

Church Profile of Heritage Fellowship Christian Reformed Church, Brampton, Ontario

Church location: 7900 McLaughlin Rd. S. Brampton, ON L6Y5A7

Heritage Fellowship CRC (HFCRC) is located on the 5 acre campus of Holland Christian Homes (HCH), which has about 1,100 residents. There are six (6) apartment towers for independent living (642 apartments), two (2) Long Term Care facilities, Faith (160 beds) and Grace Manor (120 beds). There are over 400 staff employed at Holland Christian Homes. There are over 1000 names on the waiting list for the apartments. In the next few years, the old Faith Manor will be converted to Bethany Place which will hold memory care apartments for 40 people.



HCH is located in the city of Brampton which has a population over 600,000. Brampton is part of the Greater Toronto Area with a population over 7 million.

Staff: 3 full time Pastors/Chaplains plus a part time secretary and a volunteer treasurer.

Professing members: 255 active, 67 non-active; 76 non-members who worship with us. All of the church members are retired and are 65 or older, median age is 87 years. Many are of Dutch descent. However, many newer members are coming from non-Dutch, non-CRC background.

Average Sunday church attendance: 300 in the AM service and 150 in the PM service. Many more participate by watching our CCTV, especially the residents in the nursing homes.

Language used during Church services: English.

Worship Services follow a traditional CRC order of worship. We generally use the Psalter Hymnal and “Lift Up Your Heart” for singing, with organ and piano accompaniment.

Discipleship is done through in-home prayer and visitation, small Bible Study Groups, and daily morning devotions over the CCTV. Bible study and hymn singing are conducted in Faith and Grace Manor each week.

Financial Info: Present annual budget is \$532,000.

We praise God that we can raise 100% of our budget, as well as 100% of the Denominational and Classical Ministry Shares along with generous offerings (over \$100,000) to many other causes.

Compensation Package for our Pastors/Chaplains: Based on “The Minister’s Compensation Survey” for Classis Toronto issued by the CRC every year. A housing allowance is provided, as well as Medical and Life Insurance and Travel allowance. Funds are set aside for “Continuing Education” and we have a Sabbatical policy. The church works closely with the Management of Holland Christian Homes. For instance: Our Pastors/Chaplains provide pastoral care for all residents and employees of HCH, while HCH provides a fully equipped sanctuary for Sunday Services which includes CCTV, technical infrastructure and support, as well as ample office space for our pastors.

Ministry at HFCRC and HCH involves walking with members and their families in the third third of life as they approach their death. Care involves encouragement, affirmation, comfort, and sharing the gospel message with individuals and their families. We remind people of the love of Jesus and the promise that He will never leave nor forsake us. Ministry is not only to church members but to all residents and staff of HCH.

Our worship services are focused on believers. They serve as an encouragement and comfort to all who know, love, and serve Jesus Christ.

Leadership is predominantly provided by the pastoral staff. The church council is made up 6 elders and 6 deacons. The finance committee is made up of 4 lay people from the congregation. Our treasurer is a volunteer from the church. The counting committee is made up of members from the deacons and the congregation.

There are no specific evangelism strategies. It just happens as we interact with residents and staff throughout the facility.

Our church does not represent the ethnic diversity in our broader community. Forty-five percent of Brampton's population is South Asian.

Much of the church's response to compassion, mercy, and justice needs is through offerings and prayer. There are food and coat drives that take place each year producing an overwhelming amount of donations. So too the knitted items that are made by community members.

HFCRC is a generous church. They are a deeply grateful and supportive people. They have seen and done much in the world and now they are resting from their hard labour. From serving in WWII in the military and underground through Europe and South Asia. Then immigrating to Canada by various means. When they arrived they settled and built homes, found work, and then began establishing Christian churches, schools, universities, labour associations, writing books. They established businesses and trades, stores and financial institutions, and so on. They are a community active in prayer. They take seriously daily study of the Word. They encourage and support council and the pastors. They are hungry to hear God's Word shared and prayer being offered. They are a caring and loving community.

HFCRC struggles with finding people for council. When the average age is in the late 80's, it can be difficult to find people who are not only gifted, but healthy enough to serve.

Helpful links for our community:

www.brampton.ca/en/pages/welcome.aspx

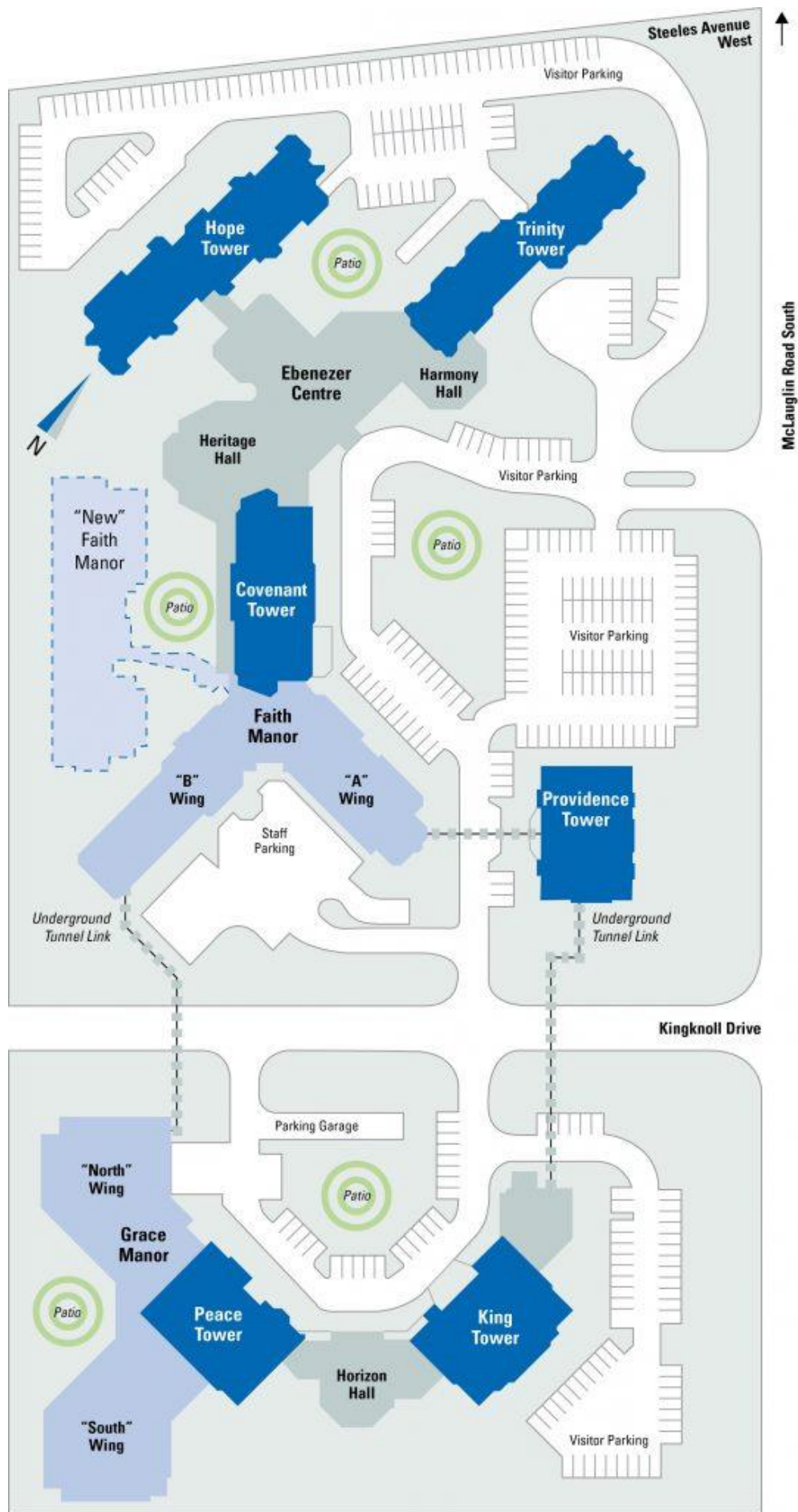
www.realtor.ca

www.hch.ca

Christian Schools

www.tdchristian.ca

<https://www.bramptonjkcs.org/>



Holland Christian Homes Campus Map



Heritage Fellowship CRC worship service in Heritage Hall



Remembrance Day Service, Heritage Hall



**May 5, 2020 –
Dutch Liberation
Day ceremony
with WWII Dutch
veterans and
current Canadian
military service
men and women.**

**Opa Reading statue in the
courtyard at HCH.**

