

Heart Lake Baptist Church

Church Profile

Heart Lake Baptist Church (HLBC) was founded in May 1977 as a church plant initiated by the Convention Baptists of Ontario and Quebec (CBOQ). The founding Pastor, Brian Long gave leadership to the church until 1986, which coincided with the completion of the church building. A Christian Education wing and gymnasium were added in 1997 and a major extension including new offices, meeting rooms and an unfinished basement was added in 2008.

After Pastor Long left in 1986, Mark DeVolder came in as lead pastor for 10 years, followed by Ed McLean who served as lead pastor from 1998-2014.

From May 2014 until July 2016, the church engaged a Church Consultant and Transitional Pastor in the person of Eugene Neudorf who lead us through a period of renewal and assisted in the search process for a new lead pastor.

Rev. Dr. Terry Atkinson is now our lead pastor and is providing strong leadership in our next stage of growth. In addition to the above, we have been blessed with a number of Associate/youth pastors.

Heart Lake Baptist is an evangelical, bible believing church and, although part of the CBOQ, a majority of the members come from other church traditions. Over the years we have tried to teach and model a lifestyle where the words “grace” and “come as you are” are valued and lived out in our fellowship.

Our congregation is multicultural, reflecting the city of Brampton, and is known for being warm, friendly and having a “family feel”. Heart Lake is also a very informal church in terms of dress, style and polity. Our worship music is contemporary, with traditional hymns sometimes included in the praise time.

The majority of ministries and programs are led by lay leaders and include:

- Weekly youth programs (senior & junior high); children’s programs (boys & girls club); Alpha; Freedom Session (12 step program) and P.A.T.H (Pursuing A Transformed Heart), an opportunity for deeper teaching of God’s Word;
- Monthly Seniors’, Women’s and Men’s activities;
- Congregational Care; and a Newcomers ministry.

Heart Lake Baptist supports both local and international missions. Since 2006, we have been sending mission teams every other year to Guatemala (adults) and the Dominican Republic (senior high). Currently, major projects include:

- Relational & Community building in the Knightsbridge high rise area in Brampton.
- Regeneration in Brampton (support for the homeless & marginalized);
- Rising Angels (to assist women who want to leave the Sex Trade, and prevent the vulnerable from getting involved)
- PILAS student ministry (Barb & Gerry Normand) in Guatemala;
- Lighthouse ministry in the Dominican Republic;

Previous projects in our community included a Food Bank; ESL & Computer Ministry; and Make a Difference Days (MADD), a community service ministry.

We now look forward to what God has in store for us, as we embrace and implement our new Vision, Mission and Core values, and become even more missional.