

# MEMBERSHIP

**RI  
DG  
E** CHURCH  
JESUS  
COMMUNITY  
CITY

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# OUR STAFF



**JONATHAN NEUFELD**  
LEAD PASTOR



**DANIEL SANDISON**  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR



**DAYNA OLSON-BROOKS**  
CONNECTIONS & COMMUNITY



**DAN STEENSON**  
PASTOR OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND  
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**JAMES PARK**  
PASTOR OF KOREAN MINISTRIES



**MARGARET EZZET**  
DIRECTOR OF COUNSELLING & CARE

# OUR STAFF CONTINUED



**AARON JOBSE**  
DIRECTOR OF RIDGE YOUTH



**TRISTEN HULL**  
FACILITIES MANAGER



**LAUREN JANZEN**  
RIDGE KIDS DIRECTOR



**NOLAN BRAUN**  
VIDEO & PRODUCTION LEAD



**TRACEY MILLER**  
ADMINISTRATION ASSOCIATE



**CAROL ABDELMALEK**  
RIDGEKIDS ASSOCIATE



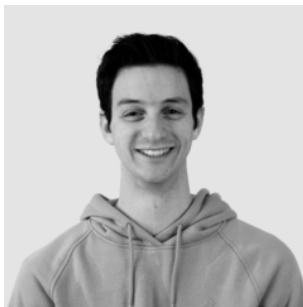
# OUR STAFF CONTINUED



**ERIKA CRUZ**  
RIDGEKIDS ASSOCIATE



**COLBY DELESOY**  
FACILITIES ASSOCIATE



**ZACH ROMEO**  
TECH ASSOCIATE

# OUR BOARD



**JEROME PENNER**  
BOARD CHAIR



**MARC LAFLEUR**  
BOARD MEMBER



**PAUL WESTLUND**  
BOARD MEMBER



**PAUL FARQUHARSON**  
BOARD MEMBER



**JAN FREW**  
BOARD MEMBER



**JEREMY WATKINS**  
BOARD MEMBER



**GINNY JAQUES**  
BOARD MEMBER

# HOW IS RIDGE CHURCH STRUCTURED?

## **Our Staff and Board**

We are led by a Lead Pastor who is responsible for a team of staff members (including other pastors and leaders) and responsible to the Ridge Church board.

Ridge Church (legally Maple Ridge Baptist Church) is registered as a non-profit society under the Societies Act in the Province of British Columbia and we are also registered as a charity with the Canada Revenue Agency. Both of these agencies require that we have a board, elected by the membership, to oversee the employees that are hired to carry out the day to day operations of the church.

Ridge Church has a board, elected by the membership, that works with the Lead Pastor to ensure that the mission and ministry of the church are carried out effectively and efficiently.

Our board members are elected for a three year term and can serve a maximum of three consecutive terms before being required to take a minimum one year break.

As a non-profit society, Ridge Church has bylaws that govern much of what we do. In simple terms, our bylaws are rules made by Ridge Church that define the boundaries that we as an organization operate within. Any changes to our bylaws require a vote by the membership.

# HOW IS RIDGE CHURCH STRUCTURED?

## **Our Finances**

Each year the board presents a budget to the members of Ridge Church for affirmation. While a budget is just a tool to guide spending, we ensure that it is as accurate as possible. Our budget covers all the church's major expense categories and where we think we will invest money in the coming year. Typically, our budget is broken down by ministry category for ease of reporting. As you might expect, the largest share of our budget is devoted to staff salaries and benefits.

Like any organization, Ridge Church has a variety of bills to pay (e.g. heat, light, mortgage, salaries), but we also have ministry specific responsibilities (e.g. missionaries, ministries, denominational support). Each year, the vast majority of our expenses are fixed, meaning that it is often difficult for us to match our expenses to our cash flow. What is important to point out here is that Ridge Church depends on the generosity of its members and congregants to fully fund the budget each year. We receive no outside sources of income beyond the occasional building rental income.

If our congregation does not give, we cannot fund the mission and ministry of the church.

# HOW IS RIDGE CHURCH STRUCTURED?

## **Our Affiliations**

Ridge Church (legally Maple Ridge Baptist Church) is a member church in the Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada.

The Fellowship is a family of nearly 500 evangelical Baptist churches scattered across Canada from the Yukon to the tip of Nova Scotia. Our churches range in size from a few dozen to several thousand and hold worship services in 13 different languages.

As it is a Fellowship church located in British Columbia, Ridge Church is a part of Fellowship Pacific, which is made up of a diverse group of 100 churches and ministry affiliates located throughout BC and the Yukon. We are thrilled to partner together with these churches and ministry affiliates to achieve a God-honouring impact within our communities and beyond.

Fellowship Pacific's regional office, also known as the Fellowship Pacific Ministry Centre, is located in the town of Fort Langley. Their staff work together to assist churches in the areas of church health and pastoral care, church planting, ethnic ministries, leadership development, stewardship, and other administrative functions.

We are also partnered with our seminary, Northwest Baptist Seminary, and other affiliated organizations such as:

- Baptist Housing
- The Community Hub
- Youth Unlimited
- Camp Qwanoes
- Sunnybrae Bible Camp
- Le Clocher Church in Montreal
- WINGS (Women in Need Gaining Strength)
- New Hope Community Services Society
- Vancouver Urban Ministries



# WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

**This is the Statement of Faith of the Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada to which we, as a member church, adhere.**

## **In essential beliefs we have unity.**

"There is one body and one Spirit - just as you were called to one home, when you were called - one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." (Ephesians 4:4-6)

## **In non-essential beliefs we have liberty.**

"Accept him whose faith is weak without passing judgment on disputable matters. Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. So then each of us will give an account of himself to God. So whatever you believe about these things, keep between yourselves and God." (Romans 14:1; 4; 12; 22)

## **In all our beliefs we show love.**

"If I hold in my mind, not only all human knowledge but also the very secrets of God and have the faith that can move mountains but have no love, I amount to nothing at all." (1 Corinthians 13:2)

## **THE BIBLE**

We believe the Bible to be the complete Word of God; that the sixty-six books, as originally written, comprising the Old and New Testaments were verbally inspired by the Spirit of God and were entirely free from error; that the Bible is the final authority in all matters of faith and practice and the true basis of Christian union.

## **GOD**

We believe in one God, Creator of all, holy, sovereign, eternal, existing in three equal Persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

## **JESUS CHRIST**

We believe in the absolute and essential deity of Jesus Christ, in His eternal existence with the Father in pre-incarnate glory, in His virgin birth, sinless life, substitutionary death, bodily resurrection, triumphant ascension, mediatorial ministry and personal return.

# WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

## **THE HOLY SPIRIT**

We believe in the absolute and essential deity and personality of the Holy Spirit Who convinces of sin, of righteousness and of judgment; Who regenerates, sanctifies, illuminates and comforts those who believe in Jesus Christ.

## **SATAN**

We believe that Satan exists as an evil personality, the originator of sin, the archenemy of God and man.

## **HUMANITY**

We believe that humans were divinely created in the image of God; that they sinned, becoming guilty before God, resulting in total depravity, thereby incurring physical and spiritual death.

## **SALVATION**

We believe that salvation is by the sovereign, electing grace of God; that by the appointment of the Father, Christ voluntarily suffered a vicarious, expiatory and propitiatory death; that justification is by faith alone in the all-sufficient sacrifice and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and that those whom God has effectually called shall be divinely preserved and finally perfected in the image of the Lord.

## **FUTURE THINGS**

We believe in the personal, bodily and glorious return of the Lord Jesus Christ; in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust; in the eternal blessedness of the redeemed and in the judgment and conscious, eternal punishment of the wicked.

## **THE LOCAL CHURCH**

We believe that a church is a company of immersed believers, called out from the world, separated unto the Lord Jesus, voluntarily associated for the ministry of the Word, the mutual edification of its members, the propagation of the faith and the observance of the ordinances. We believe it is a sovereign, independent body, exercising its own divinely awarded gifts, precepts and privileges under the Lordship of Christ, the Great Head of the church. We believe that its officers are pastors and deacons.

# WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

## **ORDINANCES**

We believe that there are only two ordinances for the church regularly observed in the New Testament in the following order:

- Baptism, which is the immersion of the believer in water, whereby he or she obeys Christ's command and sets forth their identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection.
- The Lord's Supper, which is the memorial wherein the believer partakes of the two elements, bread and wine, which symbolize the Lord's body and shed blood, proclaiming His death until He comes.

## **THE CHURCH AND STATE**

We believe in the entire separation of church and state.

## **RELIGIOUS LIBERTY**

We believe in religious liberty; that every person has the right to practice and propagate their beliefs.

## **THE LORD'S DAY**

We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's day and that, in a special sense, it is the divinely appointed day for worship and spiritual exercise.

## **CIVIL GOVERNMENT**

We believe that civil government is of divine appointment for the interest and good order of society; that government officials are to be prayed for, conscientiously honoured and obeyed, except only in the things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who is the only Lord of the conscience and Prince of the kings of the earth.

## **HUMAN LIFE**

We believe that all life is sacred and created by God in His image (Gen. 1:27). Human life is of inestimable worth in all its dimensions, including pre-born babies, the elderly, the physically and mentally challenged, and every other stage or condition from conception through natural death.

Because all people are loved by God and made in his image, every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity (Mark 12:28 - 31; Luke 6:31) regardless of a person's gender, race, religion, background or sexual orientation. Hateful and harassing behaviour or attitudes directed toward any individual are not in accord with Scripture.

# WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

## **GENDER**

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. Males and females are given distinct, complimentary characteristics that together reflect the image and nature of the God who made them (Gen. 1:26 - 27). We believe that the rejection of one's biological gender is a rejection of the image of God within that person.

## **HUMAN SEXUALITY AND MARRIAGE**

We believe that God made human beings with a tremendous drive to express themselves sexually. We stand with the historical Christian church, believing that sex is a gift from God. It is a gift, however, to be enjoyed within the boundaries God provides. The Bible teaches that these boundaries are within the context of marriage, between a husband and wife (1 Corinthians 6:18; 7:2 - 5; Hebrews 13:4). We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man\* and one woman\* in a covenant relationship that is monogamous, heterosexual and intended for life.

\*Where this statement refers to marriage of "one man" and "one woman", those phrases are understood to refer to persons who are biologically male or female from birth.

# WHAT IS OUR HISTORY?

Ridge Church has a rich heritage of community involvement, and it has played a vital part in God's story here in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. Ridge Church was founded in 1912 by four families who felt led to plant a church that would make an impact for the gospel in the city.

At the very first service, the congregation sang the song "To the Work, To the Work" by Fanny Crosby. The song's lyrics reveal that the founding family's vision for Ridge Church included working hard towards the fulfillment of God's mission to save lost people.

One of the verses reads:

To the work! To the work!

There is labor for all;

For the kingdom of darkness and error shall fall;

And the love of our Father exalted shall be,

In the loud-swelling chorus,

"Salvation is free!"

As the church grew, the families rallied together to purchase property for the church. God continued to show favour to the young church. As the church grew, several building additions were needed. God's work done God's way had God's provision as well. The congregation of Ridge Church purchased the land for its current location in 1948 and held the first services on this site in 1950. It has been in its current building—on this site—since 1982, with significant renovations taking place in 1999 and again in 2020.

The strength of our church is in the relationships its members have with our Lord Jesus Christ, their relationships with each other and the manifestation of God's will in a variety of ministry initiatives both within the walls of the church and outside in the community.

We trust that the best days of Ridge Church are still ahead of us. This trust is anchored in the Philippians 1:6 promise: "And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."





# WHAT IS OUR FUTURE?

## **Our Mission:**

To make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that Jesus has commanded us (Matthew 28:18-20).

## **Our Vision:**

that our city would know JESUS.

JESUS.

We believe that JESUS is the hope of the world and we invite you to explore and celebrate what it means to know and be known by Jesus.

COMMUNITY.

We believe gathering as a COMMUNITY is essential to living out the abundant life that Jesus promises us. We encourage you to experience the various ways you can know and be known by others.

CITY.

We believe that Jesus calls us to be light and love in our CITY. We want to see our city know and be known by Jesus.



# WHAT IS EXPECTED OF A MEMBER?

## **JESUS | to know and be known by Jesus**

### **As a member of RIDGE CHURCH I commit to pursuing ongoing, personal faith in Jesus**

- Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith. (Colossians 2:6-7a)

This includes...

- Submitting to the authority of Scriptures as the final say on all issues (Psalm 119; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21)
- Pursuing a relationship with Jesus Christ through regular Bible reading, prayer, and practice of spiritual disciplines (Luke 18:1; Acts 17:11; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Ephesians 5:1 - 21; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22)
- Walking in holiness in all areas of life as an act of worship to Jesus Christ and as a testimony to the watching world of Christ's work in your life (1 Peter 1:13-16; 1 Peter 4:1-3)
- Confessing and repenting of sin in your life and seeking to put your sin to death (Romans 8:13; Colossians 3:5; James 5:16; 1 John 1:6-10)
- Holding to the foundational truths set out in our Statement of Faith

## **COMMUNITY | to know and be known by others.**

### **As a member of RIDGE CHURCH I commit to know and be known in community**

- Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (Hebrews 10:23-25)



J E S U S  
C O M M U N I T Y  
C I T Y

# WHAT IS EXPECTED OF A MEMBER?

## COMMUNITY (continued)

This includes...

- Submitting to the leadership of the church and diligently striving for unity and peace within the church (Ephesians 4:1-3; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 5:5)
- Regularly participating in the life of Ridge Church by attending weekly services and engaging in gospel-centred community

### **As a member of RIDGE CHURCH I commit to deal with conflict in a biblical way**

- But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. (Matthew 5:39)
- If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

(Matthew 18:15-17)

This includes...

- Following the biblical procedures for church discipline where sin is evident in another, the hope being repentance and restoration
- Receiving righteous and loving discipline when approached biblically by fellow believers (Psalm 141:5; Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5:9-23; Hebrews 12:5-11)



J E S U S  
C O M M U N I T Y  
C I T Y

# WHAT IS EXPECTED OF A MEMBER?

**CITY | to see our city know and be known by Jesus**

**As a member of RIDGE CHURCH I commit to actively help to accomplish the mission and vision that Jesus has given us.**

- 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. (Matthew 28:19-20)

**As a member of RIDGE CHURCH I commit to faithfully serving others for the cause of Christ, either formally or informally.**

This includes...

- Serving either formally within one of the ministries of the church or informally in our community with the intention of furthering the gospel of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 4:10; Galatians 6:10; Hebrews 6:10)

**As a member of RIDGE CHURCH I commit to give consistently and generously.**

This includes...

- Giving regularly and generously (2 Corinthians 9:10-11)



J E S U S  
C O M M U N I T Y  
C I T Y

# OUR PROCESS

## **Member Admission Process**

Membership at Ridge Church is based on the qualifications outlined above, participation in our Ridge Church Membership Class (and/or interview with an authorized person), and signing the Ridge Church Membership Commitment.

The Church Board of Ridge Church is ultimately responsible for the membership admission process, but they have delegated the bulk of this responsibility to the Pastoral staff. That fact notwithstanding, the Church Board of Ridge Church, subject to the bylaws, will vote on each new member who meets the criteria listed above.

## **Termination of Membership**

Membership may be terminated. Termination may occur if a member is brought under church discipline and fails to submit:

## **Member Discipline**

As outlined in the church's bylaws, Ridge Church believes that Scripture makes it clear that it is the responsibility of the church to bring believers back to "the way" in a loving restorative process, but, if all else fails and the person remains resistant, to expel them. A member isn't expelled because of sin but by being resistant to repentance from sin.

The Lead Pastor is authorized to oversee the restoration process (per Matthew 18:15-18; and Galatians 6:1-5) and may seek to engage suitably mature members to assist where necessary. Documentation of discussions should be maintained throughout the process where appropriate. If it is evident that a member is resistant after the personal and private states of intervention, then a letter to the member shall be sent from the Board. If this fails to bring repentance then the Church Board may terminate membership.



# MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENT

**Having been led by the Holy Spirit to receive Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour and Lord, and having been baptized as a believer in Jesus Christ in obedience to Christ, I now enter into membership at Ridge Church through the following commitments...**

## **JESUS | to know and be known by Jesus**

As a member of Ridge Church I commit to pursuing ongoing, personal faith in Jesus.  
(Colossians 2:6-7a)

This includes...

- Submitting to the authority of Scriptures as the final say on all issues (Psalm 119; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; 2 Peter 1:19 - 21)
- Pursuing a relationship with Jesus Christ through regular Bible reading, prayer and practice of spiritual disciplines (Luke 18:1; Acts 17:11; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Ephesians 5:1-21; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22)
- Walking in holiness in all areas of life as an act of worship to Jesus Christ and as a testimony to the watching world of Christ's work in your life (1 Peter 1:13-16; 1 Peter 4:1-3)
- Confessing and repenting of sin in my life and seeking to put my sin to death (Romans 8:13; Colossians 3:5; James 5:16; 1 John 6-10)
- Holding to the foundational truths as set out in our Statement of Faith

## **COMMUNITY | to know and be known by others**

As a member of Ridge Church I commit to be engaged in community with others in the church (Hebrews 10:23-25)

This includes...

- Submitting to the leadership of the church and diligently striving for unity and peace within the church (Ephesians 4:1-3; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 5:5)
- Regularly participating in the life of Ridge Church by attending weekly services and engaging in gospel-centred community

# MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENT

## COMMUNITY | (continued)

As a member of Ridge Church I commit to deal with conflict in a biblical way (Matthew 5:39; 18:15-20)

This includes...

- Following the biblical procedures for church discipline where sin is evident in another, the hope being repentance and restoration
- Receiving righteous and loving discipline when approached biblically by fellow believers (Psalm 141:5; Matthew 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 5:9-23; Hebrews 12:5-11)

## CITY | to see our city know and be known by Jesus

As a member of Ridge Church I commit to actively helping to accomplish the mission and vision that Jesus has given us. (Matthew 28:19-20)

As a member of Ridge Church I commit to faithfully serving others for the cause of Christ, either formally or informally.

This includes...

- Serving either formally within one of the ministries of the church or informally in our community with the intention of furthering the gospel of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 4:10; Galatians 6:10; Hebrews 6:10)

As a member of Ridge Church I commit to give consistently and generously.

This includes..

- Giving regularly and generously (2 Corinthians 9:10-11)

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**Name (Printed)**

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**Signature**

**Date**

# WHY MEMBERSHIP?

**How is Membership to be understood? The church has two dimensions:**

## **1. The Church Universal - Union of Christ: Positional**

- a. Consists of all believers around the world
- b. We become members of the universal church upon receiving Christ as our Lord and Saviour
- c. Christ is the head of the universal church "And He, Christ, is the head of the body, the church" (Colossians 1:18)

## **2. The Local Church - Union with the Body: Functional**

- a. This refers to the local expression of the universal church in a specific place
- b. We are members of a local body of believers the way hands and feet are members of the human body
- c. Being part of the local church creates an organizational connectedness that has expectations of both care and accountability among its members

\*\* NB: In speaking about membership in this document, we are referring to membership in the sense of belonging and commitment to RIDGE CHURCH.



# WHY MEMBERSHIP?

## **1. Membership says, "I belong."**

God says believers belong together (Hebrews 10:23-25). You sense that God wants you here with the people of Ridge Church at this time in your Christian life and you want to make a public declaration that you are committed to God's work through His church.

## **2. Membership says, "I share ministry goals."**

God says believers are to be committed to one another for the sake of spiritual impact (Ephesians 4:16). You believe Jesus has a work to do here and around the world and you're willing to join with others to see that it gets done.

## **3. Membership says, "I accept responsibility for fellow believers."**

This is God's plan as well (Galatians 6:1-2, 10). You want to be part of a caring network of people, sharing one another's joys and sorrows and helping one another grow through worship, Bible study and fellowship.

## **4. Membership says, "I am accountable to mature brothers and sisters in Christ."**

God warns against spiritual autonomy (Matthew 18:15-20, Hebrews 13:17). You don't want to go it alone while standing for Jesus Christ; you want to receive the guidance, equipping and assistance necessary to remain on target.

## **5. Membership says, "I accept responsibility for how things are done here."**

Members don't simply expect others to do ministry but actively contribute to the mission and ministry of our church. They are also responsible to elect our board and other church officers, affirm an annual ministry budget, and call senior pastors to serve as our spiritual leaders (1 Corinthians 12:20-27).

## **6. Membership keeps us legal.**

The government recognizes churches if they have a credible membership and organization. Adherence to these laws affirms that we are responsible citizens with a desire to serve (1 Timothy 3:2, 1 Peter 2:13-17).