LIVING WORD, GRAPEVINE

Texas District

FROM IRIS FARM TO SANCTUARY

Living Word, Grapevine traces its roots to 1966, when the Lutheran Church in America learned that a new international airport would be built near Grapevine, Texas. The LCA purchased land on what was then an iris farm and waited for the right time to plant a congregation there. That congregation was founded in 1980 and met at Dove Elementary School until 1983, when its first sanctuary was completed. In August 2009, actions taken by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America led the congregation to seek a new church home, and in 2010 Living Word joined LCMC and the Texas District.

LIVING OUT DISCIPLESHIP

Guided by a mission of “preaching, teaching and reaching,” Living Word centers its life together on six biblical marks of discipleship: praying daily, worshiping weekly, studying the Bible, witnessing to others, fostering relationships, and practicing faithful stewardship. Those marks take shape in a wide range of ministries built to help members grow in Christ at every age and season of life.

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A MINISTRY FOR EVERY SEASON OF LIFE

This full slate of ministries gives members and their families a place to belong at every stage, from the nursery to retirement, including youth and children's ministry, a children's music ministry, women's and men's ministry, a variety of small groups, a Sanctity of Life team, and a GriefShare support group.

MISSIONS

Thirty mission partners, including three missionary families, carry the congregation's support around the world, from the Christian Academy of Las Torres in Nicaragua and the Josephine House orphanage in Peru, alongside partnerships with Wycliffe Bible Translators, Lutheran World Relief, and the World Mission Prayer League. Closer to home, members serve monthly with Union Gospel Mission, support Angel Tree and Thanksgiving food drives, and partner with The Gatehouse to provide Bibles and devotionals to women and children in crisis, with mission trips taking place throughout the year.

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CONTINUING TO LEARN THE WORD

There are many ongoing ways to grow in Scripture and doctrine, for every age and stage of faith, from adult education studies to weekly devotionals, blogs, and workshops for those looking to keep growing in their faith.

PRESCHOOL AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

A tuition-free preschool, fully funded by the church, serves the community, with enrollment priority given to those without a church home or with financial need. A recent “Everything Is Free” event gave away items varying from furniture, clothing, bicycles, toys, and shoes to more than 300 people. The congregation’s online outreach includes weekly devotionals, blogs and a podcast.

LIVING WORD STAFF

Living Word is served by Pastor David Eibel, Senior Pastor; Pastor Kari Malinak, Pastor of Discipleship; Denise Eibel, Director of Music Ministries; David Coulson, Director of Youth Ministries; and Steve Burke, Director of Social Media and Ministry.