



Oklahoma District
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
Office of the President
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January 24, 2026

Dear Pastor Muenchow and the Members of Messiah Lutheran Church,

The Lord bless us during this Epiphany season in the Light of Christ for all nations!

My wife Kathy and I want to extend a hearty and grateful “Thank you!” to all of you for hosting the Retirement Celebration you had in our honor on Friday November 7th. It was so gracious of you to allow our congregation, Trinity Lutheran in Norman, to have this event in your building. I retired from being a pastor in a parish for 43 years, since 1982. I continue to serve as the Oklahoma District President.

So much of what happened was a surprise to me. I knew the event was taking place. However, I did not know that all my siblings, my sisters in law and my mother would come from all around the country to be there. I did not know that 14 of my former 36 Vicars would attend. I did not know about the pastors and their wives who would attend. I did not know the guitarist Edgar Cruz would provide the music. I did not know about all the wonderful food and drink that would be prepared. It was the greatest surprise of my life!

My apologies for this letter being sent so long after the event. We have been so wrapped up and busy with retiring from the parish, packing up my whole office and now moving the district office to St. John’s Lutheran Church in Moore. All of my books are still unpacked. There are 40 boxes!

I want to thank Pastor Muenchow who also serves as our 2nd Vice President of the District in the Central Region. He is working with Trinity Lutheran in Norman and leading the congregation, board of elders and call committee through the process of calling their next pastor. He is doing wonderful work with my former members and they are very grateful for his expertise and guidance.

I look forward to preaching at your divine services there on Sunday February 15. As your district president, I will be planning visits to as many of our congregations as possible during the next 30 months.

As we continue the work we highlighted at our 2025 Oklahoma District Convention, we focus on the “Set Apart to Serve” emphasis, to pray to the Lord of the harvest, to raise up more workers in his harvest fields. May the Lord bless all of you in your congregation in your service to Christ Jesus in 2026!

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. David Nehrenz
Oklahoma District President