



# FRIENDSHIP

## BAPTIST CHURCH

# Friendship Baptist Church

## CHURCH PROFILE

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### SECTION ONE

#### The Church

- Vision and Values
- Community
- Congregation
- History
- Facilities
- Finances
- Sunday Service

#### Organizational Structure

- Structure
- Board and Committees
- Staff responsibilities and relationships

### SECTION TWO

#### The Ministries

- Prayer Group/Adult Bible Classes
- Music
- Children's Ministries
- Youth Ministries
- Life Groups
- Alpha
- Missions and Outreach



# FRIENDSHIP

## BAPTIST CHURCH

### SECTION ONE

#### THE CHURCH

#### Vision and Values

##### Vision

*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Matthew 28:19,20*

##### Values

*He answered: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" Luke 10:27*

#### Mission Statement

To love and know God. To love and know one another. To love and know our neighbour.

#### Our Community

Coquitlam is a dynamic city with a commitment to community-based living. It is a suburb of Vancouver on the west coast of British Columbia. Coquitlam offers the conveniences of a growing city combined with a beautiful natural setting boasting abundant parks and green space, along with arts and cultural venues and multiple recreational facilities.

Coquitlam is part of the Tri-Cities, which also includes the cities of Port Coquitlam and Port Moody. These communities have a combined population of 200,000. Friendship Baptist is in a central location to all of these centers and therefore our congregation is drawn from all of the Tri-Cities area as well as other adjacent communities.



# FRIENDSHIP

## BAPTIST CHURCH

### Our Congregation

The congregation of Friendship Baptist is as culturally diverse as our community and we enjoy the benefits of this diversity. Our average Sunday attendance at this time is 70 persons.

The capacity of our worship centre is 311 persons.

Friendship Baptist Church practices formal church membership. Upon profession of faith and following baptism, individuals are welcomed into membership and commitment to the local body of Christ. As of June 2018 our membership consists of 80 people.

### A Brief History of Friendship Baptist Church

Friendship Baptist Church of Coquitlam was established in May of 1982. Several members and adherents of Blue Mountain Baptist Church were called by the Lord to form a new Baptist church in the Coquitlam area. Our first Sunday service was held in a home where a group of 59 worshippers listened to encouraging words by the Reverend Vern Middleton. It was during this time that the group was asked to choose a name for their group and they felt that the name "Friendship" embodied the essence of what they wished to present to the community. Thus began Friendship Baptist Church of Coquitlam. Rev. John Davies was our first Pastor.

We were also looking for possible locations for a permanent site for our new church. Once again led by our Lord, we decided that the present two and half acre site should be the permanent home of Friendship Baptist Church. In January 1983, plans were made for re-zoning of the property. In March, 1984, 350 people from our community and BC Baptist Churches gathered for a dedication ceremony. In July of the same year we had our first baptismal service in the new building. An addition to the south end of the church which housed Sunday school rooms and a multi-purpose room was completed in August 1985. The building was renovated in 2003 to facilitate a larger worship center and office space.

In 2007 adjacent property was purchased and the offices were moved there providing space for larger kitchen facilities and a daycare. Then in 2017 the property was sold and offices were once again relocated to the main church building.

On July 2, 1989, Pastor John Davies tendered his resignation. Pastor Rob Clogg was installed in April 1990. In 1992 Pastor Dean Davey was called as Youth pastor working alongside Pastor Clogg. Pastor Clogg resigned in 1996, after which Pastor Dean Davey was chosen to succeed him as Senior Pastor. He served until 2008. During Pastor Davey's tenure God led our church to appoint Larry Welsh in the position of Associate Pastor in 1998. He served until his resignation in 2006. Pastor Chad Salyn was brought on staff as Pastor of Student Ministries in May of 2000 where he served until 2007. Pastor Jeromy Acton was hired in 2006 to serve as Pastor of Worship. He served until his resignation in 2009. Pastor Alajemba Reuben Unaegbu was our next Senior Pastor and led our congregation until his retirement



# FRIENDSHIP

## BAPTIST CHURCH

### church profile

in 2015. Pastor Kapil Sharma was hired as his replacement in March 2015. Later that year, Pastor Ryan Giesbrecht was brought on as a pastoral intern and in early 2017 was hired into the position of Associate Pastor. Around this time Pastor Debbie Mun was also hired as a part time Worship Pastor. The leadership of FBC felt led by the Lord to sell the adjacent property in March 2017 so that the extra finances would be able to be redirected to other ministries. In November of the same year, Pastor Larry Welsh was rehired by FBC into the full time role of Congregational Care Pastor. In March 2018 Pastor Kapil Sharma resigned from his position of Senior Pastor. Pastor Debbie and Pastor Ryan have handed in their respective letters of resignation for the end of the summer of 2018. We are currently without a senior pastor and the preaching each Sunday is shared by our leadership team and Pastors from the BCBC.

### Our Finances

Friendship Baptist Church has been financially blessed since its inception. The original vision to establish a church on the two and half acre site was fully paid for in the mid-nineteen nineties. Since that time we have undertaken a series of building expansions and renovations. Each project has been completed and funded in partnership with our BC Baptist Conference and the generosity of our congregation.

In 2007 when additional space was required, we believed that by purchasing an adjacent home we could then free needed space within the existing church building. This allowed for all the offices to be centrally located as well as providing space for youth and various smaller meetings and activities. In 2017 the subsequent selling of this house provided FBC with available funds to invest in some larger scale maintenance projects as well as redirect funds to other ministries, such as our missions committee. Income is also generated from renting the facilities to Joyful Fellowship Church (Korean speaking), Iglesia la Cosecha del Nuevo Pacto (Spanish speaking), and the Friendship Corner Daycare.

Each year we establish a budget providing a balance of support to numerous ministries, missions and staff. Through the years God has been faithful in enabling us to provide for ministries God has placed in our hearts.

### Our Sunday Service

FBC currently has one Sunday service at 10:00 a.m., although historically it has capably sustained two morning services (9:30 and 11:00 a.m.). Praise worship consists of an inviting blend of modern music and traditional hymns and choruses, led by able vocalists and a contemporary rhythm section. There is a nursery available at the back of the sanctuary for children under the age of two and Sunday school classes every week for older children. Currently youth Sunday school is offered twice a month, though in the past it has been offered every week. FBC celebrates a rich ethnic and generational heritage that gives its services a warm and inviting atmosphere, where all are called to engage with God's life-changing Word through the power of the Spirit. Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of the month.



# FRIENDSHIP

## BAPTIST CHURCH

### ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

#### Structure

Friendship Baptist Church (FBC) is a member of the British Columbia Baptist Conference (BCBC), which is a district of the Baptist General Conference of Canada (BGC). FBC is incorporated as a registered non-profit charitable society under the name of Friendship Baptist Church of Coquitlam. FBC is congregational in governance, electing individuals to various nominated positions and approving the annual budget.

#### Boards and Committees

FBC has a board of elders which is elected by the congregation. Elders serve three year terms. At this point the elders together with the pastors, form a unified leadership team which exercises responsibility for leadership. The board holds monthly leadership meetings. The board works with the Pastors, Staff and Ministry Leaders to ensure the congregation is updated through three or four congregational meetings per year. FBC also elects deaconesses who serve in the areas of church ordinances, visitation, and care of families in need. FBC's constitution requires elections to fill positions as heads of committees, and other individual positions. Search committees are also formed and voted into existence when there is a requirement for additions to paid pastoral staff.

#### Staff Responsibilities and Relationship

##### **Senior/Lead Pastor (Full Time)**

The Senior/Lead Pastor has primary responsibility in the areas of preaching, teaching, worship, spiritual formation, prayer, pastoral care and shaping vision for the ministry.

##### **Congregational Care Pastor (Full Time)**

The Congregational Care Pastor's primary role is in connecting with the people who come to FBC. Whether these people be members, long time attendees, or first time visitors. Another responsibility is in visitations, caring for families in need, and evangelism and equipping the congregation to share the gospel.

##### **Administrators**

Currently we have one part-time administrator on staff, overseeing facilities, finance, and publications.



# FRIENDSHIP

## BAPTIST CHURCH

### SECTION TWO

#### THE MINISTRIES

##### Prayer Groups

Friendship Baptist Church believes that prayer is the foundational activity for all ministries. In the past we have held prayer services, monthly prayer meeting and had a prayer support team. Currently FBC has an emergency prayer chain and a monthly prayer focus. This is a ministry and area that we are passionate about growing in and working to both encourage and support personal and corporate intercessory prayer.

##### Adult Bible Classes

Sunday Equipping Classes: Adult Sunday school classes have been offered prior to Sunday service taught by the Pastor or one of the elders. Topics and timelines for when these classes are held have been varied.

##### Music

The music community at FBC has a large base of talented individuals who volunteer their time to serve on the worship team. FBC has used a choir in the past for seasonal celebrations and special occasions, but weekly services feature a smaller vocal group who sing with a band.

A small Audio-Visual team runs the sound system and powerpoint/multi-media presentations during Sunday morning worship and special events. Music and the arts play an important role in the life of FBC: past events have included Christmas and Easter dramas/musicals, dinner theater, music and entertainment for Christmas banquets. We also hold a multicultural night biannually where we celebrate our diversity within the congregational.



# FRIENDSHIP

## BAPTIST CHURCH

### Children's Ministries

Mission: *To be a nurturing community of faith where children experience love and purpose in Jesus Christ, to impact their world for God's glory.*

The core children's program occurs on Sunday morning during the worship service. Infants, preschoolers and children grades 1-5 are cared for in separate areas with curriculum specific to their developmental age.

### Youth Ministries

Currently our youth group consists of approximately 4 regular attendees. Weekly meetings: Youth get together twice a month on Tuesday evenings during the school year from 7-9pm.

### Life Groups

FBC has an important home/cell group ministry which is called LIFE group (LIFE = Loved by Christ, Identification with Christ, Forgiveness through Christ, Experiencing Christ). These groups meet in different homes once a week for Bible studies, prayer and fellowship.

They also engage in acts of service and ministry inside and outside of FBC and form a prime place of relational connectedness with other believers at FBC. It is the desire of FBC's leadership that LIFE groups be the prime mechanism of pastoral care in the church. As such, new and existing members are encouraged to join LIFE groups. Oversight of FBC's LIFE groups is provided by the FBC leadership team, and training/encouragement is provided to the LIFE group leaders.

### Alpha

Here at Friendship Baptist Church the Alpha course has been offered a number of times and has been well attended. The Alpha course has been a wonderful tool for introducing people to Jesus Christ and many of those who have completed the program have found a church home here at Friendship with several participants going on to take the steps of baptism and membership.



# FRIENDSHIP

## BAPTIST CHURCH

church profile

### Missions and Outreach

FBC has maintained for many years strong links with a number of missions organizations. Although the main thrust is towards supporting overseas missions, in recent years we have been growing in our commitment to the local mission field. We host a community meal and service every Sunday evening that is catered towards the homeless and less fortunate. We also support a local organization called House of Omeed, which provides direct assistance and resources to refugees coming to Canada.

A missions leadership team operates with direct support of the board.

Our local community is welcomed and invited to special services, productions and meals through a program of events that take place at Christmas and Easter.

The friendly atmosphere makes FBC a good place to invite friends and neighbours.