

A Community of Faith

The 1980s were a time of massive growth for Coppell. At the beginning of the decade, the town's population hovered around four thousand residents. By the end, it would be approaching seventeen thousand. With this sudden expansion came the need for more houses of worship with an increasing number of denominations reflected in the town's populace.

In 1989 Rejoice Lutheran Church and Church of the Apostles came to town. In many ways their stories followed similar arcs.

Pastor Ken Hovland was asked by the Evangelical Lutheran Church to begin a new faith community in Coppell. After moving to town, Hovland set about going door to door inviting people to worship. Early services were held at Lee Elementary and members arrived early and stayed late to transform the school into a church and then back into a school again.

Church of the Apostles began as a mission church sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas. A group of Episcopal parishioners from Carrollton began the work of planting the church. Before a worship space was found, members met in each other's homes for Bible Study and services. Eventually, formal services were held and like Rejoice Lutheran Church, the congregation found itself "tenting" in space offered by a Coppell school.

In 1996, Rejoice Lutheran moved into its current location on Sandy Lake Rd. Two years later, Church of Apostles moved into its permanent home on MacArthur Blvd. Nearly three decades later, both congregations continue to serve the town, thanks to the hard work and faith of those early church families.

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