

CHATTER

Texas District CEF Newsletter



CELEBRATING IN SAN ANTONIO!

By Senior Pastor Chris Kennedy

As the crowd flooded into the building, they walked past monuments of the church's past and stepped into a space that points to the church's future. The people entered into an expansive gym, filled with folding chairs. At the front of the room, an elevated platform was decorated with a processional cross, banners, and candles. Inside their new Family Life Center, the congregation of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in San Antonio praised God for the gift of a building designed to move ministry forward, a building made possible with funding from Texas District CEF.

The dedication service on Aug. 13 was the culmination of years of prayer, discussion, planning, and, of course, construction. The purpose of the building is to enhance the ministry of the church, school, and child care, and to provide a space that the community can use for events, receptions, meetings, and other functions.

The building contains several elements that filled needs on campus at Shepherd. On the first floor, the gym is more than twice the size of the former gym and allows for games for all ages and tournaments. The school offices provide a spacious setting for administration of the day-to-day operations of Shepherd's school and child care, currently enrolling about 330 children. Upstairs, the meeting rooms, known as the Sky Rooms, provide ample space for Bible studies, meetings, and other group activities. Also upstairs is a fine arts hall for children to learn and rehearse for band, hand bells, and other music education.

Throughout the building, six stained glass windows adorn the walls. These windows were preserved from the original church building, which was constructed in 1969 and torn down in 2019 to make way for the new building, a project the congregation voted to undertake in honor of the church's 50th anniversary. The project became known as Shepherd @ 50.

SEPTEMBER 2023 RATES

FIXED RATE	FLOATING RATE	CONGREGATIONS
One Year Note 3.600% (3.65% APY)	One Year Note 2.500% (2.52% APY)	Savings 1.250% (1.26% APY)
Three Year Note 3.250% (3.29% APY)	Three Year Note 2.650% (2.68% APY)	Building Fund 3.000% (3.04% APY)
Five Year Note 3.000% (3.03% APY)	Five Year Note 2.950% (2.98% APY)	
Jumbo Investment** 3.850% (3.91% APY)	Flex Savings 1.000% (1.00% APY)	
	Rainy Day Fund* 1.250% (1.26% APY)	

** \$100,000 minimum investment. 18-month term.

*Amounts over \$10,000 receive the Flex Savings rate

From beginning to end, Texas District CEF and Shepherd of the Hills have walked arm in arm as ministry partners. “We could not have done this without CEF,” said Rev. Dr. Christopher Kennedy, Shepherd’s senior pastor. “Becca Jones and her team have been so flexible, so ministry minded, and such a joy to work with. We’re incredibly grateful for everything that CEF has done.”

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extra 1% interest rate through Texas
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CELEBRATE CEF THIS FALL!

Join your fellow Texas LCMS congregations in celebrating CEF this year. This year’s theme is **SERVING A HIGHER PURPOSE**. Your congregation can celebrate CEF any Sunday this fall that is the most convenient for your busy schedules. Items will be available for download and to order for as early as celebrating Sunday, September 24. Don’t wait until the last minute! Sometimes the post office takes longer than we prefer to deliver items.

Inserts and posters will be available to order as well as items like bulletin blurbs and graphics available for download. It’s time to decide which Sunday you would like to celebrate CEF! Keep an eye out for an email with ordering information coming soon!



Through investments from Texas District LCMS congregations and their members, Church Extension Fund will be the preferred financial resources partner for district ministries focused on multiplying followers of Jesus.

All individual Texas District CEF investments (FLEX, fixed and floating rate notes) may be included in a person’s IRA portfolio, through our custodian GoldStar Trust Company. www.texascef.org/ira.html (1) Subject to penalty for early withdrawal. (2) Rates subject to change. Rates reviewed monthly. Texas District Church Extension Fund is a nonprofit religious organization; therefore, CEF investments are not SIPC or FDIC-insured bank deposit accounts. This does not constitute an offer to sell or a request to buy. The offer is made solely by CEF’s Offering Circular.