



MET MESSENGER

From our Lead Pastor

“And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ...” (Ephesians 4:12-13)

Often we can slip into a mindset that says that the pastors (“shepherds and teachers”) are the ones who “do” ministry – and the rest of the church family receive ministry. But it’s so interesting to see how the Apostle Paul changes the paradigm: shepherds and teachers are given to the church family to equip all the believers (“the saints”) to go out and do the work of ministry. Paul makes it so clear that we all have a part to play in building one another up in Christ.



I find that teaching personally very reassuring; with all the ministry there is to do at a church like The Met, there is no way the pastors could manage it! But the whole church family, serving together in the power of the Spirit, can manage it. As we move toward resuming our on-site ministries in the Fall, we will certainly need all hands on deck. May I encourage you, over the coming weeks, to pray about how the Lord might use you to build up the body of Christ in this new ministry season? Why not go on to the website and click on the Next Steps – Serve tab to learn more about opportunities to serve. And in the meantime, why not reach out to another member of the church family with a note or text, a call or an email, simply to encourage them in their walk with Christ. We all have a role to play in the work of ministry. How will the Lord use you in the months ahead?

With gratitude for your partnership in our shared ministry,

Jonathan

Ministry Board Update

The Met AGM was held virtually on May 30, 2021. There were 566 members registered for the meeting. 72% of members cast votes. All votes were cast electronically. The following ministry board officers were appointed for the upcoming year: Julian Brainerd, Chair; Aaron Maley, Vice-Chair; Andrew Harwood, Secretary; and Peter Hall, Treasurer. Jonathan Dyck was re-elected to the Property Board, and Ted Lennox was appointed Chair of the Property Board.

Please pray for our Board members as meeting restrictions are relaxed and they shepherd the church to come together to worship.

Tribute to Pastor Ron | Chris Shadbolt



Recently our Executive Director of Operations, Chris Shadbolt, had the special opportunity to meet with Pastor Ron and to review his 21+ years of ministry here at The Met. Pastor Ron, wife Ann, Matt, Joey, Daniel, Katie, Ben and Nathan arrived in early 2000 from sunny California ready for a great adventure, with great expectations, a clear sense of calling, and an awful lot of snow. In 2007 Ron and Ann added four more to their family by adopting Samantha, Hope, Chelsea and Hailey. In those early days he remembered the special guidance and loving support from Pastor Randy and the Board, and the prayer for Pastor Ron in the parking lot after a board meeting with thunder and lightning all around.

Pastor Ron said there were several highlights in his years of ministry but one of the most memorable was the tremendous support from the army of dedicated volunteers. Looking way back to The Met's first VBC in the crowded Bank Street location, volunteers stepped up to assist with over 400 kids in attendance! There were even more surprises along the way; Pastor Ron shared about the abundance and absolute delight on the children's faces, who as joyful young givers at VBC raised \$7,800 for missions! However, Ministry was not without its challenges. When the move to 2176 Prince of Wales in 2009 was completed, Pastor Ron found himself on the edge of burnout but was again prayerfully supported and encouraged by Met church family.

We wrapped up our conversation with Pastor Ron sharing his favourite, life-changing passage of scripture from Psalm 78, v1-8. He shared passionately about the command to teach the children, and how we should not hide the biblical truths from our children, nor tell the story incorrectly, nor forget to tell the story. This pivotal passage moved Pastor Ron to tears and led him to prioritizing the teaching of the Truth so fervently for so many years. He served as the Children's Ministry Pastor for most of his time here and after leading well in this capacity, he took on the pastoral leadership of families and men.

Wrapping up our conversation, I asked Pastor Ron what he wished he had known when he arrived. He responded that there was no good, inexpensive, authentic Mexican food around! Well done, Pastor Ron. Well done!

The board and leadership of The Met would like to invite you to participate in a love offering for Pastor Ron and Ann. Pastor Ron has served faithfully as a pastor at The Met for over 21 years, and this is one tangible way for us to honour his ministry. Love offerings payable to The Metropolitan Bible Church (Ron Rudd in the tag line) via cheque, or through the GIVE page on our website (select Rudd) are receiptable. Donations may be dropped off at the church or mailed to The Met, 2176 Prince of Wales Dr, Nepean, ON K2E 0A1. You may also donate directly to the Rudds via cheque made out to Ron Rudd or via e-transfer sent to ronannrudd@gmail.com. Gifts given directly to the Rudds via cheque or e-transfer are considered personal gifts and as such are non-receiptable.

Tribute to Pastor Ron | Jonathan Griffiths

We are grateful to be able to pay tribute to Pastor Ron in this edition of the Met Messenger, as we mark his retirement from pastoral ministry among us after 21 years of faithful service. We thank the Lord for Ron and Ann and for all they and their family have brought to our fellowship over these years. Ron's leadership of our children's ministry for nearly two decades has left an indelible mark on the lives of hundreds and even thousands of children, who have heard the Word of God and been grounded in the gospel. Added to that, countless leaders have been trained up for ministry and have deepened in their theological understanding as they have served under Ron's leadership in that area.

As Ron has transitioned over to a new portfolio more recently, he has given leadership to the shaping of a vital new ministry to men and to families – two areas of vital importance where we had clear need. Within that role, Ron has given himself to the pastoral care and discipleship of men and married couples. Those who have benefited from Ron's counsel (often with the close support of Ann as well) will speak of the great benefit and encouragement they have received.

We are thankful to the Lord for Ron's steady leadership, his care for people, and his deep devotion to the Lord and His Word. This is no means "goodbye" as Ron and Ann will remain close by and engaged with the church family – but we do want to mark this moment with thanksgiving and we do wish them God's richest blessing as they transition to a new season of life and ministry.