

Dalmeny Bible Church was founded in 1904 in response to a group of settlers who had begun arriving in the Dalmeny area as early as 1901. Most of the immigrants came from Minnesota and Nebraska in search of cheap farm land which the Canadian government was offering in exchange for settlement of the Canadian prairies.

Rev. Peter Schultz, who had been ordained as a minister in Mountain Lake, MN was among this group of pioneers. He and his family arrived in 1902 and immediately began bible studies in various homes. In 1903, about 50 adults attended the house meetings. Franz Fleming had built a new granary on his property and offered it as a site for meetings and then donated land for a new church building to be erected at the present site of the Dalmeny Bible Church Cemetery. In the summer of 1904, a 25 by 35-foot structure was erected and Rev. Peter Schultz was installed as the pastor of the church and Henry Warkentin was ordained as a deacon. By 1909, the fledgling congregation had outgrown its building and a two-storey church 30 by 40 feet with a 10 by 16 foot foyer was built. By 1929, the church had again outgrown its facilities and the old building was taken down and replaced with 'the church with the steeple', which served the congregation until 1967, surviving a move to the Town of Dalmeny from the country location on Fleming Road. This church is now in Martensville and still serves as a place of worship.

After the church was moved to Dalmeny in 1945, it hired its first salaried pastor and began conducting more of its services in the English language. The settlers who formed the nucleus of the early church were German-speaking Mennonites who spoke Platdeutsch in their homes, English in school and High German at church. They recognized the need to change to English if they were going to reach out to their community. By 1952, the transition was complete.

In 1967, the building which now serves as our gymnasium, was built. It seated about 390 people and had 26 Sunday school classrooms, a pastor's study, a meeting room, library, large modern kitchen and indoor washrooms!

Dalmeny more than doubled in size between 1976 and 1985 and happily, the church was again too small. The present sanctuary, which seats about 600 people, was dedicated in 1982 and the old church was renovated to meet the needs of the 80's.

The church has had a strong missionary emphasis since its early days, sending a single lady to work in a mission in Chicago in the early 1900's, and commissioning a missionary to China in 1921. Many career and short-term missionaries have been supported by our church. It has been our joy to partner with a struggling church in the Ukraine for the past few years. Their pastor and his wife have been able to visit us and six couples from our church have visited them. This has served as a wonderful spiritual and cultural exchange, particularly since some members of our congregation have historical roots in Ukraine. Camp Kadesh at Christopher Lake is another ministry that receives strong support from our church. Many of our young people have benefited from the Leaders In Training program they teach. Prairie West Extension and Spruce Manor Special Care Home and Villa are other ministries supported by our congregation.

Ministry to youth was important to the first congregation, as it began a youth club immediately. A full time youth pastor has been employed since 1979 and presently about 35-55 junior youth and 40-60 senior youth attend bible studies and youth events. Sunday school and children's clubs are also offered as part of the church program.

Our church is not affiliated with any denomination but is part of a group of churches, known as Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches, which partner together for fellowship and joint missionary projects and organizing new churches.