

Lutheran Campus Ministry to merge with the Denton Wesley

Beginning in the Fall 2024 semester, Lutheran Campus Ministry in Denton will be merging with the Denton Wesley for a three year period of discernment and exploration. Since the spring of 2020, the leadership of LCM and the Wesley have engaged in conversation about how our respective ministries could work together to share the inclusive Good News of Christ on the UNT campus. Since then, as LCM has rented space from the Wesley we noticed a significant overlap in our ministry to the UNT student community; such as students participating in both ministries' worship and bible studies, Thursday evening LCM meals leading students to the Wesley food pantry, and both ministries continued commitment to be welcoming and affirming campus ministries for the LGBTQIA+ community.

During the Fall 2023 semester, the LCM board in conversation with Bishop Gronberg discerned that our current model of part time campus ministry was not providing enough connections with the Denton university communities and that funding sources had been declining since the Covid-19 pandemic. In light of this discernment for increased pastoral presence and current financial limitations, Pastors Jim Rowe (LCM) and Marianne Browne-Trigg (the Denton Wesley) developed a three year plan for joint ministry that allows for further discernment and exploration of our shared goals with the approval of both boards and leadership of the Northern Texas - Northern Louisiana synod and the North Texas Conference of the UMC. This three year plan for joint ministry will be served by Pastor Marianne and part of the LCM board will join the Denton Wesley board during this three year period.

We are thankful for the years of faithful ministry to, and with, the University communities in Denton. Since its inception in the later 1980s, LCM has impacted the lives of college students in very real and powerful ways. Students have been baptized, affirmed their faith, became leaders in their congregations, served the less fortunate, received free food, made lifelong friends, and have heard the good news of God's radical love and acceptance in Christ Jesus.

This is a Holy Week moment. As we mourn the end of LCM in its current iteration, we are excited for the resurrection and new life of inclusive campus ministry in Denton to come. We ask for your continued prayer and support for campus ministry in Denton as LCM and the Wesley enter into this three year period of discernment and shared ministry. If you would like to learn more about the Denton Wesley head to www.thedentonwesley.org.

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY & WESLEY FOUNDATION

A 3-Year
Discernment &
Collaboration
Plan

NEXT STEPS

In 2027, ELCA Board Members & Wesley staff will engage in conversation with Synod on continued partnership or a LCM relaunch.

CONNECTION

LCM Board Members will join the Wesley Board. The Wesley will report annually to the Synod & collaborate with ELCA congregations

PROGRAMS

Wesley, a United Methodist Campus Ministry, will provide spiritual care and discipleship programs for new & existing ELCA students

PRAY FOR

Wisdom in discernment
Grace in the transition
Students
Campus ministers
Board
Campuses

SERVE

Free Burger Cook-Out
Food Pantry Drives
Finals Week Care
Packs
Landscaping
Building Care
Career mentoring
Greeters

FINANCES

The Wesley will continue to be supported primarily by the UMC, with additional support from the Synod

DONATE

Denton Wesley Foundation
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CONTACT

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givebutter.com/wesley