

GROWING [↑]to SERVE

The Campaign for Hughson Street Baptist Church



Architect's renderings of the new home of Hughson Street Baptist Church

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Hughson Street Baptist Church
383 Hughson Street N
Hamilton, Ontario L8L 4N2

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Why grow?

God is good. *Our fellowship is warm, nurturing and vibrant. Our congregation is intimate, positive and energetic. We all know each other, we depend on each other, we feel like we belong. And we get great joy from serving our community together, because lives are changed.*

Life is good. *So why grow? Why change? Why take the risk? Why not just deepen our personal faith and enrich discipleship, and strengthen the fellowship? Why strive to grow?*

We grow because we are followers of Christ.

We follow His way of life

And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. (Luke 2:52)

We follow His vision

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free. (Luke 4:18)

We follow His heart

When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." (Matthew 9:36-38)

We grow because more of the people whom Jesus Christ loves are within our reach - we long for more space to welcome them and more disciples to proclaim the good news every day.

Because we follow Christ, we grow to serve.



Hughson growth: spiritual genetics

Founded in mission. A history in the neighbourhood. A passion for service

Hughson Street Baptist has a long history of acting on our calling to God's mission in North Hamilton.

1887- Founded as "a mission church in a remote part of Hamilton" and one of the oldest congregations in the city.

1955- Rev. Alfred Bell and his wife Maisee began serving the congregation. The church grew even as rapid Urban Renewal efforts in the blue-collar neighbourhood demolished over 300 homes and businesses to make way for new civic infrastructure. The Bells were active in ministering during this demoralizing and difficult period in the community's history.

1980s- The church walked alongside neighbourhood families as they struggled with the effects of poverty and economic hardship due to declines in Hamilton's industrial sector.

1990- Rev. Peter Wright and his wife Darlene joined Hughson at a low point, and focused their ministry on youth. The congregation's average age dropped significantly, and an era of revitalization began. However, the Church's future in the North End remained uncertain.

1995- A young Dwayne Cline was volunteering with the Wrights, who nurtured his gifts in helping young people grow in their faith. When the Wrights moved to Saskatchewan, Dwayne became pastor and was ordained at Hughson in 1998.

2000- Rev. Cline and Assistant Pastor Wes Hill laid the foundation for the congregation to grow in its radical commitment to Christ through lives invested in serving their North End neighbours. Ministries included soccer and sports programs, after-school youth groups, and young parent mentoring.

2004- Hughson helped launch TrueCity Hamilton — a movement of churches seeking the good of the city, extending its vision for ministry through word and deed.

2007- Lightway Church in East Hamilton is planted, where over 70 people are growing in ministry in a community where 80% of children start school not knowing English.

2011- Hughson bought 500 James St. North with the vision to build a new base for expanding ministry in North Hamilton.

2015- As North Hamilton rapidly attracts investment and housing prices skyrocket, the Church's leadership prayerfully discerns that God is calling Hughson to an expanded vision of serving poor and marginalized neighbours through affordable housing.

2016- Hughson invites Indwell to join in ministry and build supported housing at 500 James as part of a new ministry centre.

Today: Growing impact in the neighbourhood

- 240 people regularly attending worship services — 65% of whom live within walking distance of the church
- 5 full-time pastoral staff
- 90% of the congregation actively serving in the Church's ministry
- 500+ neighbours directly engaged by Hughson ministries each week
- 100+ individuals helped by the Hughson food bank each month
- 230-270 children registered annually in Hughson's soccer program
- 220+ community youth and children connected to weekly youth ministries
- ministry is expanding to support refugees and immigrants

Hughson is sharing God's renewing word for the lives of individuals through a ministry vision for another generation of service.

- pastoral staff are engaging in community dialogue on the changing economic realities impacting North Hamilton
- new pastors, youth ministry, and worship leaders are being trained and sent out, disciplined to see God's work transform lives globally
- building a new church and ministry centre to enable ministry in North Hamilton — combining Gospel-centre teaching, sports ministry, and practical service through affordable housing, food-related programs, and youth mentoring



Hughson... We have a problem.

Hughson Street Baptist Church has been ministering in North Hamilton for over 130 years. Throughout those generations, the community has often struggled with economic hardship, lack of education, and family dysfunction. The church has been a Christian presence, ministering through faithful preaching of the Word and acts of practical service.

Our ministries have grown over the past two decades, and we can no longer fit in our current facilities. We have outgrown our original building at 383 Hughson and our rented space at Bennetto elementary school. Yet there are many more children, youth, and families who need to experience the compassion of Christ through us and to hear the gospel.

We have the members willing to grow our programs. We have the community connections to reach our neighbours. God has given us the skills and vision to minister to a poor yet changing neighbourhood through practical action. But we need to build a new ministry centre to do more.

Our new ministry centre will create new and larger space for worship and ministry — and also build a unique affordable building to serve forty-five households living in poverty. We need to grow and build so that we can serve where God had placed us.

Indwell — Hope and Homes for All

Indwell is a Christian charity that creates affordable housing communities for people seeking health, wellness, and belonging. Established in 1974, Indwell has grown to support over 400 tenants in Hamilton, Woodstock and Simcoe.

Indwell's housing-focused ministry helps individuals and households overcome barriers arising from illness, addiction, or poverty. Indwell provides stable housing, supports people as they deal with a variety of issues, and creates effective community that helps counter the isolation and loneliness that compound the effects of illness and poverty.

For Hughson Street Baptist Church, Indwell is an ideal partner. Christian in calling and conviction, Indwell allows Hughson Street to provide long-term housing, but to focus on relationships and service instead of managing property and tenants. Indwell has demonstrated that churches and Christian people have a unique opportunity to live out and speak to the power of God by coming alongside people struggling with poverty, mental illness, or other concerns because they are motivated by their relationships with Jesus and each other.

Our Mission. As a church anchored in the North End of Hamilton, Hughson exists to join God as His Spirit builds Christ's kingdom in our lives, neighbourhood, and city.



We are strongly convicted that growing to serve, and addressing a developing housing crisis for those least able to fend for themselves is part of our mission. And God is providing in amazing ways, and we praise Him for that.

Yet what remains is daunting. The cost of building a new building that will both house the church and 45 apartments for the marginalized is a gigantic faith step for a congregation predominately made up of modest income earners, and located in one of Canada's poorest neighbourhoods.

So we are praying that God will move people to become partners with Hughson in our future service. We see Hughson growing in faith, and greater opportunities to reach more people in our community with God's love. Please consider journeying with us as we grow to serve.

- Rev. Dwayne Cline, Lead Pastor



Hughson Street Baptist Church is committed to staying in and serving the North End of Hamilton where:

- 41% of our community lives in poverty (the poorest in the city) compared to 18% in the city
- twice as many families or individuals in our community are on Ontario Works or Ontario Disability Support Program compared to the city's average
- 59% of single parent families live in poverty in our community compared to 29% in the city
- 55% of children under 6 in our community live in poverty compared to 26% in the city
- 36% of the seniors in our community live in poverty compared to 16% in the city

God's provision – Part 1: Our 'New' Building

Our current building is a lovely symbol of Hughson's rich history, yet it is utterly unsuited to our present, and especially to our future. With only three parking spots, a predominately dirt basement, a crumbling foundation, scarce Sunday School rooms, inaccessible washrooms, inadequate childcare space and a small auditorium, it neither accommodates our ministry today, nor has a sufficient foundation for expansion or rebuilding within any reasonable cost.

Yet God miraculously provided the funding for us to purchase a building located less than a block away from our existing church. No other building in the neighbourhood that we can imagine owning could be more useful to us than 500 James St N. The new facility is 30,000 square feet compared to our current 8,000 square feet.

God's provision – Part 2: The Campaign for Hughson

We are already using part of the new building. Our urgent prayer is that we can begin to renovate the building in 2017. But the cost is well beyond our capacity, even though our members are heavily committed to giving sacrificially to the project. We can't do this without help from people who believe that Hughson should grow, in order to serve.

Gratitude & government support

We are grateful for the generous commitment of the provincial and federal government housing authorities to this project. However, to ensure we have freedom to be who we are, now and in the future, we obtained clear, official assurance that the only condition attached to the funding is that the housing units must be maintained and run as affordable and supportive housing for 20 years. Meanwhile, the generosity of God's people who have made very significant gifts to the project opened several doors for us to discuss our mission and vision, and to share God's love during our discussions with government representatives.

Cost to purchase	\$1,300,000
Rebuilding for ministry and housing	\$19,700,000
Total	\$21,000,000

Government contribution for housing	\$6,300,000
CMHC	\$1,965,000
Gifts made to date	\$7,535,000

Goal for Growing To Serve	\$5,200,000
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HUGHSON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

Can you see what we see?

Where vision can flourish, service can grow and lives will be changed



Our people are very creative when it comes to neighbourhood outreach. But we have all learned, almost instinctively now, to curtail our imagination, because there's no more room for any kind of innovation. The spaces in our new church building will greatly broaden the horizons of our ministry to the children and families in our community. When we do dare to imagine that space might exist for something new, it's exciting to think about taking advantage of more opportunities, and serving more families. — Rachel Symons, Kid's Club volunteer and summer student



Where can you go to have a private conversation with a struggling family? To counsel someone in a crisis? To talk a young person through their questions of faith? We're using corners and alcoves and sometimes just three chairs in a triangle and pretending no one else is in view or can hear us. Our staff look forward to seeing the existing offices renovated into areas well-suited for our individual assignments and meetings. Staff know the ministry will benefit greatly from having a defined space, and the simple capacity to conduct the Hughson ministry — to provide pastoral counselling in one room, collaborate with community leaders in another, and help someone plan a family member's funeral in a private room. — Dwayne Cline, Pastor



With over 120 youth in five different programs meeting in four different locations each week it will be great to be in a facility in which we can host everything and everyone! Our ministries will be more effective and focused, and the community will have a greater sense of belonging to the church community, which prayerfully would lead them into a relationship with Jesus Christ. — Derek Hisson, Youth Pastor



Each week we welcome dozens of marginalized neighbours in for the HUB where we share a meal, play games and hear a gospel-centered message in an often crowded space. Having more space will allow us to care for even more neighbours without feeling crowded. — Val Campbell, Volunteer



Whether it's giving families groceries or helping people with used clothing, or some other activity, it is standing room only. All 35 chairs are full, and another 15 or more people cram into the edges, effectively barring access to anyone not already on the inside. We look forward to welcoming people into a more relaxed setting. Having more room to serve people means treating them with greater dignity, and having more time for them as individuals which is essential to ministering to people in need with compassion and in the name of Jesus. — Paul Havercroft, Associate Pastor

Please help us grow, to serve.

We look forward to when we have enough space to accommodate the various ministries God is calling us to. We are praying for help to create a place where the often aimless and destructive lives of young people will be transformed by God.

We long to transform our new property into a centre where neighbours and friends who come for emergency food and clothing can have the dignity of being able to walk through a room where they can choose the food and clothing they need.

We envision a place where marginalized friends who have struggled with homelessness while suffering from a variety of disabilities, will find hope and a welcoming home.

We are committed to being a beacon for immigrants and refugees, where they will be welcomed and cared for.

We dream about a becoming a place where our children and grandchildren will continue to gather as a community, to worship, grow and serve God.



How to give to *Growing to Serve: The Campaign for Hughson Street Baptist Church*

Every gift to *Growing to Serve* will directly grow the capacity of Hughson Street Baptist Church to minister to the community, today and for a generation or more to come.

Each gift will be gratefully received, recorded and recognized in an appropriate manner.

You have several options for making your gift to the *Growing to Serve* campaign. All gifts will receive tax credit to the full extent allowed by law.

Gifts of cash

Cash gifts provide immediate resources to the Church and advance the timetable.

Gifts by pledge

With a pledge period of up to two years, you are able to budget for your donation, while Hughson Street Baptist Church can plan the most effective means of accomplishing its goals.

Gifts of securities or personal property

Gifts in this form may be advantageous to certain donors. Inquire with the Growing to Serve campaign office for more information. (Please obtain independent financial advice about the tax or other specific implications of such a donation.)

Cheques or financial directives should be directed to Hughson Street Baptist Church and designated for "Growing to Serve" or "Capital Campaign."

Pre-authorized giving — We would be delighted for you to support *Growing to Serve* and the ministry of Hughson Street Baptist Church through a pre-authorized monthly gift from your bank account or credit card. Please contact our office and we will make that arrangement.

For information on any aspects of the *Growing to Serve* campaign or the project please contact us.

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“Hughson has saved our family”.

In just the short period of time that we've been a part of Hughson we've felt God's love and grace like never before. Watching God work powerfully in your children's lives is an incredible experience. My oldest son has decided to be baptised and my youngest has overcome some serious anxiety issues. I am continuously watching their hearts grow in faith as they build a relationship with God. I truly believe their growth is due to the connections made with the church and their amazing programs offered to the youth. Being a part of Hughson has saved our family and given us such a new and wonderful understanding of how awesome our God is.

— From a family that came to Hughson in 2012

The Hughson Street Church Ministry Team.

*(Left to right-back row) Diana Crosby, Children's Ministry Director; Marcio Silva, Community Pastor; Paul Havercroft, Associate Pastor
(Left to right - front row) - Dwayne Cline, Lead Pastor; Jesus Bondo, Church Planting Intern; Derek Hisson, Youth Pastor; Jenna Smith, Office Administrator*



*There is a new story being told in the North End of Hamilton. It is a story where folks who have faced incredible challenges and disabilities are entering mutual relationships with Christians, mostly young, who are not only opening up their church to provide affordable housing but are sharing their lives, networks and faith. This new journey towards a new story is filled with hope. It is in these new relationships where we often get to see Jesus and his Kingdom unfolding (Matthew 25).
— Jeff Neven, Executive Director, Indwell*



Hughson Street Baptist Church serves as an example of how churches can engage their communities for God's glory and the sake of the Gospel. God is using them to see neighbours and a community transformed. I encourage you to consider how you can partner with them. — Bob Flemming, Regional Director, Fellowship of Evangelical Baptists, Central Region



For over 20 years we have been in partnership with Hughson Street Baptist Church in supporting a sense of belonging and meaning in the community we serve. Dwayne Cline, as leader of HSBC has been pivotal in seeing possibility, creating hope, and changing lives. — Elizabeth Beader, CEO, North Hamilton Community Health Centre serving nearly 9,000 clients with over 100 employees



Hughson Street Baptist Church serves an impoverished area in Hamilton exceptionally well. They offer programs and ministries that connect with neighbours and clearly share the gospel with them. We are thrilled with their work in our city and proudly partner with them. — Bob Bernie, Bernie's Plumbing



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