NCC Church Profile

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New City Church is a worshiping community that exists to make the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ known among the people of Calgary in the hope of seeing the joy and peace of Christ’s Kingdom come to our great city.
Our context:
The City of Calgary

The mission of New City Church is to be a church in the city for the city. Therefore, we invite you to learn more about where we live, worship, and serve.

The City of Calgary, population 1.2 million, is a demographically young, culturally diverse, proudly philanthropic, highly entrepreneurial city with a can-do attitude. While it is the largest city in Alberta, it exhibits a strong community consciousness and culture of volunteerism. Approximately 36% of the population belongs to a visible minority group, many of whom are new Canadians.

While 55% of the population claim an affiliation with Christianity, 32% have no religious affiliation and the amount of secularism is increasing. Other religions in the city (13%) are Muslims (5.2%), Sikhs (2.6%), and Buddhists (2.1%).

Business and Economics

The city’s spirit of independence is evident in widespread entrepreneurship, extensive innovation and a growing diversity of industries. Traditionally seen as an Oil & Gas hub, the last decade of volatile energy prices has led to a digital transformation that is utilizing the depth of technical expertise in Calgary. Calgary has the highest head office concentration, and the second highest small business concentration of major cities in Canada. Being home to the highest millionaires per capita, average wages for Calgary lead Canadian cities. However, Calgary also leads Canada’s other major cities in income inequality.

Contemporary Issues

Like most large cities, there are many socio-economic challenges facing Calgary. Through cooperative strategic initiatives, such as the Calgary Committee to End Homelessness, the city has become a leader within Canada in addressing homelessness. Domestic violence continues to be a significant concern in Calgary as well as in Alberta, exceeding the national average rates of reported family violence for the last decade.

Politics

Historically, Alberta politics have been dominated by various conservative parties and movements, regardless of political trends in the rest of the country. The national government is currently led by a Liberal Party minority, but all but one of Calgary’s elected representatives belong to the national Conservative Party. Nevertheless, as a metropolitan city, Calgarians are not unified under a single political banner. A municipal election will be held October 2021 with candidates representing a wide range of political positions.
Entertainment and Sports

Calgary has also grown into a vibrant arts and music community which is evidenced by the Canadian Music and Country Hall of Fame, Alberta Ballet, several drama and theatre organizations, and the Calgary Philharmonic Symphony. It is also the home to (3) professional sports teams (Calgary Flames – NHL, Calgary Stampeders – CFL, and Calgary Roughnecks – NLL). Canada Olympic Park, a legacy of the 1988 Olympics, continues to be used for both high performance athletic training and public recreation. Calgary is also home to the world-famous Calgary Stampede, a 10-day long celebration of western heritage and community spirit.

Education

Calgary is a highly educated city, with 70% of residents having education higher than a high school diploma. Calgary also has a prolific academic and learning community including two accredited universities (University of Calgary – 30,000 students and Mount Royal University – 16,000 students), Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (14,000 Students,) and several other publicly funded post-secondary institutions. With highly rated public, separate, charter and private schools, Calgarians value educational choice for their children.

Geography and Weather

Situated on the western edge of the Great Plains, in the foothills of the spectacular Canadian Rockies, Calgary sprawls across river valleys and higher plains. With just over 332 days of sun, Calgary is one of the sunniest places in Canada. Given the close proximity to the Rocky Mountains, Calgary is known for chinooks and frequent fluctuations in weather. Summer temperatures often range between 20 and 30° C and winter days regularly range from -5 to -15° C, although it can get much warmer or much colder than the averages for short spells.

For more information, see
Life in Calgary
Tourism Calgary
A brief history of Calgary
2016 Calgary Census profile
Our vision and values

New City Church is a worshiping community that exists to make the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ known among the people of Calgary in the hope of seeing the joy and peace of Christ’s Kingdom come to our great city. These are the values we hold dear and aspire to live out as a body of believers.

We Value the Gospel
We immerse ourselves in the story of Scripture because it is about God’s heart for the reconciliation and restoration of all things in Jesus Christ.

We are learning that we are more deeply flawed, broken, and sinful than we often have the courage to admit, yet we can experience in Christ the love, acceptance, and forgiveness of God the Father.

We focus on the person and work of Jesus Christ because we believe the Gospel can change anyone and anything.

We emphasize “mere Christianity” stressing the importance of the question of Jesus of Nazareth when He asked, “Who do you say that I am?”

We Value Community
We embrace the fact that part of the restoration of God’s original purposes for humanity includes living in genuine community with each other under God’s kind rule. The Gospel reconciles us to God and to each other, and together we learn a new way of being human.

We acknowledge that one cannot be a healthy follower of Christ apart from other believers, or what has been called ‘the communion of saints.’ Jesus forms us into a community of disciples.

We expect and welcome people who are not yet followers of Jesus Christ to be in our midst. Everyone is welcome - no matter what their background or their honest questions or struggles.

We Value Mission
We exist for the world that Jesus came to save. We understand the mission of the church is to be the very presence of Christ in this broken and bent world. Therefore we embrace the call that we exist for mission and not for comfort.

We want to be a church that is in the city and for the city. Therefore, we are learning more and more to move out of our comfort zones for the sake of others to help others understand the implications of the Gospel of Jesus Christ for themselves.

We believe that God loves cities because they are filled with people, and so should we. We are called to know and love our city well, to celebrate and rejoice in its beauty, and to enter into its brokenness with the love, mercy, and justice of the Lord Jesus Christ.
Initially, our growth has primarily been families that have come from other churches. In the past few years, we have also welcomed many young adults, singles and young marrieds into our church which has brought new life, vitality and diversity. Prior to the pandemic, approximately 190 people, including adults and children, considered NCC their church home. Since re-opening, we have had a weekly average of 75+ people attending in person and 70+ viewing the livestream (each view may be an individual or a family). In the past year, we have welcomed about 30 new members into the church family for a total of 80 members.

The following charts provide a snapshot of New City Church’s demographics based on a summer 2021 congregational survey open to both members and regular attenders, including youth. While these charts represent the 99 respondents rather than the entire congregation, they provide a reasonable representation of the church body.

Our Sunday gatherings reflect our foundational belief that the gospel of grace both challenges and frees us to acknowledge our sinfulness, brokenness and shortcomings (confession and repentance) so that we are always directed to that same grace for forgiveness, reconciliation and sanctification. Our worship combines both liturgical and contemporary elements and selectively incorporates the Church’s rich historical traditions while also drawing on contemporary forms.

We are uncompromising in our commitment to faithfully uphold God’s unchanging Word. Whether in person, via livestreaming, or a combination of modes, we desire to make the weekly service accessible and culturally relevant to the unchurched. We believe God’s Word transcends all cultures and fully communicates to a culture that is constantly changing. In person, we administer the Lord’s Supper on a weekly basis - inviting all baptized Christians present to participate in this very tangible means of receiving God’s grace.

As a dynamic and growing congregation, New City Church provides small group discipleship opportunities through children ministries, youth and young adults groups, women's prayer and Bible study times as well as through Life Groups. We have really high levels of engagement in all of these areas, including more than 80% of adults participating in Life Groups which are the primary and systemic communities of pastoral nurture and care. We further cultivate our intergenerational fellowship and “one anothering” through meal trains for those in challenging times and an annual church fellowship camp.

New City Church currently meets in the heart of Calgary, just northwest of downtown and near to the main University of Calgary campus. Our rental location is easily accessible by car and by public transportation. Congregants come from each quadrant of the city as well as from neighbouring satellite communities such as Cochrane and Chestermere.
Our focus

We are Christian

In saying that we are Christians, we are saying that we are a part of the great tradition of churches worldwide who profess that Jesus of Nazareth is the only True King & Savior of the world. This confession distinguishes us from all other world religions and philosophies.

This confession—that Jesus Christ is Lord—is made as a part of the communities of faith through the ages who have declared this as public truth. So while New City Church is a relatively new church in Calgary, it is not new in its beliefs and practices. We wholeheartedly embrace the historic Christian faith as expressed in the Apostle’s Creed and the Nicene Creed recognized by Christians around the world.

As a Christian church,

- We believe the Bible is the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God.
- We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.
- We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful people, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.
- We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enable to live a godly life.
- We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.
- We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Taken from the doctrinal statement of The National Association of Evangelicals. To see a more detailed summary of evangelical beliefs, see the doctrinal statement of The Gospel Coalition.

We Are Missional

To say that we are missional means that we take seriously the command of Jesus to engage the brokenness of this world with His Gospel, with both the words of the gospel and acts of kindness, justice, and mercy. Situated here in Calgary, New City Church seeks to bring the blessings of Christ’s Kingdom to bear in this time and in this place.

This means:

- We exist for the world our Lord came to save. Therefore, we exist for mission, not for comfort.
- Our mission is a participation in the very mission of God Himself who is reconciling the world to Himself in Christ Jesus.
- Every Christian is called to be a missionary to his or her own spheres of influence.
- It’s not so much that God has a mission for His church as it is the fact that God has a church for His mission.
We are reformational

New City Church is committed to the rich theological heritage of the Protestant Reformation.

During the history of the Christian Church, the Church went through a time when the light of biblical truth became increasingly dim. It was left to a few men to rekindle the flame of the Gospel and to call the Church back to the Scriptures.

Instead of being conformed to the patterns of this world, Christians are called to be transformed--that is, 're-formed'--by the Scriptures. The men who sounded this alarm were called the Reformers of the Church, men like Martin Luther, John Calvin, & John Knox.

Arising out of this period were five foundational stones--five banners--which summarized what the Reformers were trying to do. These were known as the 'solas' (Latin for 'only' or 'alone') of the Reformation.

Scripture Alone
The banner of sola scriptura declares that the Holy Scriptures containing the Old & New Testaments are the authoritative revelation of God. Since these Scriptures are the inspired words of God (literally, 'God-breathed' according to 2 Timothy 3:16), they are the final authoritative rule for our faith and life. The Scriptures are given by God to the Church and are to be interpreted in and by these communities of faith in accordance with the faith that was once and for all entrusted to the saints (Jude 3).

Christ Alone
The banner of solus christus teaches us the message of the Scriptures is that salvation is found in Christ alone (Acts 4:12). The Bible from the beginning to the end is the revelation of the mission of God who is determined to bless the world by rescuing it from its curse and in redeeming a people for Himself. These acts of redemption are focused in the life and death of Jesus Christ and find their fullest expression when God restores all things in Christ (Acts 3:21). Jesus taught that the whole of the Scriptures speaks of Him (John 5:39; Acts 2:27, 44-47). Therefore, we are 'whole Bible' Christians knowing that we cannot fully appreciate the story of salvation recorded for us in the New Testament until we see its beginnings in the Old Testament.

Grace Alone
Sola gratia draws attention to the Scriptural teaching that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). Apart from Christ, all people are spiritually dead in their sins (Ephesians 2:1-3). Therefore, if anyone is to be rescued from this condition, God must graciously save us since none of us can make ourselves presentable to God. God, therefore, in grace reaches down into the muck and mire of our sinful condition and cleanses us, forgiving all our sins. It is grace from beginning to end. And it is all amazing.

Faith Alone
The banner sola fide teaches us that a person is justified (that is, declared by God 'not guilty' and 'righteous' in His sight) by grace alone through faith alone. As the New Testament teaches, "It is by grace that you have been saved--through faith--and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--not by works, so that no one can boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9). No one is made right before God by doing good works, but only by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ and receiving the free of eternal life that is in Christ Jesus. This believing / receiving is an act of trust in God, or what the Bible calls faith.

For the Glory of God Alone
The final banner is soli deo gloria. Since salvation is the free gift of God that we receive by faith alone, God gets all the glory. God has graciously provided salvation to all who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ (John 17:3; Acts 16:31). Therefore, we dedicate our lives to glorifying God and enjoying Him forever.

In short, "the Gospel--known in Scripture alone, found in Christ alone, given by grace alone, received by faith alone to the glory of God alone--is still 'the power of God unto salvation' (Michael Horton)." Therefore, we are called to be semper reformanda, that is, always reforming (Romans 12:1-2). And that is what we are about at New City Church. As a confessional church, we take the Westminster Confession of Faith as our official statement of faith.
Our staff and leadership

Michael Ivancic
Associate Pastor

Mike has walked together in marriage with his wife, Charlotte, for over 30 years. They are proud and grateful parents to Josh (29); Michaila (27) and Elisa (21). Mike received a B.A. in Arts (Urban Development) from the University of Western Ontario and Master of Christian Studies from Regent College, BC. He is currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in the area of Theology of Workplace and Leadership Ethics. He was ordained in the Presbyterian Church in America in 1999. Mike has worked with Campus Crusade for Christ (now Power to Change) for eight years and previously served as a Church Planter and Senior Interim Pastor in Vancouver and Toronto respectively. Today, Mike serves as NCC’s Associate Pastor while also working full time as a Senior Account Manager for a North American Information Technology Company.

mike@newcitychurch.ca / 403-874-5254.

Wes Hynd
Assistant Pastor

Wes is the Assistant Pastor at New City, which basically means he does whatever needs to be done! He and his wife Nadine came to NCC in 2019, looking for a church that would nourish their faith and prepare them for a future ministry of church planting in Northeast Calgary, an area populated by many new immigrants from all over the world. They have since moved to this part of the city and begun building relationships with their neighbours in preparation for this call, while continuing to serve NCC. Wes loves to pioneer new works and lead small teams. He previously served with Power to Change (the Canadian arm of Cru) for 10 years, ministering to and training college students in Calgary, as well as overseeing missions partnerships in Latin America. He holds a Bachelor of Journalism degree from Carleton University (Ottawa) and a Master of Divinity from Reformed Theological Seminary (Orlando). In addition, his wife’s work and gifts as a psychologist-evangelist make them a great complementary ministry team. They have recently adopted their daughter from Thailand and continue to enjoy playing a role in the lives of the kids in their neighbourhood.

wes@newcitychurch.ca

Don Kitchener
Ruling Elder

Don Kitchener is a Ruling Elder at New City Church (NCC) and has been on session for all but a 9 month period since New City was started in 2010. Don was part of the formation of NCC and an elder of the former church that became NCC. Don and his wife Ina have been married for 39 years and have two married sons and a granddaughter. Don works full time in IT for a nearby county and is looking forward to retirement in the next year or so.

Don and Ina look forward to devoting a lot of their retirement time to serving the church and ministering to people in their community and Calgary.

Don can be reached by phone at 403-547-4461 or email at don@newcitychurch.ca.
Twyla Wolfe  
**Bookkeeper/Finance**

Twyla is the Bookkeeper for New City Church. Twyla handles all day to day financial aspects of the church including payroll, accounts receivable and payable as well as keeping track of the offerings for tax receipts, quarterly reporting to the session and the annual charity return. Twyla became a Christian in her late 20’s and with her husband Darrell and son Milo have been with New City Church since its inception in 2010. Her background is in office management, administration and bookkeeping. Twyla enjoys serving behind the scenes, reading, and helping wherever needed by friends and family including babysitting her great nephew once a week.

Mark Bottomley  
**Music Facilitator**

Mark has been facilitating the worship teams at New City Church since its inception in 2010. He graduated from the University of Calgary with a Bachelor in Music and a Bachelor of Education in 1996 & 1998 respectively. He was a teacher in the private and public school systems in Calgary for 10 years. He has had a business in financial services as his full-time career since 2008. He and his wife, Lana, have 3 children, James 17, Brea 14, and Lauryn 11.

Lana Bottomley  
**Children’s Ministry Coordinator**

Lana is the Children’s Ministry coordinator at New City Church. She has been in this role since New City first began their children’s programs in 2011. This includes coordinating nursery care during the Sunday service and organizing and teaching Sunday school. She also leads the Jr. High youth group. In addition to these roles, Lana also assists with team scheduling on Sunday mornings and plays piano for the worship team. Lana is married to her husband Mark for 20 years and has 3 kids. She is a registered nurse, 17 years as a part-time pediatric nurse and is now working full-time as a wound care nurse in Home Care. She enjoys family time, listening to worship music, reading and being outdoors.

Mark and Lana also currently lead the Jr. High Ministry, where tweens and teens (grades 6-8) meet 1-2 times a month for a time of fellowship and bible study. This is a valued time to learn with peers about their Christian faith and how it can apply to their current lives.
Our ministries

Life Groups
Life groups are a central focus of Christian community and spiritual encouragement at New City Church. There are currently 8 groups with over 90 total participants which represents a significant majority of adult members and regular attendees. Each group chooses their own focus of study, ranging from traditional Bible studies to book and video studies, and all groups emphasize prayer. We continue to encourage all adults connected with NCC to participate in Life Groups, and our groups have continued to grow throughout the pandemic.

Women’s Ministry
Women’s Bible Study - This weekly bible study includes women spanning several generations. We meet weekday mornings to discuss our study and pray together. Our group is growing as we move into a spring study on the Armor of God.

Women’s Prayer Groups - We have two weekly prayer meetings where the women of our church come online together to pray for each other, our communities and the world. We have developed deeper relationships with each other, are able to address personal needs when they arise and are able to track God’s answers to our prayers.

Youth Ministries
Senior High
The Senior High Youth Group is a ministry that serves the teens from grades 9-12. Our vision is to assist in the development of the next generation of believers with passionate hearts for the gospel. The youth meet weekly and go through a structured bible study as a group, followed by time in prayer. Additionally, in obedience with the Great Commission, we believe that the gospel message not only serves the church but is intended also for the lost and searching. Therefore, to help prepare the youth for this commission they regularly volunteer with the Drop-In Centre, helping individuals in Calgary struggling with homelessness and addiction.

Junior High
Youth in grades 6-8 meet once or twice a month for a time of fellowship and bible study. This is a valued time to learn with peers about their Christian faith and how it can apply to their current lives.

Children’s Ministries
Nursery at NCC: Childcare is provided for ages 0-3 yrs throughout the Sunday service. We are looking to expand and offer a pre-school age group as well due to the increased number of new young families.

Sunday School at NCC: We offer a Sunday school program for kids in kindergarten to grade 5. Sunday school meets after the church service for 30min where our dedicated teachers can share God’s word to young hearts and minds using a biblical based curriculum. We value our children in the service to give them a sense of belonging to the larger body of Christ and to allow them to participate in communion along with their parents and fellow believers once they have professed their faith in Jesus Christ.

All volunteers, teachers and childcare workers are required to have a current background check and are given instructions for child safety. Both Sunday School and Nursery are currently not offered at live services due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Communications/Digital Strategy
New City Church’s communication platforms include email, our internal church hub (FaithLife), social media (Facebook/Instagram), and Sunday announcement slides. Our goal is to post content that is informative about New City Church, as well as content that is relevant and addressing topics and issues of our culture.

Sonshine Adopt-a-Suite Ministry
New City Church sponsors a one-bedroom suite in the second-stage women’s shelter run by Sonshine Community Services. Women and children are supported in this facility for up to a year after escaping domestic violence. Our sponsorship includes equipping the suite with all of the material needs prior to the arrival of a new tenant. Although a smaller team manages the hands-on part of the project, the entire church community contributes to purchasing the needs for the suite.
2021 Summary profile:

LEAD PASTOR

We eagerly search for a lead pastor whose biblical and gospel-centered preaching and teaching can connect powerfully with the people of Calgary, who meets skepticism with thoughtful discourse, and who has a heart for people. In addition we need a leader who will partner with our church leaders, is not afraid of tough conversations, empowers team collaboration, and will shepherd our community for years to come.

New City Church is seeking a lead pastor who is:

Theologically and Biblically Mature
- has a thorough grasp of and an unwavering faithful commitment to the Word of God and the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- is PCA ordained or able to be ordained.
- is committed to Westminster Standards as secondary sources to the Scripture.

Strong in the Spiritual Disciplines and Christian Character
- demonstrates a consistent and vibrant personal and corporate practice of prayer.
- is pastoral, approachable, authentic, and compassionate.
- is described by others as a person of great character, integrity, humility and grace.

An Effective Communicator and Thoughtful Apologist
- is known for being able to communicate complex theological ideas in a simple manner.
- excels in the preaching and teaching of God’s word, providing theological formation for the spiritual growth of the congregation.
- is wise and adept in speaking to a largely post-Christian secular urban culture supported and informed by practical apologetics.
- is able to engage lay leaders and the congregation in the vision of New City Church.

Skilled in Christian Formation and Church Leadership
- equips and disciples believers.
- acknowledges and leverages the gifts and abilities of broader congregation.
- is a team player with experience in leading church growth beyond 200 people.
- is motivated by a missional mindset.
- demonstrates a genuine heart and engagement for those outside the Christian faith.
- is a bridge-builder who can network with other like-minded ministries and churches that are mutually committed to reaching the city.
- is able to ensure church ministries align with and support NCC’s mission.

Interested applicants are invited to connect with us at applicants@newcitychurch.ca