

Kimberley Fellowship Baptist Church Profile

Our Mission and Vision

At KFBC we believe that the most important thing in a person's life is a close and personal relationship with Jesus. Our mission is to show our beliefs to others by engaging others in the community through love, hospitality, and relationships. We share life together through small groups, Bible studies, and community outreach programs while exercising grace and love to one another in hopes of reflecting who Christ is.

Our vision at KFBC is to build a community focused on caring, serving, and sharing God's love with those around us and abroad in hopes that they would be lead to a lasting and forever loving relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

History and Community

Our Beginnings

Our church was started in 1964 as a home missions church and in 1966 was placed in the location it is today. The original building was constructed out of the old Overwaitea (now Save-On) grocery store and in 1981 the new sanctuary was added.

Over the years our church has seen lots of changes. Congregation numbers have gone up and down, especially when the Sullivan Mine shut down in 2001. People had to move to find other work. Over the years we have had many wonderful pastors serve our congregation. There was even a time when we had a Christian school with numerous students operating in our facility here.

The constant in the church over the years has been a sense of community, togetherness and belonging. We have encouraged each other and the community. We have been involved in hosting a soup kitchen at the church, food hampers are given out when needs arise (we stock non-perishable food items at the church) and an annual winter clothing reuse has helped to keep many warm. As well as local outreaches we are currently involved in international missions affiliated with Compassion Canada in

Uganda. We sponsor a Child Survival Program which teaches young, expectant mothers how to care for themselves and their babies, provides nutritional advice, a midwife and vocational training so these new mothers can learn to help support themselves.

Affiliation

We are affiliated with the Fellowship Pacific, a diverse group of 90+ Baptist churches and organizations located throughout BC and the Yukon.

We have all joined together to achieve an unforgettable God-honouring impact within our communities and beyond.

Our Local Community

Kimberley is a city located in the southeast BC between the Purcell and Rocky Mountains.

Kimberley was named in 1896 after the mine in South Africa. From 1917-2001, it was the home to the world's largest lead-zinc mine, the Sullivan Mine. Now it is a tourist destination and home to the Kimberley Alpine Resort, a ski area. Recreational pursuits include world-class skiing, (downhill and cross-country) snowmobiling, fishing, whitewater rafting, kayaking, biking, hiking and golfing, camping, and hunting. The city has the largest urban park in Canada. At 1,977 acres, the Kimberley Nature Park is the largest incorporated park in Canada with many miles of trails and great accessibility.

Employment in Kimberley and area is at a nearby Pulp Mill, sawmills, retail businesses, restaurants, golf courses, and many home based businesses. There have been many people who have moved here for the clean air and outdoor lifestyle and their work is internet based. A large number of people have their families live here while one member works away in a camp job. There are also a great number of retirees in town, some who have lived here their whole lives, as well as others who moved here for a variety of reasons. It's a lovely town with many young families and population of roughly 8000.

Church life As It is Now

General Information

- Doctrine - We subscribe to the statement of faith of the Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in BC and Yukon (Fellowship Pacific). This statement of faith is published on their website at www.febpacific.ca
- Culture - We are a mixed congregation of middle-aged to retired individuals with some children and young families. A small number of our approximately 78 members are seasonal members who live out of town and come either in the summer or winter months. Others are our more permanent members that live in town who make up the core group of leadership and those that serve. We are a tight knit group of individuals that love our community and get involved through small groups, local outreaches, making and sharing meals or even moving the odd piece of furniture. We tend to be casual which reflects the more laid back type of small town life we have here.
- Finances - Our annual operation budget is roughly \$85,000 not including missions. We own our building and have no debt. Our congregation is a loving and giving group who strongly support the church.
- Worship Style - We have a variety of musical styles and musicians from pianos, guitars, and even ukulele's. The sounds are generally a mix of contemporary and some good old hymns.

Ministries

- Preaching - We appreciate preaching that gets to the strong meaty truth of the Bible with no fluff between. The kind with the conviction that can sometimes bring us to tears or laughter, that shares brutal honesty and the hard truths about life and death, and of course again, we really like to laugh because we believe God has a sense of humour.
- Children's Ministries - Although as of late there are not as many children attending, we still have in place a Sunday School program aimed at

introducing the Bible to children in language that they can understand through books such as the Jesus Storybook Bible and interactive programs such as The Gospel Project For Kids. We also have a nursery program (Little Lambs) where care is provided so mothers and fathers can enjoy the fellowship and message while their little ones are being cared for.

- Small Groups - We have a variety of small group programs from Muffin Mornings (prayer, fellowship, and of course muffins), Bible studies, and a women's group and more. Many of our people have been friends for many years, and we welcome new friends with open arms.
- Social Team - Our social team provides a number of activities throughout the year to get kids and family in the community engaged in community fellowship. They organize things like potlucks, Men's and Women's nights, nerf wars and lego nights for the kids, and games nights for family and friends, as well as community picnics.

Missions

KFBC has partnered with Compassion Canada for two years now. You could say it's one of our 'heartbeats' as a congregation. We partner with Compassion through Child Sponsorship, with our people support through their own means. Currently, as a whole we sponsor over 30 children; some families sponsoring more than one child.

As a congregation we support the Child Survival Program by fundraising once a year. This program helps pregnant women with education and nutrition, and takes care of the Mom and baby for one year after the baby is born. Our focus has been the country of Uganda. A few of us went with Compassion on a trip in the Spring of 2018. We made some great connections and were able to see how our partnership with Compassion is working.

To include the kids at KFBC, we started an annual Water Walk to raise money to buy water filters through Compassion. It has proved successful and fun for the young and young at heart.

As our partnership grew over the past two years we were asked to partner with a church in Uganda (Nyabuando) We accepted unanimously, and are currently serving them by praying, and helping financially with our annual fundraiser.

Leadership Structure

- Elders - Elders (none currently) serve as overseers of the church such as in 1 Peter 5:1-5, Acts 20:28-35, 1 Timothy 3:1-7, and Titus 1:5-9 for responsibilities and qualifications.
- Deacons - Deacons serve as managers of the practical needs of the church. They serve under the responsibility of the Elders. 1 Timothy 3:8-13 forms the main text for the qualifications of Deacons. We currently have (7) Deacons - 6 women and 1 man.
- Pastor - Qualifications are the same as Elders. Their responsibilities are to be viewed as ministry rather than a job, that includes: Chair Elders meetings (lead by consensus), do the majority of the preaching, set the general direction of preaching, maintain church office presence, visit and counsel as needed, guide the church growth. We want a collaborative leadership style between the Pastor and Elders/Deacons.

Facilities

- Size - Built in two phases over the years we have over 12,000 sq.ft. of space that includes, a sanctuary that can seat over 100 with a baptismal tank, a main office, a pastoral office, a full size kitchen, a nursery, three Sunday School rooms, three washrooms, a craft room, utility room, a fun play space for the children, and plenty of storage.
- Sharing - Our building is currently being shared with a non-affiliated denomination (Summit / Four Square) for the past 11 months or so. We share separate service times, theirs being 9:00-10:30am, and ours being 11:00-12:30pm. A committee, made up of the Pastor and two others from Summit and the Pastor and two others from KFBC worked out a sharing agreement that was voted on by both congregations.

For now Summit pays their share of the utilities and have access to the building for services and a few small groups via a schedule of times made through the Sharing Committee.

Summit and KFBC have been trying to work together to host community events such as VBS, (a children's bible camp during spring break), and a community Easter egg hunt and games event. Of course these

were planned before the pandemic and never had a chance to take place, but our hopes would be to start again where we left off.

Questions A New Pastor May Have

- At the beginning of this journey of searching for a Pastor, the Search Committee and Board of KFBC took a survey of what they thought would be important questions to ask ourselves as a church and community to get a general idea of where we're at in our lives and ministry. Here are the questions and responses:

1. What are our strengths - those things that are going well, positive things that we are know for, and areas where we can see that God is blessing - that we can take advantage of?

Our congregation saw our strengths as hospitality, caring for each other and our community, and our international ministries. As well as our local ministries such as our clothing re-use, supporting school lunch / breakfast programs, our local food bank and the Angel Flight ministry.

2. What are our needs - those things that need improvement, further development or are holding us back?

Due to the lack of employment within the community, many of the men in our congregation work out of town. That leads to those men being unable to fully commit to leadership positions because of their work schedules. We have also, in the past, felt that there needs to be better communication between the Pastor and Deacons regarding conflicts that have arisen between members or between members and the Pastor. In some cases, the Board and membership were unaware of the problem until people left the church. We also have people who have attended for many years, but shy away from seeking membership. This is also a hinderance in filling leadership positions because most of those require membership. As a relatively small church, it limits the number of people eligible for these roles.

3. What areas of focus or ministry seem to have the greatest potential for growth and impact?

We feel that group teaching regarding traditional roles, family life and teachings about how to be a Christian in a secular world would have great potential for growth and impact. We had a Bible Study for parents and families affected by their adult children's alternate lifestyles (LGBTQ) which was very effective for those who took part. Many parents are now concerned with the Public Schools teachings regarding Gender Identity are looking for Christian based alternatives for their families. Some workshops or studies on these issues would be effective as well. The youth in our church attend Youth -Group with the young folks from Summit Church. This group is for ages 10-14 so room for growth to include older teens may be an opportunity for another ministry.

4. What challenges do we face that are stopping us from moving forward?

As a fairly small church, its very noticeable when people are not in church on Sundays, or missed Bible Studies or prayer time. We are looking for ways to impact our community, to achieve unity with the other churches in town as we believe that God is the glue that keeps us together. Our group is not particularly tech savvy and we would like to expand our online presence to attract more members, as well as attract new believers. In turn this would lead to more baptisms and people seeking membership.

In Closing

We hope that this profile of KFBC has been informative, but most of all transparent in who we are. We hope that it reflects that we are imperfect people, looking for and imperfect person to lead us to a deeper knowledge and relationship with Christ. We are not just looking for someone to fill the pulpit, but someone to share life with. We pray and believe that God has already chosen someone for us before even writing this sentence, and hope that they will feel loved and welcomed in our fellowship and our community.