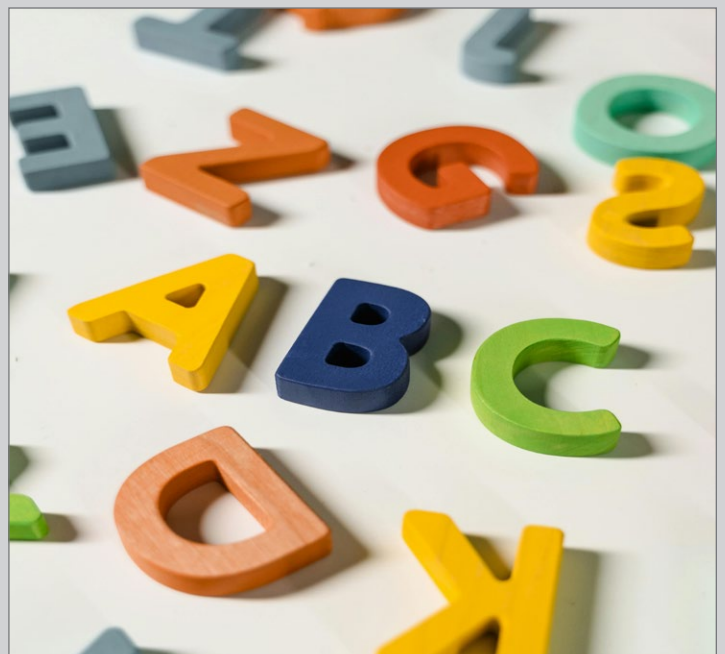
Cordova, TN 38016

Don't Miss the Opportunity to Apply for a Special Education Grant

Each year the Mid-South District offers special education grants to our Lutheran Schools. This funding was established to help congregations address the special needs of children who are, in some way, experiencing difficulties in learning.

Deadline June 30, 2025

Applications were sent to all district schools via email and are due by June 30, 2025. The complete Special Education Grant application (<https://mid-southlcms.org/schools/educator-resources/#speced>) materials are also available on the District website. For additional information, please contact Julie Tyler (jtyler@mid-southlcms.com).



Is It Time for a GROW Grant?

What is a GROW Grant? It is a financial contribution from the Mid-South District to support an innovative ministry program or initiative to reach new hearts with the Gospel. Does YOUR congregation have a great ministry or outreach concept that just needs a financial “boost” to get started? A Mid-South District GROW Grant just might be the answer! So far, GROW Grants have helped Mid-South District ministries start community food pantries, expand Parents’ Day Out programs, establish “English as a second language” classes, start Bible study and life-skill classes for local school children, and SO much more! You can learn more and apply for a grant at mid-southlcms.org/grow-grants/.



GROW Grants are for innovative ministry programs that emphasize the **G**ospel **R**eaching **O**ur **W**orld so that knowledge of God’s love, grace and mercy may grow.

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne President Issues Statement on Unsanctioned MDiv Programs

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne President, Dr. Jon S. Bruss, recently responded to questions and concerns regarding two online seminary programs being promoted by some within the LCMS. His official response begins, “Concerned members of our congregations have been asking me with increasing frequency, ‘What does Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (CTSFW), think about the two online MDiv programs that some in our Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) have been promoting?’” For the full response by Dr. Bruss, please visit the [Concordia-Fort Wayne website’s “News” page](#), where his statement appears as the top post.

A promotional banner for the Lutheran Summer Music 2025 Season. The banner features a collage of three images: a large orchestra performing, a group of people singing in a choir, and a group of people playing instruments. The text "LUTHERAN SUMMER MUSIC ACADEMY & FESTIVAL" is in the top left corner. The text "2025 SEASON" is in the center. The text "June 22-July 20, 2025" and "Valparaiso University, IN" is at the bottom left. The text "LSM" is in the top left corner. The text "LIVE FROM LSM" is in the bottom right corner, inside a circular logo.

GET READY FOR LSM2025!

Lutheran Summer Music invites you to join them at Valparaiso University from June 22 to July 20 for their 43rd season, featuring over 30 free concerts, recitals, and worship services. Can't make it in person? Watch online via Live from LSM! Highlights include the beloved Bach Cantata Eucharist, Festival of Hymns, and the debut Faculty Organ Recital. Don't miss Festival Week with powerful performances from the Festival Band, Orchestra, and Choir.

Read more in LSM's new season brochure: bit.ly/2025season

Visitor details and online access: LSMacademy.org/2025

The Henkel Conference

August 21-22, 2025

Rev. Gregory Bauch and the members of Ascension Lutheran Church in Madison, TN are pleased to announce the dates of the 2025 Henkel Conference: August 21-22. The Henkel Conference is a gathering devoted to Christian theology and cultural engagement. The purpose of the conference is to provide the best theological and cultural speakers within the Christian faith in order to educate and encourage in the midst of the present assaults on God's eternal truth. With this in mind, the event seeks to host a strong mix of clergy and laity. Pastor Bauch requests your aid in reaching friends, family, and congregation members who may wish to attend.

For complete details and online registration, please visit <https://www.ascensionmadison.com/henkel.html>.

Hope Lutheran Church in Batesville to Host Organ Recital & Hymn Sing in June

Hope Lutheran Church in Batesville, Arkansas (2415 E. Main St. Batesville 72501) is hosting its second NEA Organ Recital and Hymn Sing on Sunday, June 8 at 4:00 PM—and YOU are invited! The recital will be led by Concordia University-Wisconsin Pre-Seminary student, Malachi Heinecke, with guest musicians from All Saints Lutheran Church in Jonesboro and Redeemer Lutheran Church in Mountain Home. A meal will be served following the recital and hymn sing. To help with planning for the meal, RSVPs are requested. If you plan to attend, please email batesvillehopelutheran@gmail.com. Hope to see many from our Lutheran community there!



"Image by Andrei Antipov - stock.adobe.com"

Celebrating the Luther's 500th Wedding Anniversary with Concordia in Kingsport

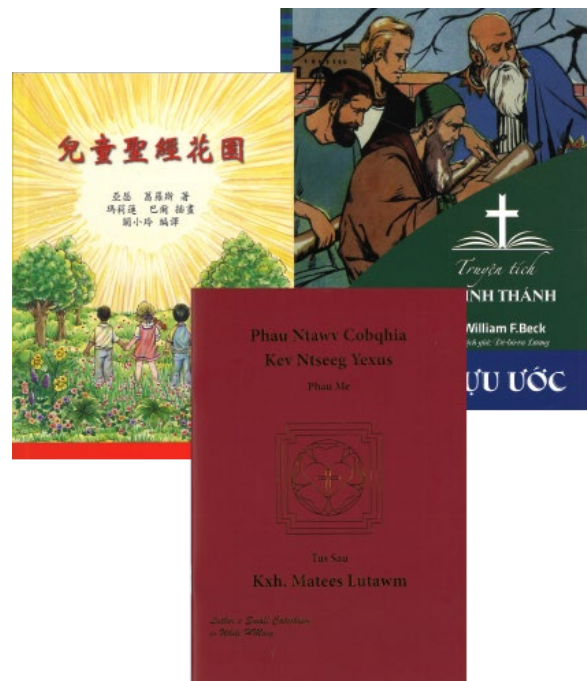
On Saturday, June 21 at 5:30 PM, Concordia Lutheran Church in Kingsport, Tennessee (725 Truxton Dr., Kingsport 37660) will celebrate the 500th anniversary of the wedding of Martin and Katherine Luther. The celebration will include a service of Blessing of Marriage and Renewal of Vows in the sanctuary, followed by a reception in the fellowship hall. The joyous celebration will recall that famous marriage of a former monk (Martin) to a former nun (Katie), and give an opportunity to share happy stories of those present. **All are invited!** If you plan to attend, please RSVP to the church office by calling (423) 247-3582 or emailing office@concordiakingsport.org by June 13.

Christ Academy Summer Program

Concordia Theological Seminary
Fort Wayne

More than ever, now is the time to pray that God would raise up pastors and deaconesses to share God's grace and mercy in our increasingly secular culture. You have a part to play in our Lord's life-giving ministry by encouraging high-school-aged men and women to attend Christ Academy High School at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana (CTSFW), June 15–28, 2025.

Christ Academy High School is a two-week program focused on worship, confessional catechesis, and fun times together. If you know a young person who would benefit from this experience, encourage them to register today! Details and online registration are available [HERE](#).



The Lutheran Heritage Foundation has a wide variety of resources available to share the Gospel with Asian immigrants in languages like Chinese (Simplified and Traditional), Vietnamese, and Hmong (Blue and White). From the Book of Concord and the Small Catechism to children's Bible storybooks, these resources are FREE for our LCMS congregations. Visit LHFmissions.org to see what LHF can send you!

*With upright heart he shepherded them
and guided them with his skillful hand.*

Psalm 78:72

Thanks be to God – More Schools Being Fed



As we reflect on the first half of the 2024-2025 school year, we are in awe of God's continued provision, guidance, and faithfulness. It is because of Him that Trinity HOPE is able to serve over 62,000 children each day throughout Haiti. In March, we were blessed to be able to add 18 new schools to our feeding programs. The addition of these schools is a tangible sign of God's presence, moving us beyond our expectations.

At the beginning of the year, we projected to have about 265 schools partnering with us; in actuality, we started 263. To say we are now serving 281 seems like a great deal of growth, and it is. This growth means the programs are reaching more communities and more families, even as safety concerns continue to rise. However, it has been made financially possible because attendance in our other 263 schools is not what we projected.

Our key takeaway at Trinity HOPE is that only God knows where we should be going. He knows where migration is leading the families, ***He knows where there are children***

who need His word the most, and He knows how to direct our path on this journey. The truth is families are migrating because of what's happening around them. However, the greater truth is that God is there to guide us to them.

One of the most poignant additions in these 18 schools is a "full circle" moment for Trinity HOPE: Jean Phillipe Paul, our first Haitian Feeding Program Director, (hired in 1999), is a living testament to this journey. In addition to being an FPD, Jean Phillipe has served as a pastor for many years and was officially ordained as a Lutheran Pastor in 2020. Since then, he has served as pastor for his church near Gros Morne, *Light on the Hill*. In 2022, his church started construction on a new school.

This photo is of children helping to build that school, stone by stone. Lumiere Sur La Colline is one of the schools we were able to start in, thanks to faithful donors like you. Thank you for continuing to trust us to do this work. Be encouraged by the fact that the food you help send IS getting to children because all our guidance is from God.

As we provide over 1 million meals each month, we do so with the knowledge that each meal is not just sustenance. It is also a chance for children to thrive. A chance for them to grow physically, mentally, and spiritually. Through the meals we provide, they are receiving the hope and peace found in Christ. This is the key to changing entire communities for generations to come.

All glory be to God for the opportunity to continue this work and for the many more blessings He has in store for us in the future. May His name be praised forever!

To learn more, please visit us at www.TrinityHOPE.org



Prayer Summary, May 2025

Following is a list of all the people that have appeared on the Mid-South District website prayer list www.mid-southlcms.com during the month of May.

PRAYER CONCERNS

REV. RONALD HALAMKA (Waxahachie, TX)
REV. PAUL DONNER (Emeritus, Paducah, KY)
MRS. ALISON HAWKINS (Mid-South District Office)
MRS. MARY ANN HERD (wife of Rev. Clifford Herd, Hixson, TN)
REV. TOM SAYRE (Emeritus, St. John's, FL)
REV. TOM MOORE (Emeritus, Cordova, TN)
REV. ALBERT EICHELBERGER (Emeritus, Knoxville, TN)
REV. ROGER STERLE (Living Savior Lutheran Church, Springdale, AR)
REV. DARRELL KOBBS (Emeritus, Russellville, AR)
REV. LUTHER HASZ (EM) and wife BARBARA (Jackson, TN)
MRS. DONNA LONGMAN (wife of Rev. Eric Longman, Rogers, AR)
MRS. FLORENCE EICHELBERGER (wife of Rev. Albert Eichelberger, Knoxville, TN)
MRS. NORMA MOORE (wife of Rev. Tom Moore, Emeritus, Cordova, TN)
MRS. JUNE WIESE (wife of former MDS Pastor, Rev. Ron Wiese)
MS. STEPHANIE ELSEROAD (daughter of Rev. Rich Elseroad (EM) Knoxville, TN)
MRS. ALICE MAYER (wife of Rev. Richard Mayer, Messiah Lutheran Church, Pea Ridge, AR)
MR. ROBERT NERGER (Former Mid-South District Board of Directors, Wartburg, TN)
MRS. RACHEL PREUS (wife of Mr. Samuel Preus, Director of Development, Lutheran Classical College, Wyoming District)

All those affected by recent tornadoes thought Arkansas, Missouri, Mississippi and Tennessee.

Rev. Trae Fistler and Kurt Ludwig, Mid-South District Disaster Relief Coordinators and all teams deployed in recovery efforts.

CALL UPDATE

IN THE CALLING PROCESS – CONGREGATIONS ORDAINED MINISTERS

ACCEPTED: **Pastor-Elect Benjamin Heinz** (Seminary Graduate, Concordia Seminary St. Louis, as accepted the Call to serve as Pastor to Athens Lutheran Church, Athens, TN. *Ordination and Installation date is planned for July 13, 2025.*

Rev. Robert McCanless, IIM, has accepted the Call to serve as Intentional Interim Pastor to St. John's Lutheran Church, Stuttgart, AR.

PENDING: **Rev. David Buchs**, Pastor to Concordia Lutheran Church, South Haven, MN as received a Call to serve as Pastor to Grace Lutheran Church, Little Rock, AR.

Rev. Andrew Abraham, Pastor to Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Crossville, TN has received a Call to serve as Pastor to Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Hermitage, TN.

Rev. Daniel Suelzle, Pastor to Wittenberg Lutheran Chapel, Grand Forks, ND has received a Call to serve as Associate Pastor and Teacher to All Saints Lutheran Church, Jonesboro, AR.

COMMISSIONED MINISTERS

ACCEPTED: **Ms. Claire Hall**, Commission Minister (Teacher) to Concordia Christian Academy, Tacoma, WA has accepted the Call to service as Middle School Math and Science teacher to Belvoir Christian Academy, Chattanooga, TN. *Installation date pending for July 2025.*

Ms. Kelly Moore (Candidate, Midland, TX) has accepted the Call to serve as Director to Grace Lutheran Early Childhood Center, Little Rock, AR. *Installation date pending for July 2025.*

VACANT CONGREGATIONS & MINISTRIES

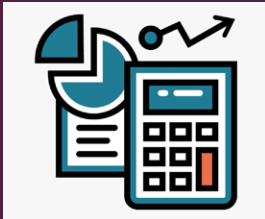
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Bowling Green, KY – Senior Pastor
Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Hermitage, TN – Senior Pastor
****Pending Call**
Grace Lutheran Church, Little Rock, AR – Senior Pastor
****Pending Call**

IN THE CALLING PROCESS - COMMISSIONED MINISTERS

Our Savior Lutheran Academy, Nashville, TN – Full-time PreK Teacher; Full-time and Part-time Preschool Teachers and Aides
Christ the King Lutheran School, Memphis, TN – Director of Christian Education; 3rd Grade Teacher; PE/Athletic Director; Art Teacher (Part-time)

Immanuel Lutheran School, Memphis, TN - 5th grade Teacher
1st Lutheran School, Knoxville, TN- Middle School Math; Several part time teaching positions

Grace Lutheran Church, Knoxville, TN – Director of Christian Education



Congregational Mission Commitments

Mission Commitment Receipts as of 4/30/2025 (4 Months)

Anticipated Amount (33.33% of budget)	535,340
Actual Receipts	<u>528,867</u>
Over (under) anticipated amount.....	(\$6,473)

Use of Mission Commitment Receipts (4 Months)

Allocated to Synod for World Missions	\$150,327
Allocated to Tanzania	8,333
Retained for District Mission/ Ministry Support (70% of receipts).....	<u>370,207</u>
Total Receipts	\$528,867

Mission Commitment Receipts Prior Year Comparison (4 Months)

Actual Receipts as of 4/30/2025.....	\$528,867
Actual Receipts as of 4/30/2024.....	<u>\$512,621</u>
Over (under) prior year receipts	\$16,246

Share your news with us!

Encourager Topics in 2025

We invite you to share your stories with us please email stories by 20th to Rhonda, webmaster@mid-southlcms.com. Here's a look at the upcoming topics for 2025
July — Veterans
Aug – Church Planting
Sep. — Stewardship

Lutheran Witness Supplement

The monthly deadline is the 15th. Please email your original high resolution digital photo (.pdf or .jpg files only) and a short paragraph, to The Lutheran Witness Supplement editor, Judy Otto.

Email: LW@mid-southlcms.com

phone: 662-252-1004. Judy will always acknowledge receipt of your submission if it is sent directly to her.

Mid-South District, Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

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Executive Director for Education, Youth & Family
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