



Thrive Ministry Report

Monica deGarmeaux, EFCA TX-OK Director of Thrive
District Business Meeting
Friday, February 23, 2024

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. Our mission is carried out through our virtual small group communities and our Spiritual Renewal Retreats. Even as the ministry has changed over the last year, we are still 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.

2023 saw the transition of Thrive from a multi-initiative ministry for Lead Pastor's Wives to focusing primarily on our virtual small group community, called Thrive Groups, and our Spiritual Renewal Retreats. This summer Thrive hosted another successful monthly book club where we read and processed together, *The Six Conversations: Pathways to Connecting in an Age of Isolation and Incivility* by Heather Holleman. Meaningful conversations developed from our reading as we considered how to love people well through our presence and show sincere interest in them through the questions we ask. Our third Soul Care retreat was much anticipated as women from all over our district gathered to meet with God and connect with each other. Because we believe that each of these women matter, we are excited to continue to offer and develop the Thrive Group and retreat offerings of this ministry 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 Group continues to grow in depth of relationship as well as diving into the implications of life and ministry for us in our different contexts. In January, our Spiritual Renewal retreat focused on creating a Rule of Life to help us abide in Christ in all of life and ministry. The EFCA TX-OK District is proud to be able to offer these 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!

CONTACT

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