

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!

Are you interested in learning more about Messiah and getting connected? Email info@messiahchurch.ca or call 613.235.0596. Also 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 "follow the cross" during the last worship song.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Rev. Canon George Sinclair
Rector

Rev. Neil Stephens
Pastor of Discipleship and Pastoral Care

Jonathan Camiré
Ministry Intern

Daniel Gilman
Pastor of Evangelism and Discipleship

Yasmine Alli-Smith
Ministry Intern

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

Deborah Reid
Worship Leader

Shirley Allan
Administrator

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

FINANCIAL UPDATE AT JULY 31, 2016

Target Offering: \$ 171,860

Actual Offering: \$ 158,586

INEVITABLE DECLINE?

Dear friends,

Is the Christian faith in inevitable decline in Canada? It seems as if more churches are closing than are starting. Fewer and fewer people go to church on Sunday. The culture as a whole seems to want to exclude the Christian faith from the public square. To many people, just about every spiritual and religious option has some attraction but the Bible and Christianity are not attractive. Maybe it's time to go palliative - accept decline and death but make the process as painless as possible.

I do not know what church statistics and cultural markers will look like in the years to come, but I do have a quiet hope for the future.

I have hope because Jesus the Messiah really did die on the cross and He really did rise from the dead. His resurrection vindicates His message and His person and His work. This means he truly is "God's power for salvation for all who believe." He truly is King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He truly is "the way, the truth and the life." He truly will "come again in glory." He truly lives to intercede for us. He will never leave us or forsake us. His yoke is easy and His burden is light and following Him will mean rest for our souls.

Next Sunday we begin a series on Second Corinthians. The letter is written to Christians in the Greek city of Corinth. Acts 16 records the momentous moment when the Christian message and faith jumps continents to come to Europe. This happened around the year 50. Shortly after this; the first Christians arrive in Corinth and people come to faith in Jesus and churches are formed. Remember, "church" refers to a community of people, not a building. Churches would not own church buildings for another 300 years. The letter of Second Corinthians that we will study is written about eight years after the Christian faith has come to Corinth. Society is hostile to the Christian message and politics, business, spirituality, education and entertainment are all organized around religions and spiritualities deeply opposed to the Christian message. Yet the Gospel is proclaimed and some people come to saving faith in Jesus. So, I have hope in Ottawa.

Acts 18 records an event with Paul, who led the group of missionaries to come to Corinth. There is much opposition, but...." the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, "Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, for I am with you and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people." (Acts 18:9-10)

My hope is not for safety but, that like Corinth, God has many "people" in Ottawa who have not yet heard the Gospel. So God asks us to continue speaking.

George +