



# Central South District

## THE TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*The Heart of Houston*

Central South District News

July 2022

## *Congratulations and Welcome*

**Congratulations to those from the Central South District who were ordained and commissioned during the 2022 Session of the Annual Conference.**

*Ordained:* Katie Eichler

*Commissioned:* Tiffany Chandler, Damon Fraylon, Mary Katherine "Katy" Sabayrac & Kanika Douglas

**Join us in welcoming these clergy who are either returning to or joining our district in their new appointments:**

First UMC Senior Pastor - Rev. Lance Richards  
Jones Memorial UMC Assoc Pastor - Rev. Dorothy Smith-Hubbard  
Servants of Christ UMC Senior Pastor - Rev. Trey Comstock  
St. John's UMC Associate Pastor - Rev. Rick Nance, Sr.  
St. Luke's UMC Associate Pastor - Rev. Colin Bagby  
St. Mark's UMC (Pecore) Assoc. Pastor - Rev. Virginia Griggs  
St. Paul's UMC Associate Pastor - Rev. Trey Burns  
Westbury UMC Senior Pastor - Rev. Eleanor Colvin  
West University UMC Associate Pastor - Rev. Emmanuel Afful  
West University UMC Associate Pastor - Dr. Henry Everitt

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**We embody the Mission and Vision of the Texas Annual Conference**

***Mission:*** Equip congregations to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world to the glory of God.

***Vision:*** Vibrant, growing congregations changing lives and reshaping futures for Jesus Christ.

## Future Discernment Task Force

Central South District's Future Discernment Task Force Meeting (FDTF) will be held on Saturday, August 6, 2022, at 2:00 pm at St. Paul's UMC located at 5501 Main Street Houston, TX 77004. Senior Pastors should have received the email with registration link to share with your congregation. If you did not receive the email please contact the district office. For more information on this meeting, you can go to <https://www.txcumc.org/FDTF>

## Charge Conferences

Charge Conference will be held in clusters this year, information was sent to the senior pastors regarding your scheduled date. If you did not receive the email, please contact us at [csdistrict@txcumc.org](mailto:csdistrict@txcumc.org). Forms will need to be in the district office two weeks prior to your scheduled cluster meeting.



The graphic features a book cover on the left titled "CANOEING THE MOUNTAINS" by TOD BOLSINGER, EXPANDED EDITION, with the subtitle "CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP IN UNCHARTED TERRITORY". The cover shows two wooden oars. On the right, a yellow circle contains the text "Clergy Gathering September 26-28 Lakeview Conference Center". The Texas Annual Conference United Methodist Church logo is in the top right. At the bottom, it says "Register for Clergy Gathering".

## Innovation Grant

The next grant cycle has begun for the Fall awards. To help your church start a new 'innovative' project in your community, plan to attend the August 27th Innovation Lab in Houston. Come with an idea in mind or come to get inspired. Seating is limited!

To learn more and register go to [TAC Innovation](#)



## *Prayer Request*

Our deepest condolences are extended to the family of Rev. Audrey Mitchell who passed away on Thursday, July 21<sup>st</sup>. The family has shared the final arrangements: Funeral services will be held on Thursday, July 28, 2022, at Trinity East UMC located at 2418 McGowen St. Houston, TX 77004. The viewing will be at 10:00 am and the service at 11:00 am.

## Local Church Disaffiliation

### 7 SIMPLE STEPS

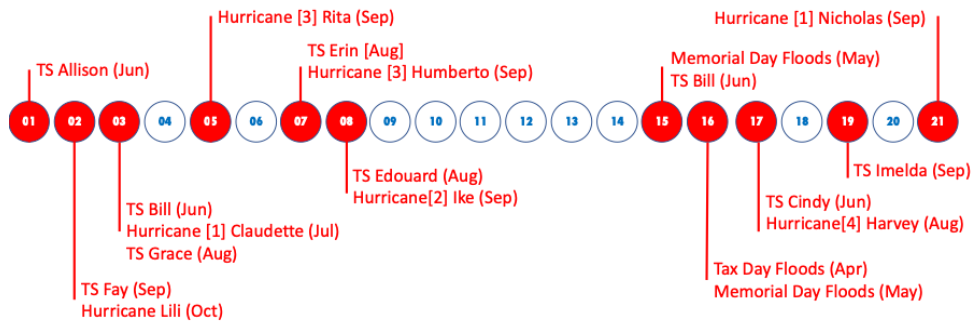
While other approvals may be necessary as well, the following are the minimum requirements for the Texas Annual Conference to approve a local church disaffiliation under the current Book of Discipline:

1. First, members of the local church must complete an appropriate process of discernment. The determination of whether a process is appropriate is made by the church's District Superintendent.
2. After the local church nears completion of the process of discernment, the annual conference will calculate apportionment and unfunded pension liability estimates for that local church.
3. The local church may vote to move forward with the disaffiliation process. To move forward, disaffiliation must be affirmed by a simple majority (§2548.2) or a two-thirds majority (§2553) of a duly called church conference.
4. The local church must pay in full the previous year's apportionments and the current year's apportionments.
5. The local church must pay in full the unfunded pension liability, as calculated by the TAC Board of Pensions in accordance with Wespeth's guidance.
  1. The valuation is based on a market valuation of unfunded liability
  2. The valuation takes in to account the local church's share of the liability
  3. The valuation gives the local church credit for its contributions to the Conference's pension reserves with credit for earning over time.
6. The local church must complete all forms in accordance with GCFA's disaffiliation guidance.
7. After all the foregoing steps have been completed, the TAC may vote to release the local church from any obligations under the trust clause in §2503 in accordance with the then applicable Book of Discipline.

For additional information visit <https://www.txcumc.org/local-church-disaffiliation>



Living on the Gulf Coast, we know Tropical Storms, Hurricanes, and even “training thunderstorms” are a way of life. It is only a matter of time before the next flooding event.



In the past, we made flood buckets to help homeowners. After Harvey, we see an opportunity to **Level Up** our game! In July, the Texas Annual Conference and the Central South district are collecting essential tools that early responders can use to muck-gut-and-tarp homes damaged by tropical weather.

We have prepared a list of tools we need to equip teams. The tools can be new or “gently used.” We ask that you collect them at your church, box them, label the box, and take them to one of our regional drop-off sites\* or our master collection site at Bellaire UMC by July 1<sup>st</sup>. The kits will be assembled at the TAC Depot, and complete kits will be stored at the depot and churches throughout the Conference and the Central South District.

Friends, we are lucky to get more than 72 hours’ notice before a storm strikes – too late to go shopping! Our kits will make a difference in how quickly we can respond and share the love of Christ with our neighbors in their time of need.

Our district’s goal is 24 kits by August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Together, we can

**Level Up** ↑

Please email [gary.flaharty@gmail.com](mailto:gary.flaharty@gmail.com) if your church can serve as a drop-off site. Drop-off sites will be listed on the district website. (<https://csdistrict.org>)

# LEVEL UP TOOL DRIVE

Help the Texas Annual Conference **Level Up** ↑ our response to future storms by participating in the conference-wide Tool Drive of **new and gently used tools** to equip our early responders. Below is a list of tools and quantities needed to outfit a Muck-Gut-and-Tarp team.

**Our Goal for Central South is 24 Kits!**

Bring your tools to church in July. We are collecting them at \_\_\_\_\_.

Equipment for a six-person team							
 (2) prybars or wonder bars	 (2) hammers	 (2) 25' tape measures	 (2) chalk lines	 chalk refill	 (4) utility knives & extra blades	 (2) push brooms	 (2) floor squeegees
 phillips & flat screwdrivers	 3lb sledgehammer	 moisture meter	 (2) 6-foot ladders	 (2) stepstools	 (2) wheelbarrows	 (2) pair pliers	 hacksaw
 (6 pair) goggles	 (2) 16' ext ladders	 wire cutters	 plumbing wrench	 crescent wrench	 (2) 50' extension cords	 18" crowbar	 tin snips
 first aid kit	 Mop & Bucket	 (2) Five-gallon buckets	 DEWALT Drill, battery, charger, bits	 roll caution tape	 Pump Sprayer	 (2) Scoop Shovels	 dolly
 wet/dry shop vac	 dehumidifiers	 fans	 2 to 2-1/2" deck screws	 staple gun & extra staples	 pop up tent for shelter	 (2) heavy duty brooms	 Ice chest

Master Collection Site

**Bellaire UMC**

**4417 Bellaire Blvd. Bellaire TX 77401**

Monday-Thursday, 9 AM – 3 PM, Friday 9 AM – noon

or email for pickup: [gary.flaharty@gmail.com](mailto:gary.flaharty@gmail.com)

## CENTRAL SOUTH DISTRICT OF THE TEXAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**Rev. Dr. Elijah A. Stansell, Jr. – District Superintendent**

**Ms. Marylyn Green – District Administrator**

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(inside the Texas Annual Conference Service Center)

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