WonderChurch Fellowship

**Our Mission and Vision**

At WonderChurch we believe that being captivated by Jesus is the key to a vibrant relationship with God. Therefore we will:

Engage lost people to discover Jesus

Challenge religious people to experience Jesus

Encourage Christ followers to be captivated by Jesus

We believe it is through the practice of the spiritual rhythms of Loving God, Loving Others, and Making Disciples that we experience being captivated by Jesus.

**History and Community**

1. Origins

We began in 1985 as a church plant of the Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in BC and Yukon (now called Fellowship Pacific) when a few families from WonderBurst Church felt God’s leading to start this daughter church. For several years we met in schools until the first phase of our building was completed in 1970. Our attendance at that time was less than 150 and we soon outgrew our facilities. Before too long we realized the need to create space and began saving for Phase 2 of our building plan. During the process of building God enabled us to bless others with over $30,000 being given to ministries beyond ourselves. After the second building process, we were able to serve more than 300 people at any one service, and now have over 400 who consider WonderChurch their home through our multiple service approach.

While the building story is great, it pales in significance beside the numerous stories of life change that we have been honoured to participate in, through the grace of God. Any one of these stories of new spiritual birth, reconciliation or transformation is of greater value than our lovely building.

Through the years of infancy, early life, adolescence and now adulthood, WonderChurch has developed its core values, culture, organization, ministry and leadership. The development of specific purposes, a vision and focused ministries is the key to our life and growth. Any considering ministry with us should also ponder deeply on those values!

1. Affiliation

We are affiliated with Fellowship Pacific, a community of approximately 100 autonomous local churches in British Columbia and Yukon. Nationally, this region is part of the larger community of the Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada with more than 500 churches across Canada.

1. Our Local Community

Located in the heart of the Quilcal Valley of British Columbia and with a current population of about 100,000, our community’s agricultural bounty has always been its foundation. Increasingly, however, it has added tourism, eco-recreation and specialty stores to its economy, making it one of the most diverse towns in the country. Our church is located on a major off-ramp of the TransCanada Highway, making for easy access. It is in the midst of an area that has developed dramatically over the past 10 years with subdivision housing and associated services.

**Church Life As It is Now**

1. 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 – WonderChurch’s culture is deeply rooted in its desire to see people come to Christ and grow as followers of Jesus. The church strategically partners with local agencies, making a difference in the lives of countless people in need. It is a multi-generational church with a relaxed, casual atmosphere that mirrors the surrounding community, but WonderChurch has a passionate heart committed to making a significant and eternal difference in the lives of those it touches.
* Finances – Our annual operating budget, funded by gifts from individuals, is just under $700,000 with an additional $100,000 being given for special projects and missions. We have no debt.
* Worship Style – Our style of worship in music is generally contemporary although we often include a few of the older hymns which in most cases have been rearranged to some extent to match the style of the rest of the music.

1. Significant Ministries

* Preaching – We appreciate strong Biblical preaching in all our weekend services.
* Children’s Ministries – WonderChurch Kids happens during both Sunday morning services. Using interactive teaching techniques, including drama and music, we aim to equip kids with the tools to take their faith with them throughout their life. This is a place where kids feel unconditionally loved by both their leaders and classmates during a Sunday morning. Our annual Summer Day Camp and Pro-D Day Camps during the school year are designed to reach out to unchurched people in the community. The nursery ministry provides care for children under the age of three.
* Community Groups – We encourage all our church family to be involved in community groups. It is here that we can be revitalized and strengthened as we seek to reflect the love of Jesus to our world. We consider these small groups to be more than a ministry – rather, they are the key to our intentional discipleship pathway.
* Young Adults – An eclectic, accepting group of people that attempts to make space for everyone. Journeying together in this phase of life through questions, school, work and life, they love food, stories, good questions and some great adventures along the way.
* WonderChurch Youth (Junior and Senior) – A place for the youth to encounter and learn about Jesus. A place to be themselves where they can ask hard questions. A place to experience God’s grace and love. And a place to have fun and meet friends. We believe that by doing life with students we can create such a place and empower them to live and lead out, in relationship with Jesus.
* Women’s Ministry – Opportunities for women of all ages to connect with one another and use the gifts and talents God has given them to make a difference in the lives of others in our church and in the community.
* Fifty Plus Ministry – Opportunities for fellowship, encouragement and caring for others of this age group. They ensure that this age group is cared for through visitation, phone calls and cards.

1. Missions

* Missionaries – WonderChurch is blessed with several retired and returned missionaries as part of our church family. Through our global ministries we support a number of missionaries still on the field and have sent out several full-time missionaries from our midst to other countries.
* Short Term Missions – Each year we have sent out teams and individuals to serve in other countries or situations. Trips to Mexico and Ghana are the most recent.

1. Leadership Structure

* Elders – The church is led by its elected Elders who, along with the Lead Pastor, establish the vision and direction of the church while maintaining a focus on meeting the needs of the people within and outside our church family.
* Lead Pastor – The Lead Pastor works in partnership with a strong leadership core of Elders, passionate staff members and key volunteer leaders who oversee many areas of ministry. The Lead Pastor is accountable to the Elders.
* Staff – All staff are accountable to the Lead Pastor.

1. Facilities

* Size – Built in two phases the church enjoys over 28,000 sq. ft. of space that includes a sanctuary to seat about 300, a full size gymnasium, large youth room, large kitchen, spacious children’s ministries area, classrooms and offices.
* Community Use – Several groups from the community meet in our church building. These include Alcoholics Anonymous, English as a Second Language classes and others.

**Imagine**

Imagine the impact we could make on our world with our unique collection of surrendered and transformed people—people who long to know and share God’s love with others. Captivated by Jesus, we are transfixed by His story and His heart for our world. Young and old, we desire to be seed throwers, hope peddlers, grace givers, risk takers and dreamers. Called to encourage the faithful, empower the poor, strengthen the weak, embrace the outcast, and seek the lost, we link arms with anyone who tells the good news of Jesus Christ. We worship together, serve together, play together, live life together. Imagine this being WonderChurch. Imagine this being you.