

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH!

We are a prayerful, Bible-teaching, evangelical church in the heart of the city with a heart for the city and the world. We are a member of the Anglican Network in Canada and part of the Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans. We seek to be a biblically faithful and orthodox church within the Anglican Way of following Jesus.

Are you new? Get connected!

Is this your first visit to Church of the Messiah? Thank you for being with us. We are glad you're here. Interested in learning more about Messiah and getting connected? Contact us: info@messiahchurch.ca or 613.235.0596. Check out our website at messiahchurch.ca

Nursery & Sunday School

Nursery (0 - 24 months) and Sunday School (2 yrs - Grade 6) are available at the 10am service. For Nursery, please bring children to the lobby before or during the service. For Sunday School, kids are invited to come to the front after the last worship song.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rev. Canon George Sinclair
Rector

Jonathan Camiré
Ministry Intern - Evangelism and Discipleship

Yasmine Alli-Smith
Ministry Intern

Deborah Reid **Shirley Allan**
Worship Leader Administrator

Daniel Gilman
Pastor of Evangelism and Discipleship (Children, Youth and Young Adults)

Rev. Neil Stephens
Pastor of Discipleship and Pastoral Care

Wardens:
Dick Butler Jeremiah Hadwen
Earl Maynard Shannon Ripley
Karl Ruban Dana Scherf

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

If you are visiting, please feel free to let the basket go by. If you would like to donate, there are many ways to give:

- 1) Place cash or cheques payable to "Church of the Messiah" in the offering basket on Sunday, or mail to the church office. Please contact the office if you are interested in using offering envelopes.
 - 2) Email your contribution to givings@messiahchurch.ca Please use the security question: "What is the pastor's first name?" and the answer: "George"
 - 3) You can use PayPal to donate to the church. Click on the "Contact" tab (far right side) on our website (messiahchurch.ca)
 - 4) Pre-authorized debit – You can authorize the church to debit your bank account for a fixed amount on a recurring basis of your choice. To get started, please contact the office: info@messiahchurch.ca
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FINANCIAL UPDATE AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2016:

Target Offering: \$ 221,435

Actual Offering: \$ 205,377

CHRISTIANITY IS JUST ONE OF 10,000 RELIGIONS

Dear friends,

"Christianity believes it is exceptional, but every religion believes it is exceptional. There have been at least 10,000 religions and 100,000 gods. There were religions that existed before Christianity that do not exist today. In 4000 years' time Christianity will not exist and there will be other religions. These are just facts that you have to accept."

I was told this repeatedly recently at one of my favourite coffee shops. What did I say? What did I do?

It was hard to say anything. Several times I said that it was an assertion instead of an argument. In fact, it was an assertion to stop arguments and an assertion that refused to inquire and reason. So I let my friend have the final word and went back to my work. Then I prayed for my friend. Sometimes this is all you can do. But you can pray with hope that the conversation will start again in the future and that there can be conversation rather than an assertion which does not suspect it has questionable assumptions.

So, let's look briefly at the assertion and the Christian faith. First of all, the Bible is very aware that many religions and "gods" exist on earth. The assertion assumes that the existence of many religions is a surprise and a rebuke of the Christian faith. The assertion also assumes that if God really existed, no other religions that did not worship Him would exist on earth. The assertion assumes that if one God truly existed, no human being would worship another god. In fact, this is an interesting point, every "religion" has to give an account of how it is that other religions and gods exist. I do not have space here, but the Bible gives a powerful and reasonable account for why many gods are worshiped.

The assertion also assumes that every single religion is false. The assertion never considers that there can be "fool's gold" and "real gold"; glass diamonds, plastic diamonds, "paste" diamonds, zircon and real diamonds; counterfeit money and real money. In fact, the assertion assumes that the presence of 10,000 religions somehow proves each religion is false as the fact that most jewelry is fake somehow proves that diamonds do not exist.

The assertion is also lazy and anti-intellectual. It means a person does not have to look and study and see if all religions are in fact the same at a fundamental level or to see if there are good reasons that one "religion" might be true.

Please note, I have shown that the assertion rests on many assumptions, but the tragedy of the assertion is it believes it is self-evidently true and rests on no assumptions that can be discussed. In terms of 2 Corinthians 3 it is a veil that covers the mind and the heart.

Friends, please pray for your friends. Pray that you will have the courage to bear witness to Jesus. Do not worry about having convincing arguments. Bear witness and pray. Please pray for me.

George +

I need to develop godly attitudes.

- A) Pray for godly attitudes in general & certain attitudes in particular.
- B) Ask others to pray the same thing for you.
- C) Repeat the attitude to help it sink in. Do this in conjunction with A & B!

Attitudes.

- 1) I must always remember that Jesus is Jewish.
- 2) In Jesus, I do not have a "Best Before" date.
- 3) The Gospel grows the courage to remove every blindfold.

I need to grow in prayer.

A great way to do this is to learn to pray the Bible. Pray this prayer until you can pray without reading: Dear Heavenly Father, I praise You that, where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. I praise You that, by faith in Jesus Messiah I am made right with You and You have removed the veil that keeps me blind to You. I praise You that, along with all Your children by adoption and grace, we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. We praise You that this is all Your work, Lord. In Jesus' name. Amen.

I need to get God's Word in my mind and heart.

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3: 18

I need to do something or start to do something.

Complete the following sentence: "In light of God's word, the Holy Spirit is leading me to _____."

GOING DEEPER

1. **READ** 2 Corinthians 3:7 - 18

2. **LEARN**

- How does this passage connect to what Paul has already written?
- Read Exodus 34: 29-35 What does this passage teach us about Moses' ministry?
- What is Paul saying to the Corinthians and why is he saying it? What does this teach us today?

3. **INWARDLY DIGEST**

- Think through whether you are expecting or desiring the Lord to transform you as he promises in v17 or are you tempted to doubt that God can do this in you or others?
- What would it look like to be more like Jesus as we know him from 2 Corinthians?
- Name an area that you want the Lord to make you more like Christ.

4. **PRAY**

- We suggest you use v18 this week and either pray together as a group or in smaller groups. Take a couple of minutes on your own to think about what it is teaching you.
 - turn something you have learned from this verse into thanksgiving
 - turn something from this verse into confession
 - turn something from this verse into praise to God
 - turn something from this verse into supplication (asking)

TODAY:

- 9:15am Learner's Exchange - Christine Avitan speaks about New Testament: Credibility for Belief
- after 10am service Volunteer Fair - see how you can get involved at Messiah

Tuesday, October 4

- 1:30pm Bible House Study Group @315 Lisgar St (side door)
- 7pm Lowertown Home Group @ 110 Nelson St

Wednesday, October 5

- 3:30pm Ryle Seminary chapel service @ 315 Lisgar St
- 7pm Church on Wednesday @uOttawa (churchonwednesday.ca)
- 7:30pm Hintonburg Home Group @ 84 Fairmont Ave

Thursday, October 6

- 7:15pm Old Ottawa South Home Group @ 14 Ashdale Ave. (note different location)

Friday, October 7

- 7pm Adventure613 (youth group) @ École Ste Anne - 235 Beausoleil

Please contact the office by Wednesday, October 5 to add the name of a loved one to the **In Memory List we will publish next week.** info@messiahchurch.ca

Each year we collect items of non-perishable food and gently used / new clothing as a **Thanksgiving gift to St Joe's** Grocery and Clothing Program. Please bring your donations to church next Sunday.

Potluck Lunch - A potluck lunch will be held after the 10am service on October 16. Please bring sandwiches and other finger foods to share.

Dig & Delve tickets are available NOW. This year's theme is "I can't believe the Bible because..." November 4 and 5 at Dominion Chalmers United Church (O'Connor and Lisgar). diganddelve.ca/register/

The **2 Corinthians Bible study guide** used by of our home groups is available on our website: messiahchurch.ca/2-corinthians-bible-study-resources/

Friends for Dinner. You can welcome an international student to share dinner with your family over the Thanksgiving season. 100 students have signed up and only 11 families are signed up to be hosts. These students from around the world are at our doorstep wanting a glimpse of what we have in Christ. Even if you can't host on Thanksgiving weekend, which is preferable, you can host students the week before or after Thanksgiving. Please register as hosts at friendsfordinner.ca.

Please pray God's blessings on our friend, B****, who leaves this week to serve in #s###. He prefers not to solicit for funding but to ask friends in Christ to prayerfully consider how they might partner with him. Shirley can give you info on partnering through Messiah's Blepo Fund. shirley@messiahchurch.ca