



**“Living out a life of Love,
Labor, and Liberty -
together with
our Lord!”**

History of Life Covenant Baptist Church Bonham, Texas

In the Spring of 2000, 10 families began meeting for worship and prayer. Out of this time together, this group sensed a calling by God to start a new church in Fannin County with an emphasis on being above all else, purely a Bible-based church. At the same time, God was working in the heart and life of a Pastor who was being trained by the North American Mission Board in Tulsa, Oklahoma to be a church planter.

Over a three month period – God put this pastor and these 10 families together. And so On June 3rd of 2000, Life Covenant Baptist Church of Bonham, Texas was born with its first service held in the Depot Feed Store in Bonham - Brother David W. Bradley being its founding Pastor; planting along North American Mission Board guidelines.

Over the next year, Mr. Ron Sudderth and Mr. Bryce McIntyre were called alongside Brother Bradley as elders of LCBC. Mr. Jeff Irvin, and Mr. Bernie Holder were called as Deacons and together with the elders formed LCBC’s Church Council. Constitution and By-laws were developed. Membership in the Fannin Baptist Association was gained. The church was also incorporated.

This same year God opened a door to move locations to the Bonham Housing Authority Community Center where the church met for the next 5 years. These years were full of ministry to those in the Housing Authority community - especially the children and youth.

AWANA was started with 75 children in 2001 which fueled fruitful Vacation Bible Schools for the next 5 years and also the formation of W.O.W., (Walking Opposite the World), our Youth Ministry, Co-led By Mr. Dusty Compton, and for several years, Mr. Mike Burkard. AWANA was discontinued in 2002 as the Lord led Life Covenant to focus on the Student Ministry of W.O.W.

In 2003, Pastor Dave was moved by the Lord to pursue bi-vocational work at Bonham schools as a part-time Assistant Band Director – this opening up a tremendous ministry outreach to the youth of the county.

In 2005, LCBC moved to its current location at the Wise Funeral Home Chapel on Sam Rayburn Drive in Bonham. W.O.W moved to the Kiva Auditorium at Bonham High School.

In 2007 God provided an old historic home on 6th Street for W.O.W to move to and then in 2009, led W.O.W to combine with Trinity Baptist youth in Bonham, meeting at Trinity's location.

In 2010, LCC began again, a new AWANA program for all age groups including Jr. high and High School.

Also In 2010, Pastor Dave was hired full time at Bonham ISD, and congregational worship services were moved from Sunday mornings to Wednesday Nights, - Sundays being reserved for individual family worship in the home.

At this writing, Life Covenant, in June of 2011 will be starting its 12th year in Bonham. God has blessed immeasurably. Never having had its own location, God has sustained the church in amazing ways, and produced much fruit through her. Pastor Bradley continues to be our pastor. Mr. Sudderth continues to serve as an elder, Mr. Irvin and Mr. Holder continue to serve as Deacons; Mr. Compton continues to lead W.O.W.

In addition, God has led our families to adopt 5 children from Russia, 4 from Burma, foster others, and do a wide range of ministry in Fannin county and elsewhere, including; presenting the gospel to many, many people, seeing well over 500 youth make decisions for Christ, and giving us the privilege of baptizing around 250 souls over the last 11 years.

In summary, LCC has held to its original calling to be a bible- based church - grace-grounded, truth-driven, ministry-minded, and family focused, impacting evangelistically the Fannin County area.

To God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be eternal praise for doing exceedingly beyond anything we could have ever asked for or imagined!!!

And, to God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be given much thanks for the graciousness of **so many** who have helped us over the years. This includes:

Ron and Reba Sudderth – for allowing us to use their Feed Store rent free so many times over the years for worship, meetings, fellowship, bible study and any other time we had a need.

Mary Diekman and Allison Cardile of the Bonham Housing Authority – for the more than generous rent free use of the Housing Authority Community Center for 5 years, and for helping us in so many supportive ways.

Brother Normous Free - of the Congregational Methodist Church for allowing us the use of the baptistry many, many times.

Mrs. Linda Gist, Superintendent of BISD Schools and Mr. Glen Walker, Principle of Bonham High school - for allowing us to use the Kiva rent free for Wednesday night Youth meetings for 2 years.

Mr. Stephen Murden and Mr. Richard Murden of Wise Funeral home for the gracious rent free use of the Chapel for our worship services.

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Arterburn – for the generous rent free use of their home to host our youth, ministry and missions work.