

## Our History

Prior to the actual formation of the church, a man named Fred Strickland began a mission at the corner of Brunswick and Cogswell Streets. In early 1925 Mattie Crawford, an evangelist, came to Halifax to conduct a revival campaign. Many were saved during that campaign. Full Gospel Church was organized & later received a charter within the year. This article appeared in the newspaper then known as "The Morning Chronicle".

### FULL GOSPEL CHURCH FOR CITY

Rev. W.G. Burchard of Caldwell, Idaho, is coming to Halifax. The Full Gospel Church, organized this week at a meeting in the King Edward Theatre, as an outcome of the meetings held here by Mrs. Mattie Crawford, has extended a call to Rev. Dr. W.G. Burchard, Baptist, of Caldwell, Idaho. Dr. Burchard has accepted the call and is expected to arrive in Halifax in the near future. The Morning Chronicle is informed that Dr. Burchard is pastor of the largest Baptist church in Idaho, and those backing the movement of forming the new church in Halifax are expecting him to head quite a following. Several meetings have been held at the King Edward Theatre, and the following elders have been appointed: E.W. Giffin, Dr. A.A. Shaffner, J.A. Fader, M.E. Giffin, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Pride and Mr. Llewellyn. The King Edward Theatre which has been used for some time has been engaged as a temporary church and services are to be held each Sunday at 10:30, 2:30 and 7:30 respectively.

Full Gospel Church became organized and received their charter in 1925. Then within a few months, in May 1926, Rev. George Gardiner came to Halifax and assumed the pastoral duties of the church. In 1930, Full Gospel moved to the Old Baptist Temple at the corner of Gottington and North Streets. After the depression years, Pastor Gardiner resigned from the church in 1936 and he was then followed by a short but rich ministry of Rev. Clifford Crabtree who left in 1938. Rev. Gardiner returned to Full Gospel in that year, when it became necessary to relocate to North Park Street. Brother Gardiner pastored the church until his resignation in 1958.

Rev. Gordon Lucas became pastor of the church in 1959. The church continued to flourish under his ministry because he was a compassionate, down to earth, and faithful to the Word of God. It was under his leadership, plans were made for the building at North and Oxford Streets. Following the erection of the building in 1963, God continued to bless and many new converts came into the fellowship of the church. The new sanctuary was home to Full Gospel Church until May, 2007. After seven years of successful ministry, Rev. Lucas resigned, and Rev. James Stahl came to the pulpit of Full Gospel Church in the spring of 1966. Pastor Stahl resigned in May 1968 and the next 24 years saw seven pastoral appointments to Full Gospel that included: Rev. George Mallory 1968 - 1970; Rev. Eldon Wilson 1970 - 1972; Following the ministry of Rev. Wilson, there was an interval of sixteen months in which the pulpit was not filled by a pastor. During this period many ministers were brought in for Sunday Services, and deacons and others provided the ministry in the church. Although attendance declined substantially during this period, faithful people still remained believing God yet had a purpose for the church.

Rev. Don Carmont took the pulpit in May 1973, but he did not rely totally on pulpit ministry to reach people for Christ. Much emphasis was placed upon personal soul-winning, and hundreds of homes were contacted in the surrounding area. A steady increase in attendance soon ensued. Pastor Carmont resigned in August, 1977 and followed by Rev. Randy B. Leavitt 1977 - 1981. Rev. Brian Andrew Larratt came October 19, 1981, and resigned on June 25, 1989. Rev. Donald Conrad filled in as interim pastor from July, 1989 to Feb. 1990.

Then in February 1990, Rev. Gary Eugene Barrett came to the pulpit of Full Gospel Church. and remains our present pastor. His gregarious and charismatic personality, his love for people from the young to the elderly, has made him a blessing to Full Gospel. Pastor Barrett preaches the plain and simple story of God's love for fallen man, and how he can be restored by the blood of Jesus. His faithful ministry has resulted in significant growth in the church. The result has been the need for a new building on Kearney Lake Road. We as a church are building for the winning of lost souls and to provide the next generation with a solid foundation.