

The Congregational Christian Fellowship Church of Spruce Grove was started in 1988 by a group of parishoners from the Spruce Grove St. Andrew's United Church. This group, led by Reverend John Wood, objected to the top down policies of the United Church of Canada. They affiliated themselves with the Congregational Christian Churches of Canada (established October 21, 1821 at Keswick, Ontario) which had the philosophy of letting each congregation set its own policies within the broad guidelines of the national organization.

Initially we met in a room in the Broxton Park School for eight years (1988-95). A committee of the board explored various accomodation alternatives including the construction of our own building or the purchase of a Provincial Government Liquor Store that was up for sale on King Street in Spruce Grove. We purchased that building July 24, 1994. After extensive renovations we held a "Marching to New Quarters" opening ceremony on September 17, 1995 and issued a warm welcome for all to come and hear the Christian message.

Prayer groups and Bible Study groups were established, the Sunday School was

expanded, a vibrant choir grew, we had a growing world missionary support program and we had outreach programs to the local community.

We embarked in a frenzy of fund raising events such as bake sales, garage sales, suppers, talent shows, choir presentations, teas and raffles. Work parties were set up every week and many people helped to complete the building renovations.

These renovations took place over a long period of time due to the shortage of funds for building materials and volunteer labor. As one of the features, the members of the ~~community~~ congregation constructed a stage and sound equipment was installed including a sound booth.

Much had been accomplished and Reverend John Wood resigned and moved to Nova Scotia in 1998.

Reverend Laurence Weaver, who had been recently ordained, accepted our call and served as our minister from 1998 - 2004. His induction service was September 20, 1998. On November 14, 1999 he baptized 18 people at one time. He organized Bible studies and introduced the Bible based Alpha program and the Christmas party for the community children.

Reverend Weaver resigned in June, 2004 and moved to Wales.

He was replaced in October, 2005 by Reverend Doctor David Fisher who previously had a ministry in Fredrickton, New Brunswick. His induction service was held Feb 26, 2006.

Throughout all these years Reverend David Hammond was a valued member of our congregation. He is regularly employed as a truck driver but is an interim minister for our congregation on many occasions. He was made assistant Pastor in 2007.

Major building renovations took place in 2007 with the Christian Education area receiving most of the upgrading, the narthex and sanctuary received new flooring and the white vinyl chairs were replaced by interlocking chairs upholstered chairs.

Christian Fellowship Church has been chosen by God to be a healthy - healing Church that God will use to plant, root and grow people in faith, love and in His healing grace.

Recently Tree of Life healing rooms have been established in our church where anyone in the community who desires prayer for themselves or others can come and pray with specially trained people.

Despite many difficulties over the years we were always Christ-centered and we have become known as "the little church that could"

Written by Ray and Fay Jones

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