

Hope Fellowship Church Profile

www.hfc-kc.org

Community Profile

Hope Fellowship Church is located in Kansas City's Northland community. It is located in southern Platte County, within the Park Hill School District, and near the Kansas City International Airport. This area of Kansas City continues to grow and develop.

The church is located on a major street (Barry Road), and is approximately 1.25 miles from I-29 and Highway 152. Community landmarks nearby include the Park Hill School District Office, Park Hill High School, Congress Middle School, Gerner Early Education Center, and Zona Rosa shopping district.

About the Kansas City Metropolitan Area

From the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce:

"Ours is a community of good schools, cultural amenities, acclaimed dining (particularly our BBQ) and affordable living. Most importantly, it's a community with a heart – friendly, easy-going, and forward-thinking. That's why Kiplinger Magazine and other publications have rated Kansas City as one of the 50 Smart Places to Live. Many outsiders are confused that there's a Kansas City, Kansas and a Kansas City, Missouri. Simply put, we are one big metropolitan area that happens to have a state border down the middle. Each side has its bragging rights but we Kansas Citians treat it as one."

Church History

Hope Fellowship Church began as a home-based Bible study group in 1985. It officially became a church planting project of the North American Baptist Conference (NAB) in 1987, with Pastor Dennis Dewey as the founding pastor. By 1988, the church accepted 25 charter members, and was officially recognized as a member church of the NAB and its Southwest Association.

In 1992, Hope Fellowship purchased a six-acre tract of land, and by 1996 the church's current location at 8350 N. Conant Avenue in Kansas City, MO was complete.

About the North American Baptist Conference

The mission of the North American Baptist Conference of churches is to glorify God by making disciples of Jesus Christ at home and internationally. NAB churches combine the strength of all



member churches into a team to more effectively and more broadly accomplish that mission. The NAB is transforming communities through healthy, Christ-centered churches that reach the lost for Jesus, develop godly leaders, and multiply churches around the world. For more information, visit www.nabconference.org.

Mission and Core Values

The mission of Hope Fellowship Church is to help people to know, love, serve and share Jesus Christ while being a family beyond the family. We deeply value:

1. *Bible-centered preaching/teaching.* The Bible is the Word of God, and therefore, we use it as the basis for what we believe and how we live.
2. *A welcoming and accepting atmosphere.* We are excited to have visitors attend our services and have a desire for more and more people of our community to become part of our church family.
3. *Praise and worship.* We want people to meet God face-to-face at our services, to be molded and shaped by that meeting, and to express their joy, wonder and thanks to Him.
4. *Prayer.* In every aspect of personal life and ministry of the church, we want to seek God's direction, will and power.
5. *Godly servant leadership.* We expect leaders of Christ's church to reflect the life of Christ and to serve others just as He served.
6. *A well-mobilized lay ministry.* We want to help every believer develop and use their abilities and gifts so that we can fulfill God's intention and effectively minister as the body of Christ.
7. *Committed Christians.* We seek to help every person keep growing spiritually and develop into healthy, mature followers of Christ.
8. *Christian education.* We provide learning opportunities for people of all ages so that they may learn to understand the Bible and the Christian faith.
9. *Community.* We have been called by God to express love, genuine caring, encouragement and support to each other in the context of a family beyond the family.
10. *Evangelism.* We have the good news of Jesus Christ and must share it with lost people so that they can receive His forgiveness and eternal life.
11. *Strong families.* We provide ministries that encourage healthy relationships and provide support for individual families.

12. *Financial responsibility.* We are accountable to God and the church family for the use of every gift received and openly report all of our financial activities.

Congregational Profile

The worship style of Hope Fellowship Church would be characterized as “blended.” A worship team leads the congregation in both praise choruses and traditional hymns. The church atmosphere is casual / business casual.

Our Staff

In addition to a senior pastor, Hope Fellowship Church has a full-time youth pastor and a part-time children’s ministry director. The church also employs a part-time church secretary and a part-time custodian. The church contracts with a Christian counselor to provide an on-site pastoral counseling ministry.

Our Family

On an average Sunday, about 140 people gather for worship at Hope Fellowship. Approximately 70% of the congregation is under the age of 50, making it a great place for young families and older adults alike. Those who make up our church family may come from a broad range of backgrounds and religious traditions, but have a common desire for Bible-based teaching and study in an effort to grow in their faith. Current membership is 129.

| Approximate number of persons participating in congregational life. | | | |
|--|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Age | Male | Female | Total |
| 0-9 | 13 | 17 | 30 |
| 10-14 | 7 | 11 | 18 |
| 15-19 | 9 | 9 | 18 |
| 20-29 | 10 | 13 | 23 |
| 30-39 | 11 | 13 | 24 |
| 40-49 | 19 | 14 | 33 |
| 50-59 | 10 | 9 | 19 |
| 60-69 | 8 | 15 | 23 |
| 70-79 | 5 | 8 | 13 |
| 80+ | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Total | 94 | 111 | 205 |

Our Ministries

Hope Fellowship has a wide array of ministries available for congregants to participate in, as well as a number of opportunities available for the congregation to serve our community on a local, national, and international scale. In addition, Hope Fellowship financially supports NAB missionaries and other workers as they work to spread the Gospel throughout the world.

- Adult Ministries
 - Sunday Bible Study Classes
 - Wednesday Bible Study
 - Small Groups
 - Care Fund
 - Meals as Needed Anytime (MANA)
 - Prayer Chain
- Children’s Ministries
 - AWANA
 - Sunday School
 - Kidz Worship & Nursery
 - Vacation Bible School
 - Kansas Bible Camp
 - Christmas Program & Easter Eggstravaganza
- Youth Ministries
 - Middle & High School Youth Groups
 - Sunday Bible Study Class
 - World Changers Mission Trips
 - Super Summer Camp
- Men’s Ministries
 - Iron Men Men’s Fellowship
 - Men’s Breakfast
 - Men’s Advance
- Women’s Ministries
 - Annual Tea
 - Women’s Retreat
 - Weekly Book Club
 - Women’s Small Group & Studies
- Senior Adult Ministries
 - 60+ Luncheon
- Outreach Ministries
 - Hillcrest Platte County
 - Hillcrest Blessings Program
 - Harvesters Backsnack Program
 - Parkville Women’s Clinic
 - Police Prayer Partners
- Short-Term Missions
- International Missions Trips
- Missionary Support

Our Finances

Hope Fellowship deeply values financial accountability and transparency. The church runs on a January-December fiscal year, with annual budget proposed and approved typically in the December prior to fiscal year start. Church finances are reviewed regularly by the deacon board, quarterly by the advisory board, and quarterly by the members.

| Budget | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Current Budget Year | Previous Budget Year | Two Years Ago |
| Budget | \$270,068 | \$277,047 | \$269,010 |
| Expenditures | TBD | \$259,655 | \$264,129 |
| Pattern of Giving | | | |
| Year | Congregational Income | Average Attendance | Yearly Avg Per Attendee |
| 2017 | \$263,551 | 139 | \$1,843 |
| 2018 | \$269,250 | 141 | \$1,870 |

In 2018, the church successfully completed a capital campaign to pay off the remaining mortgage on the building and raise funds for additional capital improvement projects. Hope Fellowship has no long-term debt.

APPENDIX 1

HOPE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH STATEMENT OF BELIEFS

(Revised April, 2010)

1. We believe the Bible is God's Word given by divine inspiration, the record of God's revelation of Himself to humanity (II Timothy 3:16). It is trustworthy, sufficient, without error—the supreme authority and guide for all doctrine and conduct (I Peter 1:23-25; John 17:17; II Timothy 3:16-17). It is the truth by which God brings people into a saving relationship with Himself and leads them to Christian maturity (John 20:31; I John 5:9-12; Matthew 4:4; I Peter 2:2).
2. We believe in the one living and true God, perfect in wisdom, sovereignty, holiness, justice, mercy and love (I Timothy 1:17; Psalm 86:15; Deuteronomy 32:3-4). He exists eternally in three coequal persons who act together in creation, providence and redemption (Genesis 1:26; I Peter 1:2; Hebrews 1:1-3).
 - A. The Father reigns with providential care over all life and history in the created universe; He hears and answers prayer (I Chronicles 29:11-13; Matthew 7:11). He initiated salvation by sending His Son, and He is Father to those who by faith accept His Son as Lord and Savior (I John 4:9-10; John 3:16; John 1:12; Acts 16:31).
 - B. The Son became man, Jesus Christ, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary (John 1:14; Matthew 1:18). Being fully God and fully man, He revealed God through His sinless life, miracles and teaching (John 14:9; Hebrews 4:15; Matthew 4:23-24). He provided salvation through His atoning death in our place and by His bodily resurrection (I Corinthians 15:3-4; II Corinthians 5:21; Romans 4:23-25). He ascended into heaven where He rules over all creation (Philippians 2:5-11). He intercedes for all believers and dwells in them as their ever-present Lord (Romans 8:34; John 14:23).
 - C. The Holy Spirit inspired men to write the Scriptures (II Peter 1:21). Through this Word, He convicts individuals of their sinfulness and of the righteousness of Christ, draws them to the Savior, and bears witness to their new birth (James 1:18; John 16:7-11; I Thessalonians 1:5-6; Romans 8:16). At regeneration and conversion, the believer is baptized in the Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 12:13). The Spirit indwells, seals and gives spiritual gifts to all believers for ministry in the church and society (Romans 8:9-11; Ephesians 1:13-14; Romans 12:5-8; I Peter 4:10). He empowers, guides, teaches, fills, sanctifies and produces the fruit of Christlikeness in all who yield to Him (Acts 4:31; Romans 8:14; I Corinthians 2:10-13; Ephesians 5:18; II Thessalonians 2:13; Galatians 5:16, 22-23).
3. We believe God created an order of spiritual beings called angels to serve Him and do His will (Psalm 148:1-5; Colossians 1:16). The holy angels are obedient spirits ministering to the heirs of salvation and glorifying God (Hebrews 1:6-7, 13-14). Certain angels, called demons, Satan being their chief, through deliberate choice revolted and fell from their exalted position (Revelation 12:7-9). They now tempt individuals to rebel against God (I Timothy 4:1; I Peter 5:8). Their destiny in hell has been sealed by Christ's victory over sin and death (Hebrews 2:14; Revelation 20:10).
4. We believe God created man in His own image to have fellowship with Himself and to be steward over His creation (Genesis 1:26-28). As a result, each person is unique, possesses dignity and is worthy of respect (Psalm 139:13-17). Through the temptation of Satan, Adam chose to disobey God; this brought sin and death to the human race and suffering to all creation (Genesis 3; Romans 5:12-21; 8:22). Therefore, everyone is born with a sinful nature and needs to be reconciled to God (Romans 3:9-18, 23). Satan tempts people to rebel against God, even those who love Him (Ephesians 4:27; II Corinthians 2:11; Matthew 16:23). Nonetheless, everyone is personally responsible to God for thoughts, actions and beliefs and has the right to approach Him directly through Jesus Christ, the only mediator (Romans 14:12; I Timothy 2:5).
5. We believe salvation is redemption by Christ of the whole person from sin and death (II Timothy 1:1-10; I Thessalonians 5:23). It is offered as a free gift by God to all and must be received personally through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ (I Timothy 2:4; Ephesians 2:8-9; Acts 20:21). An individual is united to Christ by the regeneration of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 2:20; Colossians 1:27). As a child of God, the believer is acquitted of all guilt and brought into a new relationship of peace (Romans 5:1). Christians grow as the Holy Spirit enables them to understand and obey the Word of God (II Peter 3:18; Ephesians 4:15; I Thessalonians 3:12).

6. We believe the Church is the body of which Christ is the head and all who believe in Him are members (Ephesians 1:22-23; Romans 12:4-5). Christians are commanded to be baptized upon profession of faith and to unite with a local church for mutual encouragement and growth in discipleship through worship, nurture, service and the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world (Acts 2:41-42, 47; Luke 24:45-48). Each church is a self-governing body under the lordship of Christ with all members sharing responsibility (Acts 13:1-3; 14:26-28). The form of government is understood to be congregational (Matthew 18:17; Acts 6:3-6; 15:22-23).

The ordinances of the church are baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:18-20). It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's identification with the death, burial and resurrection of the Savior Jesus Christ (Romans 6:5). The Lord's Supper is the partaking of the bread and of the cup by believers together as a continuing memorial of the broken body and shed blood of Christ. It is an act of thankful dedication to Him and serves to unite His people until He returns (I Corinthians 11:23-26).

To express unity in Christ, local churches form associations and a conference for mutual counsel, fellowship and a more effective fulfillment of Christ's commission (Acts 15; I Corinthians 6:1-3).

7. We believe religious liberty, rooted in Scripture, is the inalienable right of all individuals to freedom of conscience with ultimate accountability to God (Genesis 1:27; John 8:32; II Corinthians 3:17; Romans 8:21; Acts 5:29). Church and state exist by the will of God. Each has distinctive concerns and responsibilities, free from control by the other (Matthew 22:21). Christians should pray for civil leaders, and obey and support government in matters not contrary to Scripture (I Timothy 2:1-4; Romans 13:1-7; I Peter 2:13-16). The state should guarantee religious liberty to all persons and groups regardless of their religious preferences, consistent with the common good.
8. We believe Christians, individually and collectively, are salt and light in society (Matthew 5:13-16). In a Christlike spirit, they oppose greed, selfishness and vice; they promote truth, justice and peace; they aid the needy and preserve the dignity of people of all races and conditions (Hebrews 13:5; Luke 9:23; Titus 2:12; Philippians 4:8-9; I John 3:16-17; James 2:1-4).

We affirm the family as the basic unit of society and seek to preserve its integrity and stability (Genesis 2:21-25; Ephesians 6:1-4).

We believe the Bible teaches that marriage refers to the covenant relationship exclusively between one man and one woman, as instituted by God in the beginning (Genesis 2:20b-24; I Corinthians 7:2; Hebrews 13:4).

9. We believe God, in His own time and in His own way, will bring all things to their appropriate end and establish the new heaven and the new earth (Ephesians 1:9-10; Revelation 21:1). The certain hope of the Christian is that Jesus Christ will return to the earth suddenly, personally and visibly in glory according to His promise (Titus 2:13; Revelation 1:7; 3:11; John 14:1-3). The dead will be raised, and Christ will judge mankind in righteousness (John 5:28-29). The unrighteous will be consigned to the everlasting punishment prepared for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41, 46; Revelation 20:10). The righteous, in their resurrected and glorified bodies, will receive their reward and dwell forever with the Lord (Philippians 3:20-21; II Corinthians 5:10; I Thessalonians 4:13-18).

APPENDIX 2

STATEMENT ON MARRIAGE
Hope Fellowship Church
Kansas City, MO
July 2007

Hope Fellowship Baptist Church of Kansas City, MO affirms the Christian Affirmation of Marriage document adopted by the North American Baptist Conference at their Triennial Conference held July 5-9, 2006 and adopts this document as its own affirmation of marriage. (See copy below.)

Since we believe the term “marriage” should refer exclusively to the covenant relationship between one man and one woman:

We therefore resolve that members of the Hope Fellowship Baptist Church staff or clergy will be allowed to officiate at or co-officiate at a marriage only when it conforms to this statement.

We also resolve that the rental or use of our building or property for wedding ceremonies, celebrations of marriage, or wedding receptions will be allowed only for marriages that conform to this statement. We reserve the right to rent or allow the use of our buildings or property only by individuals or groups not incompatible with our goals, values, and statements and for purposes which are not incompatible with our goals, values, statements, and policies.

North American Baptist Conference
A Christian Affirmation of Marriage

The ministers of our North American Baptist Conference welcome the privilege that our respective civil governments give them to solemnize marriages as a part of their Christian ministry. Our convictions about the nature of marriage, however, are governed by the same biblical authority that informs all our teaching and ministry. Therefore, our ministers will in good conscience only perform weddings consistent with the view of marriage expressed in the following “Christian Affirmation of Marriage”:

We believe . . .

That God’s intention for marriage is established throughout the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments

This is expressed in creation and the creation story, the Law of Moses, the wisdom literature, and in the prophetic tradition. The Divine establishment of marriage is confirmed by the words of Jesus and the New Testament authors. They provide guidance for perfecting marriage, and affirm its spiritual significance. Chaste singleness and marriage are both honored as faithful and holy lifestyles ordained by God.

That God ordained marriage as a voluntary union for life of one man and one woman

Our creation as man and woman, who are complementary to one another, has significance in revealing aspects of the image of God, and His relationship to humanity. The permanence of the marital bond mirrors God’s faithfulness, just as its monogamy reflects God’s singular devotion to his people and his people’s singular devotion to him.

That sexual intimacy is legitimate only within the bounds of marriage

The commands of God are clear. Sexual activity profoundly affects people emotionally and spiritually. Sexual intercourse outside of marriage, promiscuity, common law relationships, adultery, homosexual acts, exploitation, incest and sexual perversion contradict God’s purpose for human sexuality.

That marriage is more than a contract between two persons: It is a covenant before God

God is committed to every marriage between a man and a woman. In the covenant of marriage, God joins a man and a woman together “in one flesh,” and forbids anyone to break it. This covenant is unique, among human relationships, to marriage. God intends the married couple to recognize and celebrate His call to an irrevocable commitment to love, to cherish and remain faithful which transcends the quid pro quo of contracts.

That in Christian marriages, the Church acts as an agent of God's blessing, as a primary witness and as a supportive community

The church declares the blessing of God but does not create that benefit. Therefore the church cannot confer the spiritual blessing of marriage on other relationships.

That a healthy marriage is the best foundation for families and the raising of children

The practical benefits of marriage are inherent to its form. A healthy marriage is a unique source of benefits for children including the stability of the family and the access of children to a mother and a father. God intended that children should receive nurture from a male and a female parent, and in turn learn to honor both. Neither the church nor anyone else can confer the innate benefits of marriage on other forms of relationships or unions.

We believe . . .

That the Bible teaches that marriage is between one man and one woman only, and to recognize other unions as legitimate marriages would be contrary to our understanding of scripture within the North American Baptist Conference.

We affirm, in accordance to the North American Baptist Conference Statement of Beliefs, that each person is unique, possesses dignity, and is worthy of respect.

We also affirm that we are called to introduce each person to the loving, reconciling ministry of Jesus Christ and the life changing transformation described in scripture.

As Christians we seek to demonstrate God's love to all people, but we will not compromise our convictions on marriage as defined by scripture.

Therefore, be it resolved that:

1. As a matter of belief, doctrine and religious practice, the North American Baptist Conference reserves the term "marriage" for the covenant relationship between one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others.
2. And that the North American Baptist Conference establishes the standard that all individuals, who are licensed to perform marriages, will not officiate at, or co-officiate at any marriage outside of the previously stated definition of marriage.
3. And that in the event that an individual licensed to perform marriages, officiates or co-officiates or participates as a pastor at a marriage that is outside of the previously stated definition of marriage, will be subject to disciplinary review and loss of license.
4. And we recommend that all North American Baptist Conference churches adopt the above as a policy of their individual, local church, and review their "church use policies" to reflect the resolution as stated.
5. And that the facilities of North American Baptist Conference churches will not be used for weddings or receptions where the marriage union is contrary to the provisions of this resolution.

APPENDIX 3

The Hope Fellowship Membership Covenant

Having received Christ as my Lord and Savior and been baptized and being in agreement with the Statement of Beliefs, Mission Statement and structure of HFC, I now feel led by the Holy Spirit to unite with the Hope Fellowship Church family. In doing so, I commit myself to God and the other members to do the following to help fulfill the mission of this church:

1. I will promote the health of my church

- ...by attending faithfully
- ...by growing spiritually through regular Bible study and prayer
- ...by living a godly life
- ...by giving regularly

"Let us not give up meeting together. . . but let us encourage one another. . ." (Hebrews 10:25).

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ..." (II Peter 3:18).

"Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ" (Philippians 1:27).

"Now about the collection for God's people: . . . On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income" (I Corinthians 16:1-2).

2. I will serve the ministry of my church

- ...by developing a servant's heart
- ...by discovering my gifts and talents
- ...by being involved in service

"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interest of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who...[took on] the very nature of a servant." (Philippians 2:4, 5, 7)

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." (I Peter 4:10)

3. I will share the responsibility of my church

- ...by praying for its growth
- ...by building relationships with the unchurched and inviting them to attend
- ...by warmly welcoming those who visit

"He [Jesus] told them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field'" (Luke 10:2).

"On hearing this, Jesus said, 'It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick'" (Matthew 9:12).

"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God" (Romans 15:7).

4. I will protect the unity of my church

- ...by acting in love toward other members in both words and actions
- ...by fellowshiping with other believers
- ...by supporting the leaders

"Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves" (Romans 12:10).

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs.." (Ephesians 4:29).

"They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts..." (Acts 2:46).

"Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be no advantage to you." (Hebrews 13:17)

(Adopted 1-20-99)