



KNOWING JESUS ... MAKING HIM KNOWN

Application for Membership in the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches:

General Instructions: Fill out this application form and send it with your membership fee to the FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES, P.O. Box 384, WINONA LAKE, IN 46590 and send a file copy as an attachment to tomavey@fgbc.org. The deadline for application is January 1st in order to be considered in the following annual conference. If you wish to request an extension of this deadline, include a letter of reference from a cooperating district missions board, a sponsoring church that is already a member of the FGBC, or Grace Brethren Missions.

Official Name of Church: Community of Hope

Church Mailing Address: 6298 Boundary Drive E

City: Surrey

State: BC

Zip: V3X 2C8

Phone: 604-572-5683

Email: info@gethope.ca

Meeting Place: Strawberry Hill Cinemas
72 Avenue & Scott Road

Web Site: www.gethope.ca

Pastor or principle leader: Philip Bryant

Address: SAME AS ABOVE

City

State

Zip

Phone

Email

Has your church joined a cooperating district? If so, which one and when?

Pacific Northwest Fellowship

Please review the Constitution and Manual of Procedure for the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches. Note carefully ARTICLE III and ARTICLE IV of the Constitution and ARTICLE I of the Manual of Procedure that deal with the membership requirements new FGBC churches are to meet.

How did your local church take official action to subscribe to the Covenant and Statement of Faith as found in Article III of the Constitution of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, Inc.?

We make it a part of our membership requirements to be in agreement to the statement of faith. We as pastors have been licensed and ordained in the FGBC.

The FGBC statement of faith is part of our church foundation and documents.

List the present responsible officers (or leaders) of the congregation with titles:

Philip Bryant – lead pastor – ordained in the FGBC

Jason Strain – Associate Pastor – licensed in the FGBC

Advisory Council:

Ken Kendal – Director of Community Groups

Shane Edwards – Director of Adult Education

Gord Klassen – Director of Finance

As a new church our elders are the pastoral staff. We are currently in the process of licensing our advisory council. Once each man is licensed we will move him into the board of elders.

How will you identify your affiliation with the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches? (ie: on a church sign, letterhead, church bulletin, etc).

We identify ourselves as part of the FGBC on our letterhead, website, business cards and in our bulletin. We take one full day in our membership class to teach people about the FGBC and we give them the book “Conquering Frontiers” to help them understand better who we are.

We also strongly support our district in participation with the ministeriums and District Conference.

Describe your practice of Triune Immersion and the Threefold Communion Service.

We hold to an open membership policy, that is, those who have received believer’s baptism (water baptism, by immersion after salvation) may join our church. We baptize only by Triune Immersion. Also, leaders (elders, pastors) are required to be Triune immersed.

We only practice Threefold Communion. We do this monthly in our community groups, with our community group leaders leading these communion services in their homes. We have church wide Threefold Communion Services twice a year. Once on the Thursday night before Good Friday and once the Sunday night before our fall kick-off – close to Labor day.

To the best of your knowledge, does your church or any leadership of your church have unresolved problems with another Grace Brethren church, leader, district or cooperating organization? If so, who can we contact for clarification?

Not to my knowledge. We were able to resolve the doctrinal concerns that created tensions within our district (views on the 5 points of Calvinism). We hold to eternal security, though not the 5 points of Calvinism as defined by classical Calvinistic scholars. The awareness of our Fellowship having openness in this area of doctrine was unknown to several members of the district and thus created a season of tension.

In seeking membership in the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches, does your church recognize the obligation of mutual encouragement and cooperation with other congregations and agree to fulfill the membership requirements as stated in the Constitution and Manual of Procedure?

Absolutely! We have every desire to be connected to the FGBC and want our people to learn what it means to be Grace Brethren.

How many people are presently members of this church? _____51_____

A check payable to FGBC based on the chart below for the current year membership fee should be included with this

application. Use your church's average attendance for 2007.

Attendance	Fee
Less than 25	\$ 50
26-50	\$ 105
51-100	\$ 265
101-200	\$ 525
201-400	\$ 1,050
401-800	\$ 2,100
801-1600	\$ 4,200

Attach or give a brief history or testimony about your churches ministry, including pictures of the church or church leadership that we can use to introduce your church to the FGBC family.

Community of Hope was born out of the vision of Grace Brethren Canada. After planting two churches in the Toronto area, God called Philip & Beth Bryant to Vancouver. After an incredible number of answers to prayer, the Bryants moved to Surrey, BC with over 1,000 prayer partners asking God to do His work in the Vancouver area. God immediately gave Philip favor with the local pastors of the city. They honored him at the local Good Friday Service, encouraging over 3,000 people in attendance to welcome us and to pray for this new work. God gave us favor with a large Baptist church in area (Cedar Grove), and through a series of God-sized answers to prayer, they invited the Bryants to serve with them for a year and then daughter a Grace Brethren Church from them. In January of 2007, 4 families made up the core of Community of Hope. By the summer of 2007, 35 adults and 12 children made up the core of the church family. The summer of 2007 saw people from all over the Fellowship and a large contingent of youth from the Pacific Northwest Fellowship come and assist the church-planting efforts. September 2, 2007, 38 adults meet in the Bryant's home and participated in Threefold Communion and after a clear speech about the cost, commitment and sacrifice it would require, they signed on to be members of Community of Hope. Community of Hope was publically started the next weekend, September 9th 2007, at the Strawberry Hill Cinemas with over 200 people in attendance. The attendance moved to just under 100 people for the remainder of 2007 and has slowly increased since. We have seen God allow us to baptize 6 people to date and we look forward to seeing many more people come to know the Hope that is found in Jesus. Our vision is to see a movement of churches born out of Community of Hope that spreads throughout Western Canada.