



MET MESSENGER

From our Lead Pastor

"In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him." (1 John 4:9)

In the midst of a very challenging season, we are privileged to have such good news to proclaim this Christmas. The message of the love of God made manifest in the gift of His Son is a message our world so desperately needs to hear. Despite the challenges of operating in the pandemic, we have been eager not to allow COVID-19 to "cancel" Christmas here at the Met. Our services and celebrations will look a little different this year, of course, but we have a full and exciting Christmas calendar before us.



We are so thankful for these opportunities to come together, to rejoice in the love of God in Christ, and to proclaim the message that God did indeed send His only Son into the world so that we might live through Him. Please join us Online or in person as you are able. Please invite friends and family to join us to hear the good news. And please do not hesitate to reach out to us if there are ways in which we can support you and walk alongside you in these days of challenge.

Warmly, in the Saviour's Name,

Jonathan

Membership Update

We are so encouraged by the historic response to the appeal to "nail your colours to the mast" and formally take up church membership. Membership at the Met is a key way to signal commitment to the local church and a willingness to be accountable here.

The Met has welcomed 79 new members in 2020, taking our overall membership to what we believe is its highest level in the church's history. If you have not yet taken the step of membership, please prayerfully consider joining our next membership class on December 6 and 13.

Register through our website at metbiblechurch.ca/registrations.

Met Team News

We are delighted to announce that Sandra Tharakan has been appointed to the position of Manager, Community Engagement and Outreach.



While Sandra has been with us for a couple of years already, she is now moving to a full-time role. Sandra is instrumental in engaging a strong team of volunteers to serve our Met family on Sunday mornings, and throughout the week engaging with our wider regional community through outreach initiatives with local communities in our region. These include Bridges (which serves the homeless in downtown Ottawa), Refugee Sponsorship and Resettlement (preparing for our second sponsorship family's arrival), as well as MALTA (group home outreach). These opportunities are supported by a strong gospel message. During COVID, Sandra has partnered with local community centres (Banff, Debra Dynes) to assess their needs, then deliver those needs in Jesus' name. Sandra and her husband Steve have 3 children, Nayana, Mathai, and Kameela. Please pray for Sandra as she leads in these areas.

Special Christmas Offering

Given the uncertainty around the pandemic, we are asking for our congregation to prayerfully consider a very special Christmas offering that is being designated to address 3 key areas: the budget shortfall of \$90K, the increasing benevolence needs due to COVID as well as the disaster relief efforts being undertaken by Samaritan's Purse in Honduras.

There are several ways for you to donate. You can drop your donation off on Sundays or at the church office during the week. Simply mark your donation "Christmas". You may also use any of the giving options on the GIVE page of our website at metbiblechurch.ca/give.

Ministry Board Update

Dear Met friends, your Board wants to thank you for your support through these challenging times as a result of the pandemic. We also want to express our gratitude to everyone involved in the Sunday services and the various ministries; you are an encouragement to us all. We ask for your prayers as we seek guidance and protection for the coming weeks as COVID-19 cases are increasing again. Your feedback is always welcome. God bless you all.

December Ministry Snapshot Correction

We hope you are enjoying the monthly ministry snapshots in your inbox. Some of you may have noticed our Church-Wide Prayer for the month of December was stated to be on December 31. Unfortunately, this was a typo and we look forward to our next Church-Wide Prayer event when it resumes on Sunday, January 31. We apologize for the error.