

2022 Thrive Ministry Report

Monica deGarmeaux, Director of Thrive
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Thrive exists to create a safe place for lead pastors' wives to come as they are, grow in relationship with other lead pastors' wives in our district and gain equipping for life and ministry. While our mission is primarily carried out through our virtual small group communities, called Thrive Groups, and our Spiritual Renewal Retreats, we are blessed to be able to provide even more ways for women to connect to the ministry of Thrive. As the ministry of Thrive continues to grow, it is through each of these unique facets of the ministry that we are able to bring elements of light and life to more lead pastors' wives amidst the ongoing challenges of navigating life and ministry in their local churches and in the world today.

2022 saw the start of multiple new initiatives to meet the needs of many of the lead pastors' wives in our district. Through added virtual training opportunities, seasonal retreats (each with their own unique emphasis), and a summer book club, we saw lead pastors' wives from all over Texas and Oklahoma grow personally and in ministry through the support and equipping received through Thrive. Because we believe that each of these women matter, we are excited to continue to offer and develop these offerings for the benefit of all lead pastors' wives in our district.

Thrive is in the midst of an active and delightful year that started in the fall. Our monthly Thrive Groups are growing in relationship as well as exploring the nature of "calling" and the power of its influence in the everyday stuff of life. Our seasonal Spiritual Renewal retreats are providing space for lead pastors' wives to not only connect with others, but also take deeper dives into important practices for life and ministry such as soul care, God's call to remember, spiritual disciplines, and prayer. Add on top of that a Bible Study Methods online workshop, a summer book club reading of *The Great Sex Rescue* by Sheila Gregoire, and the continuation of our fun and informative quarterly newsletter, Kindred Spirits...the EFCA TX-OK district is proud to be able to offer so many meaningful opportunities for our lead pastors' wives to connect, grow, and receive equipping for life and ministry.

It has been quite a year of seeing the Lord go before us in some of our ministry endeavors, as well as His faithful tending to the deepening and establishing of others. As we look to the year ahead, we are dependent and expectant as we continue to trust God with our desire to serve and involve more lead pastors' wives in Thrive, grow in the depths of our relationship with Him and with each other, as well as gain equipping for life and ministry...all by His grace and for His glory.

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