

From: Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod synod@gulfcoastsynod.org
Subject: News from Around the Synod for the week of August 10, 2026
Date: August 10, 2026 at 3:45 PM
To: Warren and Penny theschicks839@gmail.com



Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

*A Network of Christ-Centered, Outwardly-Focused, Faith-Growing
Communities for the Sake of the World*

Weekly News & Announcements

August 10, 2026

Coming in September 2026



LEAD's Love Our Neighbors
C O H O R T

LEAD's Love Our Neighbors Cohort

What does it look like to love the neighbors around our church buildings?

As our neighborhoods, world, and connections to one another continue to change each day, it becomes vital for our congregational leaders to strengthen their roots in the neighborhoods where they are planted. We don't have to do this work alone - we can do this together in community.

You are invited to LEAD's Love Our Neighbors Cohort where you will learn and practice the important tools to get connected to your church neighbors.

Register by Sept 4.

Register



Ready to set a strong strategic direction for your congregation or judicatory?

ZOOM INFO MTG
08.19.26
11:30AM CT



Set a Strategic Direction!

NOW is the time to consider Strategic Planning process for your congregation! LEAD's unique process starts with deep listening to God in scripture,

congregation and the neighbors and ends with an actionable plan with first steps outlined.

Ready to take the next step in your congregational ministry?

Consider LEAD to do this important work with your leaders!

Learn more about how we work with congregations on Wed, Aug 19th at 11:30amCT via Zoom.

[Learn More](#)

[Register](#)



Upbring[®]

Support Upbring during “God's Work. Our Hands.”

If you are looking for a service project to host during “God’s Work. Our Hands.”, please consider supporting Upbring. We are in need of two types of kits for the children, families, and individuals in our care:

- Family Connection Kits provide everything a young family needs for a meaningful evening together, including a family-friendly meal and activity.
- Care Kits provide vital hygiene supplies for individuals served by our Health for Friends Clinic

We would be honored by your support in creating these kits for the people we serve. Please [contact Katie Evans](#) for more information.





Parish Administrator, Peace Lutheran Church

Full-time position as parish administrator in Brazos Valley at Peace Lutheran Church, College Station, TX.

Job Description



A modern roadmap to connection through Christ

Men's Ministry Guide



LMM Men's Ministry Guide

Originally found in the front of the [Master Builder Bible](#), this renowned guide to building men's ministry can now be found within the ["Men's Toolkits"](#) link at the bottom of our webpage.

Download



LMM 2x4 Men's Retreat

In 2026, LMM developed the first of a series of "2x4 Retreats."

This 2x4 retreat model is designed to help small groups and churches have a half-day retreat for men to learn, grow and have some fun along the way. Created in response to a common request from across the country for an all-in-one retreat that could be done locally with little training or resources.

This experience is meant to be done in person and not virtually. The small group interaction and feedback will be essential to the success of the retreat.

View the initial release of "Jesus' Call for All of Us" as found on LMM webpage under ["Men's Toolkits"](#).

[Download Template](#)



Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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SPIRITUAL
Care
TRAINING

Join this three-session cohort in spiritual care, equipping lay leaders to accompany others with Christ's compassion and presence. Grounded in our shared baptismal call, we will grow together over three sessions—participants are asked to be present for each one.

SATURDAY
SEPT 19TH, OCT 24TH, NOV 21ST
Martin Luther Lutheran Church,
Carmine, TX
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
FREE | Lunch provided

Registration **NOW OPEN**

For more information contact
DEACON AIMEE ELLES
Bishop's Associate for Candidacy & Education

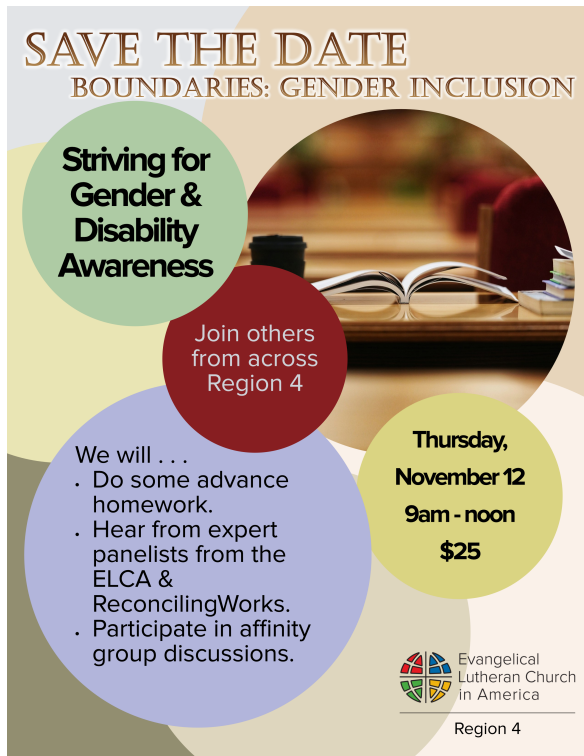


Join this three-session cohort in spiritual care, equipping lay leaders to accompany others with Christ's compassion and presence. Grounded in our shared baptismal call, we will grow together over three sessions—participants are asked to be present for each one on **Saturday, September 19, October 24, and November 21, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM** at Martin Luther Lutheran Church, Carmine, TX. Registration opens August 1, 2026 and is free. Lunch will be provided. *Registration closes on September 15.*

[Register Online](#)

[Contact Deacon Aimee Elles](#)

[Download Flyer](#)



Join others from across Region 4 on **Thursday, November 12, from 9am-12noon** for a boundaries training on gender inclusion, "Striving for Gender & Disability Awareness." We will:

- Do some homework in advance.
- Hear from expert panelists from the ELCA & ReconcilingWorks.
- Participate in affinity group discussions.

Cost is \$25. More information coming soon!

Upcoming Events

August 13, 2026

[Intentional Interim Ministry Discernment Event](#)

August 16, 2026

[Willie Langdji \(CAR\) Presentation](#)

August 19, 2026

[LEAD Strategic Planning Info Meeting](#)

September 4, 2026

[Love Our Neighbors Cohort registration deadline](#)

September 12, 2026

[Lutherhill Ministries 20th Annual S'mores & Champagne Gala](#)

September 15, 2026

[Intentional Interim Ministry Discernment Event](#)

September 19, 2026

[Spiritual Care Training begins](#)

September 19-20, 2026

[Faith Lutheran Church Celebration](#)

Synod Partners



LEAD: Living Every Day As Disciples
LEAD is a Christian leadership development organization that is nurtured by this synod to be a gift to the whole church.



Lutheran Men In Mission
Opportunities
For more information on LMM,
contact Randy Bratsven, or read
their Ambassador-Grams.



Lutherans Restoring Creation
For more information on LRC,
contact the Lisa Brenskelle. The
team is seeking additional
members.



Creation Care
For more information on Creation
Care, contact Lisa Brenskelle.



Lutherhill Ministries
Lutherhill Ministries is a Summer
Camp and year-round Retreat
Center at two locations – [Lutherhill
in La Grange, TX](#) and [Lutherhill in
Galveston, TX](#).

Live On
[Live On](#) is the endowment fund of
the Gulf Coast Synod. Together with
the synod, we are developing
Lutheran leadership through a
culture of generosity.

ELCA

News

Resources

Our Work

Job Openings

Monthly Mission Support Memo



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