



## Northern Texas - Northern Louisiana Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America God's work. Our hands.

*The Rev. Dr. Kevin S. Kanouse*  
Bishop  
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### **Statement of Response to Pastor Purcell's Email**

Pastor Michael Purcell has recently served notice through email to congregations and individuals in the NT-NL Synod indicating that he may present a motion at the upcoming Synod Assembly seeking to petition for Bishop Kanouse's removal from office. In reply to this allegation, the following summary is offered now.

Pastor Purcell was removed as Executive Director of Briarwood Lutheran Ministries by the Briarwood Board of Directors using established and proper procedures. He pursued his grievance against Briarwood through legal action in the courts; the matter was settled in a timely and appropriate way. Bishop Kanouse's responsibility for the oversight of ministries and ministers of the synod is exercised as he offers care, guidance, and counsel as he intervenes in situations of allegations of misconduct or conflict. These duties were also fulfilled faithfully and correctly. If you have any questions you may contact Stephanie Varnum, Vice President of the Synod Council.

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