

# Forest City Bible Church

London, Ontario

## “So you want to start a ministry at Church?”

This tool is meant to assist you as you seek to develop ministry and seek to serve at Forest City Bible Church (FCBC). Forest City Bible Church is affiliated with the Associated Gospel Churches of Canada and seeks to provide biblical and spiritual growth to its members and adherents, while seeking opportunities to present the Gospel to our local and global community. It is the desire of the church leadership not only to equip you for ministry, but to release you into ministry as you sense the leading of the Holy Spirit in conjunction with the ministry focus of FCBC.

The following guidelines will help you confirm God’s leading and assist you with the “details” of ministry. Please use these guidelines to prepare your heart for active ministry at or through FCBC.

The church leadership values your desire to be used by God as part of your spiritual growth, and is eager to serve and equip you for ministry.

### Assumptions:

1. The elder/deacon board is the arbiter of new ministries.
2. New ministry opportunities are subject to available funds.
3. Ministry leaders must be members of the church.

### Steps to take:

1. As FCBC seeks to serve the Lord, the church elders are also guided by our ministry focus. Please visit the church website to become familiar with who we are: [www.forestcitybiblechurch.com](http://www.forestcitybiblechurch.com) Have you taken a look? Can you explain how your vision for this new ministry complements the vision and mission of FCBC?
2. Attend the membership class that runs twice annually during Sunday School. This class is fundamental to current/new members as a tool to provide a framework for the history of FCBC, the church governance structure, and provide the foundation for requirements for potential ministry leaders.
3. Write out in two or three sentences the essential focus of the particular ministry you believe God is asking you to develop. Include any specific details that you believe God has spoken to you concerning why this ministry is something that will serve the FCBC church family.

4. As you develop the details of pursuing the development of a ministry at FCBC, consider the costs that are involved:
  - a. Do you require a budget? If yes, please prepare a detailed statement to attached with your proposal.
  - b. Where will these funds come from? Can these be self-funded? Are you asking for budget funds from the General Operating fund?
  - c. What will be the true costs of not proceeding with this ministry, financial or other?
5. Submit your **written** proposal to the elder responsible, according to the portfolio structure (posted on the Leaders/Financial board near the washrooms and on our website). Please limit this to one page plus your financial costs, if known. If your proposal does not fit clearly under the portfolios listed, please submit your proposal to the Elder Board Chair.
6. Be ready to meet with the FCBC Board of Elders/Deacons to discuss this proposal, if necessary. Once your proposal has been submitted, please keep in mind that the strategic development of church life and ministry requires time; please be confident that your proposal will receive the full consideration of the leadership team, and you will be contacted.
7. Agree to abide by the leadership decision/recommendations related to your proposal.
8. Pray for God's direction.