

December 2025

THE MESSENGER

A Publication of The Episcopal Church of the Messiah



Oh God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen
Book of Common Prayer 212

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Join Us for Worship:

Sunday Services:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite I) in the Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II) in the Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Contemporary) in the Parish Hall
4:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist (French & Creole) in the Sanctuary
5:00 p.m. Diving Deeper (Adult Study) with Fr. Tom
7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite III-Casual) in the Sanctuary

Wednesday Service:

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II) in the Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Bible Study in the Library

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Office Hours: Monday through Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

*From the
Rector*



Welcome, Doug & Lois Romaine!



On the 1st Sunday of Advent, November 30, the Reverend Doug Romaine begins his ministry with us as a Transitional Deacon. (In the Episcopal Church, folks on their way to priesthood spend 6-12 months as a Transitional Deacon, learning how to serve in the liturgy and a parish.) He'll be ordained a priest sometime next summer.

Doug and Lois come to us from the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation in Oviedo, who sponsored him for ordination. They chose to come here, because of our parish family's reputation for loving and equipping people to be competent and confident clergy – as we did with Tracy Dugger, Richard Gonzalez, and Andrew Lazo.

Here's their story:

Doug began his church work as a youth ministry volunteer in 1997. Feeling a call to fulltime service, he went to Denver Seminary in Colorado in 1999 and earned a Master of Divinity in 2004. While in seminary, he served as part-time Youth Minister in a Chinese and then a Korean congregation.

He also married Lois in 2001, and they have a grown son and daughter, Ethan and Lucy.

From 2005-2009 he was Youth Minister at Center Point Church in the Denver area. When his senior pastor retired, the church wanted Doug to succeed him, but Doug realized his young family needed more time and attention than the job would allow, so he went into social work for a year, helping folks find employment.

In 2010, he moved his family to a church in Pennsylvania and served as their Youth Minister for 5 years. In 2016, he moved to Calvary Chapel in Jupiter Beach as their Family and Youth Minister until 2021, when he discerned that position was not serving his family well.

Seeking a healthier situation, he moved to Avalon Park on the east side of Orlando and went to work for Austin Historical, selling window and door restoration services for vintage buildings all over the U.S. and internationally, and quickly became their best salesperson, bringing in over \$3 million in contracts so far this year.

Soon after their move, he and Lois found Church of the Incarnation, where, in addition to great preaching, they were nourished by liturgy and sacraments, and drawn back toward professional church work. Incarnation sponsored him in the discernment process for ordination to the priesthood – as we did for Tracy Dugger, Richard Gonzalez, and Jeremy and Garine' Adams – and he was ordained a Transitional Deacon alongside Jeremy on November 15.



From left to right: Ethan, Lucy, Doug, and Lois Romaine

WHAT'S HE GOING TO DO WITH US?

Doug will be a non-stipendiary part-time Deacon and then Priest with us.

“Non-stipendiary” means “we aren’t paying him.” Doug wants to continue his employment at Austin Historical, and work for us 10 hours a week, in exchange for my mentoring him toward priesthood, as I’ve done with several folks before.

When he’s ordained a priest, we’ll see what the Holy Spirit has for him, whether that’s to be a rector somewhere else or stay here as a Priest Associate. We’ll cross that bridge when we come to it.

Most of his 10 hours a week with us will be on Sundays, as he hones his liturgical and sacramental skills and learns the unique aspects of leading an Episcopal congregation. You’ll see him serving at the altar, and he’ll start preaching on some Wednesday mornings in January to sharpen those skills as well.

Please welcome Doug and Lois as they join the Messiah family and partner with us to change the world with Jesus.

I love you all.



Messiah’s Missionaries

*We are representing our Church of the Messiah family
and sharing the love of Jesus wherever we go!*

Sue Riley attended French Broad Valley Baptist Church in Kadak, TN on October 24.

Tom Rutherford presented Jeremy Adams for Ordination as a Deacon on November 15, at Cathedral Church of St. Luke and Melissa Adams; Garine, J.D, and Yester Adams; Soner, Yolande, Osni, Yolwenn, and Sophie Alexandre; Chris Brown; Linda Ellison; Mike and Wendy King; Bob and Gretchen Tope; Janice Hull; Sarah Wolfe; Jay and Mary Kay Predmore; Connie and Terry Kraft; Wally and Karen Stewart; Joyce Taylor; Pauline Wilson; Lionel and Karen Williams; Debbie Rutherford; Wesny Dubic; Julie Altenbach; Laura Cook; and Timothy Rutherford attended.

Harry and Janice Hull, Jay and Mary Kay Predmore, and Marlene Cambridge McCarthy attended St. Matthias in Clermont, FL on November 16.

If you visit another church, please pick up a copy of the bulletin and drop it in Wendy’s mailbox. Don’t forget to add a note letting us know who you are and the location of the church. If you can, please send pictures to: Office@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

2025 November Vestry Minutes

Sunday * November 16, 2025 * 2pm

Present: Rector Tom Rutherford, Senior Warden Joyce Taylor, Junior Warden Lamar Powers, Clerk Don Grimes, Chris Brown, Laura Buckner, Jean Pinder, Sandy Sparks, Wally Stewart, Lionel Williams, and Treasurer Bob Tate.

Absent: Don Greer (ill), Marie Tassej (ill)

After opening the meeting in prayer, Tom Rutherford stayed for the Discussion and Decision portions of the meeting and left at 2:35 to officiate at the funeral for a former parishioner at Woodlawn Cemetery.

I. DISCUSSIONS (for a decision next month): Messiah's Environmental Footprint:

A. How Messiah looks at Sustainability came up at the Focus Group meetings. Chris Brown says: "I want us to look at the amount of Styrofoam and plastic waste we generate at coffee hour and other meals. How can this be changed to a more environmentally friendly option while keeping costs and labor in mind? I spoke with Wendy, and we already have a strong inventory of Styrofoam cups. So, we either wait out using these styrofoam cups up, find another use for them, or find another home for them. I also spoke with Patty Tate about getting reusable coffee mugs, either through donation or the rummage sale. Apparently, Messiah used to have coffee cups with names on the cup. We have a dishwasher that can handle washing coffee mugs, and we consume somewhere between 30 - 50 cups of coffee on Sunday. This would require more work for the coffee hour team. However, I believe this fits with Messiah being good stewards of the resources God has given us. Also, younger generations are watching Messiah and if we are living our values."

B. Vestry will decide next month.

II. DECISIONS (usually based on the Discussion last month):

A. **Diocesan Convention Delegates:** Convention is Friday and Saturday, January 23 & 24 in Orlando. We get 3 Lay Delegates and 3 Alternate Lay Delegates. Canons require that at least one of our Delegates is a member of the Vestry. All of our Clergy (including Jeremy Adams, who is a Deacon now) are automatically Delegates.

1. Chris Brown, Laura Buckner, and Lionel Williams volunteered to be our Vestry delegates.
2. Mildred Dubic agreed to be our Lay Alternate.
3. Vestry APPROVED the slate. Tom Rutherford will let the Diocese know.

B. Vestry Nominees:

1. Already said "Yes": Bob Greene, Mary Kay Predmore, and Wayne Sparks
2. Wally Stewart agreed to stand for election to Tom Headley's unexpired term.
3. We're waiting to hear an answer from the others invited to stand for election.

C. **2026 Budget:** The Proposed Budget was emailed.

1. There was concern and disagreement about one staff member's proposed 2026 compensation.
2. Vestry elected to add \$60,000 to the budget to fund a full-time Youth Minister, expecting we may not spend all that, as we may not find our person for several months.
3. Because there was disagreement, we will look at this again next month. Please pray!

D. Woodland Street lots:

1. A parishioner is interested in buying the lots and building a home for himself.
2. Last month, vestry wanted an appraisal to discover what they might be worth.
3. In the past, we've been open to selling those lots, because many years ago, Mrs. Fulmer, who owns the home next door to the Alexandres, said her family would give us first dibs on buying her home when she dies. That gave the possibility of buying that home and having it for a staff

person to live in and tearing down 227 N Main for parking. Recently, however, Mrs. Fulmer's daughter says the family will never sell it.

4. In addition, the family behind us on N. Woodland St. put in a big pool and offers swimming lessons as a business, so they're not interested in selling anytime soon.
5. Since both of those situations limit us for any expansion to the property we own now, Vestry decided NOT TO SELL. Tom Rutherford will report this to the parishioner.

III. MEETING MINUTES & FINANCIAL REPORT:

A. Minutes from last month's meeting: APPROVED.

B. Financial Report from Treasurer Bob Tate: APPROVED.

1. **Operating Income** last month was LESS than expenses, INCREASING our Year-to-date DEFICIT to \$151,659.18.
2. **Building Fund Income** past month was LESS than needed to pay the \$11,996.00 mortgage, other expenses, and the extra \$10,000 a month on the mortgage, INCREASING our DEFICIT for the year to \$45,726.89. PLEASE KEEP PRAYING.
3. **Balance on the Mortgage** as of August 31 was \$213,449.56, and the Cash & Brokerage Account balance was \$382,261.04. Please keep praying.

IV. FORMATION: Lionel Williams led Noonday Prayer. Based on Psalm 136:1-3: "Give thanks to the LORD!" Senior Warden Joyce Taylor invited us to share what we are thanking God for in our life and in our life together in the Messiah family in this Thanksgiving season.

V. INFORMATION:

A. Vestry Ministry Team Reports:

1. Junior Warden Lamar Powers reports:

- a) The new units at the youth hall were added to the Building Automation System (BAS). Automated Mechanical Systems (AMS) received alarms because the supply air was too cold, 38 degrees. If it freezes, it could damage the coils. The units are not receiving enough air flow from the existing ducts. If only one unit is running, some of the air recirculates through the other unit. A proposal was requested from AMS to correct this.
- b) The light in the Good Shepherd window was repaired. A new transformer was installed with the help of Mike King, Wally Stewart, C. W. Abell, Bob Tope and Father Tom.
- c) A roof leak in Father Soner's home was repaired. Ceiling tiles and insulation were damaged. They will be replaced this week.
- d) A light is out in the parish hall kitchen. It needs a new ballast.
- e) The bougainvillea between the youth hall and the preschool was falling over. The support has been reattached with the help of C. W. Abell.

2. Co-Rector Parish Profile Team members Chris Brown, Sandy Sparks, and Wally Stewart reported on the process.

C. Staff Ministry Reports

1. **Finance Minister Jane Cartelli** is researching how to accept contributions through VENMO, Zelle, and Apple Pay, since few people write checks or carry cash anymore.
2. **Media Minister Vita Mazzaluna** reports:
 - a) Keeping things rolling with prepping for Advent and Christmas for slides and volunteer needs!

- b) Music Minister Ricky Jackson created a custom QR code for us with the Episcopal flag at the center. Parishioners had requested that Finance Minister Jane Cartelli provide a QR code for linking to the Online Giving site. I have added the code to the digital ads and the Offertory Slide. Office Minister Wendy King has added the code to the bulletin, and it will be in the Messenger going forward. Go Team COTM!
- c) I will be providing my annual "thank you" gifts to my volunteers over the next couple of weeks. I will never be able to demonstrate just how much I appreciate them all!
- d) Continuing to work with Office Minister Wendy King on Amplify Church Management software so we can launch it for the parish
- e) Worked with Amy Raetz to revamp the advertising campaign for Dinner Church. Praying for that ministry!

f) Music Minister Ricky Jackson reports:

1. The Music School currently has seven active students, following the relocation of four students to Davenport. Instruction and rehearsals continue weekly, and our students have been learning Bach and Christmas music in preparation for the Advent season. Their enthusiasm and growth continue to bring joy and inspiration to our community.
2. The choir remains active and rehearses regularly. We are currently seeking additional volunteers to sing through the Advent season, as we hope to have enough singers to present richer, more dynamic arrangements during this special time in the church year.
3. We are deeply grateful for the donation of two guitars, which have already been a blessing to both the music school and worship services. If any members of the congregation have unused instruments or other musical resources they would like to donate, we would gladly and gratefully receive them to continue expanding our ministry.
4. Looking ahead, I am considering restarting a concert series at the church in the coming year. Such a series could serve as a meaningful way to further the light of Christ through the gift and art of music, offering inspiration, fellowship, and outreach to both our congregation and the broader community.
5. As always, we thank everyone for their continued prayers and support, which make all of this work possible.

3. Office Minister Wendy King reports:

- a) Our next Amplify church management software training is December 9.
- b) Office Angels Paulette Isaacs, Dawn Wirbel, and Maureen Farrar continue working on cleaning up the Amplify directory to ensure that it prints nicely. Paulette and I are watching videos to learn how to create a pretty directory in Word. We are almost ready to update the photo directories.
- c) Maintenance Minister Matthew Barrett is still out recovering from his injuries. His substitute continues to clean for us on Monday and Thursday.
- d) The Recycle bin was emptied this month. It took us a year to fill it. We do NOT get a monetary credit, but we are doing our part to help the environment. If you have paper recycling that you would like to recycle, bring it in. The bin is located behind the Preschool.
- e) Monday, October 27 was a busy day, and God provided! Sunday evening a storm blew through WG and dumped a lot of rain. We had a roof leak in the library, water intrusion in the Sanctuary by the Prayer Chapel and in the Parish Hall kitchen by the washer, dryer, and pantry. The side-by-side fridge/freezer in the Youth Hall died and leaked water on the floor,

and the Youth Hall AC quit working. Mel from the Preschool; Jr. Warden, Lamar Powers; Steve with AMS; Larry and Walter with Sunshine State Roofing; Altagracia; and Mike King all stepped in and everything was cleaned up, patched, and reset before the end of the day.

- f) Helped with Trunk or Treat by purchasing supplies for the Monday Night Men's group, who grilled hotdogs for the event. My husband Mike and I participated for the first time by decorating our trunk and handing out candy. Our trunk was decorated with a bee theme. We Bee Long to Jesus.
- g) Made business cards for staff members Megan Adlam, Jane Cartelli, Ricky Jackson, and me.
- h) Made Baptismal Certificates and Prayers for the Godparents for three baptisms. We welcomed Charles Whitney Couch and Whitley Wren Van Arsdol. The third was rescheduled.
- i) The Office Angels helped the History team by calling those that signed up to reserve a History book to ensure they got theirs.

4. Preschool Director Barbara Ellerbe's financial report was emailed separately. She also reports about staff changes:

- a) I have hired Florangela Williams as a teacher's aide. Flora will start next Monday, replacing Angelina.
- b) In addition, I had a second interview with Brook Clark. Heather is leaving in January, and I would like to hire Brook as her replacement. Her background check is underway. Brook and Heather may overlap for a few weeks to ensure a smooth transition.

D. New Clergy person, Deacon Doug Romaine joining us. Doug was ordained a Transitional Deacon alongside Jeremy Adams and 8 others on November 15. Doug comes to us from Church of the Incarnation in Oviedo and will work for us for 10 hours a week as a Non-Stipendiary Priest Associate in exchange for clergy leadership mentoring with Tom Rutherford. He will serve on Sundays and plug in during the week as his time allows and be eligible to be ordained a priest next May. He works full-time for Austin Historical Windows, a company that restores and builds vintage windows and doors. He will continue working for Austin for a while as he transitions into priesthood in hopes of becoming a rector. Doug's married to Lois, and they have grown children. He starts with us on the First Sunday of Advent, November 30.

E. You are urged to add the MyChurchHome app to your phone. MyChurchHome is the user portal for Amplify church management software, and Office and Media Ministers Wendy and Vita are rolling it out to Vestry, Clergy, and Staff first to work out the bugs before we invite the congregation to sign up and sign in. You got an instruction sheet for how to add the app to your phone in your box in the church office.

F. Coffee Hour Cleanup: Related to #1. In the past Vestry members who closed the church up after 1 pm were also responsible for cleaning up coffee hour, if it needed to be cleaned up. Vestry members should get back to doing this clean-up if necessary, and we will add this task to the "Door Closer" duties next year.

G. "Making donations easier with a QR code" was brought up at the Focus Group meetings. Having a QR code in the pews would make it easier for anyone to donate. Staff took this on, and the QR code is live to make donations.

VIII. The Meeting closed in prayer at 3 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Don Grimes
Clerk of the Vestry

Clergy

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Priest Associate:

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The Rev. Adelene Smith 845-304-4975
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The Rev. Tim Wetherington 407-342-4484
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Treasurer:

Bob Tate
Treasurer@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Staff

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Jane Cartelli, Finance Minister, Event Scheduler
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Barbara Ellerbe, Preschool Director
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Ricky Jackson, Music Minister
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Yesika King, Social Media Minister
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Vita Mazzaluna, Media Minister
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2025 Vestry

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Wally Stewart, Business & Development, Intercessory Prayer, Properties
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Marie Tassy, Fun & Fellowship
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Joyce Taylor, Senior Warden, Transportation
Email: shadesfan@aol.com

Lionel Williams, Communications & Publicity
Email: lionelfhw@gmail.com

Vestry Door Duty for December

Opener at 7:30 a.m. ~ Joyce Taylor
Closer after 1:00 p.m. ~ Chris Brown
Vestry Meeting Host ~ Chris Brown

Who Ya Gonna Call?

LOVING GOD	LEADER	PHONE	EMAIL
Acolytes	Fr. Tom Rutherford	407.656.3218	TomRutherford@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Altar Guild	Karen Stewart	407.625.7615	Kstewart1208@yahoo.com
Altar Guild	Jennifer Roper	407.760.2393	Jennifer.Roper@yahoo.com
Building Maintenance	Lamar Powers	407.913.7112	LamarPowers@cfl.rr.com
Children's Ministry	Megan Adlam	407.656.3218	MeganAdlam@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Event Scheduler	Jane Cartelli	407.656.3218	JaneCartelli@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Lay Weeder's/Landscapers	John Peacock	407.758.2728	Jpeacox@cfl.rr.com
Music/Choirs/Band	Ricky Jackson	407.656.3218	RickyJackson@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Prayer Chain	Amy Eiden	919.931.9423	PrayerChain@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Prayer Chain	Wilna Brown	407.222.8847	PrayerChain@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Prayer Intercessors	Wally Stewart	407.468.2545	Stewart3rd@aol.com
Sunday Servant Scheduling Greeters, Lectors, LEMS, LEVS, Ushers	Mary Kay Predmore	352.551.4293	PredmoreMarykay@gmail.com
LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS	LEADER	PHONE	EMAIL
Communications/Publicity	Lionel Williams	407.467.1741	Lionelfhw@gmail.com
Habitat for Humanity	Bob Tate	407.247.0219	Tater7134@gmail.com
Outreach	Angela Lopez	321.287.9089	angelalopez@churchofthemessiah.com
Preschool	Barbara Ellerbe	407.654.8415	BarbaraEllerbe@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
D.A.R.T.	Chris Brown	407.864.1708	CG_Brown@Live.com
LOVING EACH OTHER	LEADER	PHONE	EMAIL
Coffee Hour	Dawn Sylvia	845.206.3636	DawnSylvia406@gmail.com
Cursillo	Cindi Shaffer	407.923.3010	CindiShaffer25@gmail.com
Daughters of the King	Deacon Angela Lopez	321.287.9089	AngelaLopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Sunday Community Supper	Steve & Amy Raetz	612.812.1047	kitkatr617@outlook.com
Fun & Fellowship	Marie Tassy	407.779.0251	marietassy173@gmail.com
Grief Groups	Jill Brown	407.656.5776	Jlbrown656@embarqmail.com
History Ministry	Sandy Sparks	715.295.4482	Ssproofing@gmail.com
Lay Eucharistic Visitors	Chris Brown	407-864-1708	CG_Brown@live.com
Library	Gene Correll	850.974.6076	Library@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Media Ministry	Vita Mazzaluna	407.748.7895	VitaMazzaluna@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Men's Supper	Wally Stewart	407.468.2545	Stewart3rd@aol.com
Messiah's Way	Mary Kay Predmore	407.865.1472	PredmoreMarykay@gmail.com
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Newsletters/Bulletins	Wendy King	407.656.3218	WendyKing@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Nursery/Childcare	Megan Adlam	407.656.3218	MeganAdlam@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
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Pastoral Care	Chris Brown	407.864.1708	CG_Brown@Live.com
Transportation Aid	Joyce Taylor	407.222.1290	Shadesfan@aol.com
Women's Dining Club	Janice Hull	352.217.0967	Jhull1049@gmail.com
Youth	Fr. Tom Rutherford	407.656.3218	TomRutherford@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com



Preschool News

Last month we held our annual Thanksgiving feast for the children. The children dressed as pilgrims and native Americans and shared a meal together. Once again, our amazing parents provided and prepared the meal. Our preschool parents help to serve the children as well. The children had a wonderful Thanksgiving celebration.

The preschool welcomed new staff members Florangela Williams, and Brook Clark. We are so excited to have Flora and Brook join us.

From December 1 through 5, the preschool children are collecting gently used toys and household items for New Beginnings Charity. Last year we were able to donate a whole truckload. We are hoping to do the same this year.

As we all celebrate the birth of our Lord, the classrooms are beautifully decorated by the children for the holidays. Teachers incorporate Christmas stories and songs into the daily routine, bringing extra joy to our children. As we all celebrate the birth of our Lord, we share our Christmas spirit with others.

On December 9 the children will perform "The Littlest Tree" for their family and friends. I would like to thank all the preschool staff for their hard work to make this production a success. I would also like to thank Julie Altenbach for narrating the play. And our new music teacher, Amy Seifer, for her beautiful accompaniment. The evening will end with us singing Happy Birthday to Jesus and birthday cake.

Our annual Christmas Shopping Day fundraiser will take place on December 13. The children are invited to come spend a Saturday morning at the preschool while parents enjoy some time on their own before the holidays to finish Christmas shopping, wrap presents or just enjoy some time relaxing before the holidays. This year each child will use Scrabble letters to create a special ornament for their parents.

The year will end with classroom Christmas parties. Each classroom celebrates the birth of our Lord with birthday parties for Jesus. The children will return to school on January 6.

Upcoming Events

December 9- Christmas Pageant 6:30-8:00

December 13 – Christmas shopping day

January 5- Teacher Staff meeting 9 a.m.
in the library

January 6 – Children return to school



Ragen's Class at Chapel with Fr. Tom

The preschool welcomed new staff members.



Regan Fleming



Brook Clark



Florangela Williams



Preschool Thanksgiving Feast



Happy
THANKSGIVING



TRUNK-OR-TREAT



Winter Garden - Rants, Raves, and Reviews
Tracy Schrey · 3d · 📍

Church of the MESSIAH
407-656-3218 www.ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
TRUNK OR TREAT
FRIDAY EVENING OCT 31
MAIN STREET
PARKING LOT
Worship Services

We are famous on Facebook!

Huge RAVE 🦃 for all of the delightful folks who hosted the Trunk-or-Treat in the parking lot @ Church of the Messiah in DT Winter Garden Friday night! My entire family had fun - free hotdogs, drinks, candy, and games!! If you missed it this year put it on your list to look for Halloween 2026!!! 🍷





On November 15th, the Diocese of Central Florida ordained 10 Transitional Deacons and thirty-nine Messiah family and clergy showed up to celebrate.
Congratulations Jeremy Adams & Doug Romaine.



DECEMBER

Happy
Birthdays
To You

	10– Alleyne Winford	24– Kendall Gilmore
2– Mary Katulic	Tom Lyons	25– River Brightstar
Antionette Ruzzier	11– Ella Duppenthaler	Sue Riley
3– Ina Haughton	12– Brandon Imes	26– Logan McRae
Alexis Vidot	17– Andrea Robertson	27– Bailey Wise
5– Sophie Gossett	18– Gloria Richards	28– Ray Nathurst
6– Thomas Warder	20– Sky Brightstar	30– Casey Cook
8– Mary Beth Moss	22– Mike King	Isabella Simon
9– Garine Adams	Darlene Powers	Kylie Walton
Kirk Smith	23– Jonah Felix Polanco	

















Happy
Anniversaries

5– George and Anida Daniel	22– Dennis and Pattie Range
19– Leo and Nadia Henry	24– Scott and Stephanie Overman
20– Craig and Jill Brown	

We want to celebrate you! Please share birthdays, anniversaries, and new arrivals with us.

Call the Office at 407.656.3218 or drop a note in Wendy's Office mailbox.

DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov. 30  1st Sunday of ADVENT	1	2  6:30 p.m. Ladies' Dinner Men's Supper	3	4 7:00 p.m. Page Turning Party 	5  6:00 p.m. Light Up W.G.	6
Office Minister, Wendy King, is on vacation Sunday, November 30th thru Sunday, December 7th						
7  2nd Sunday of ADVENT	8   5:00 pm	9	10	11	12	13
14  3rd Sunday of ADVENT	15	16	17 7:00 p.m. B.A.M.M. Fire Pit 	18	19  5:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Party	20
21  4th Sunday of ADVENT 2:00 pm Vestry Meeting 	22	23	24	25  Office is Closed Happy Birthday Jesus! 	26	27
28	29	30	31  New Years Eve	Jan. 1  Office is Closed	Tuesday– Fr. Tom's Day Off Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.	

Sunday's Schedule

8:00 a.m. Rite I
9:30 a.m. Rite II
Nursery and Children's Church
11:00 a.m. Rite III
Nursery and Children's Church
1:00 p.m. Kid's Club
in the Youth Hall
4:00 p.m. French Service

5:00 p.m. Youth Band
in the Youth Hall
4:30 p.m. Diving Deeper
with Fr. Tom in the Library
5:30 p.m. Sunday Community
Supper in the Parish Hall
7:00 p.m. Rite III

Weekly Schedule

Monday: 5:15 p.m. Men's Bible Study
 2nd Monday: 5:00 p.m. Brotherhood of St Andrew in the Parish Hall & Daughters of the King in the Youth Hall.

Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion
 11:00 a.m. Bible Study in the Library

Thursday: 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
 7:30 p.m. Praise Band Rehearsal



The Christmas service sign-up is on the nametag board in the Narthex.
All of the services are in need of volunteers.



Sunday Servants 8:00 a.m.

8:00 am	December 7	December 14	December 21	December 28
Lector	Dianne Donaldson	Alex Hujik	Sandy Sparks	Aliena Gaye
LEM 1	Joyce Taylor	Wayne Sparks	Maureen Farrar	Dianne Donaldson
LEM 2	Mary Kay Predmore	Joyce Taylor	Dianne Donaldson	Mary Kay Predmore
Altar Server	Wayne Sparks	Diane Donaldson	Mary Kay Predmore	Wayne Sparks
Ushers & Greeters	Dan Kem Jay Predmore	Alex Hujik Bob Tope	Jim Farrar Jay Predmore	Joyce Taylor Dan Kem
P. Intercessor	Gretchen Tope	Sandy Sparks	Joyce Taylor	Gretchen Tope

Sunday Servants 9:30 a.m.

9:30 am	December 7	December 14	December 21	December 28
Lector	Joe Eiden	Jay Williams	Dawn Wirbel	Beth Ann Carr
LEM 1	Rodger Watson	Vince Truglia	Chris Brown	Stacey Beck
LEM 2	Stacey Beck	Mary Lynn Levine	Tom Buckner	Laura Buckner
Altar Server	Kendal Gilmore	Melanie Field	Taylor Smith	Kendal Gilmore
Crucifer	Becket Taylor	Preston Smith	Addison Lynn	Raffy Grau
Torch Bearer 1	Sloane Taylor	Donny Grau	Calvin Lambeth	Donny Grau
Torch Bearer 2	Ainsley Gilmore	Rafi Grau	Reese Smith	Ainsley Gilmore
Ushers & Greeters	Ken Miller John Puchein	Jay & Patti Williams	Beth Ann Carr Jean Pinder	Deborah & Chuck Grunder
P. Intercessor	Karen Stewart	Linda Gold	Susan Kiehm	Chris Brown
Tech Slides	Laura Buckner	Jim Farrar	Sam Lynn	Wilna Brown
Tech Sound	Vita Mazzaluna	Maureen Farrar	Aaron Abney	Vita Mazzaluna

For questions or to volunteer to serve, please contact Mary Kay Predmore at predmoremarykay@gmail.com.
If you see an opening that you can fill, please email Mary Kay or call the office at 407-656-3218.



The Christmas service sign-up is on the nametag board in the Narthex.
All of the services are in need of volunteers.



Sunday Servants 11:00 a.m.

11:00 am	December 7	December 14	December 21	December 28
Lector	Patty Tate	Giada Mazzaluna	Bob Tate	Paul Buzzonetti
LEM 1	MK Predmore	Marc Boese	Lionel Williams	MK Predmore
LEM 2	Vita Mazzaluna	Larry Cartelli	Karen Williams	Vita Mazzaluna
Altar Server	Aubrey Randolph	Jackson Groenendaal	Anna Switzer	Logan McRae
Ushers & Greeters	Steve Borst Lisa Borst	Mary Katulic Jay Predmore	McRae Family	Lionel & Karen Williams
Tech Slides	Lionel Williams	Lily Groenendaal	Donny Mazzaluna	Marc Boese
Tech Sound				

Sunday Servants 7:00 p.m.

7:00 pm	December 7	December 14	December 21	December 28
Lector	Larry Cartelli	Jason Eaton	Violet Eaton	Amy Raetz
LEM	Wendy King	Susie Marshall	Larry Cartelli	Steve Raetz
Usher/Greeter	Terry Kraft	Cindy Shaffer	Cindi Shaffer	Jason Eaton
P. Intercessor	Susie Marshall	Chris Brown	Susie Marshall	Chris Brown
Tech Slides	Jane Cartelli	Mike King	Jane Cartelli	Mike King

Lay Eucharistic Visitors

LEV	December 7	December 14	December 21	December 28
Visitor	Chris Brown	Janice Hull	Marc Boese	Don Stanton

Readings

Readings	December 7	December 14	December 21	December 28
1 st Lesson	Isaiah 11:1-10	Isaiah 35:1-10	Isaiah 7:10-16	Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Psalm	Psalm 72	Canticle 15	Psalm 80	Psalm 147
2 nd Lesson	Romans 15:4-13	James 5:7-10	Romans 1:1-7	Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7
Gospel	Matthew 3:1-12	Matthew 11:2-11	Matthew 1:18-25	John 1:1-18

Advertise Your Ministry!

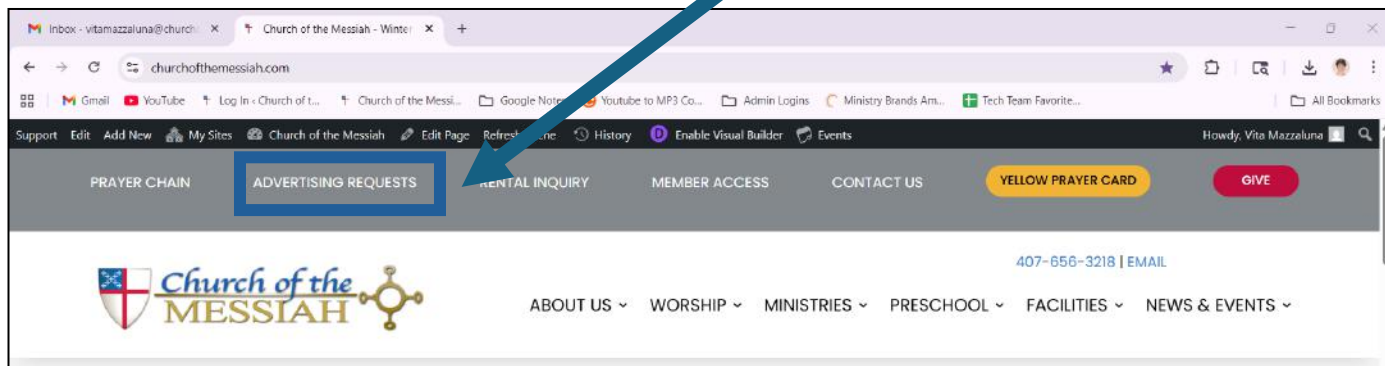


Do you have an event or Ministry that you would like to have advertised across the Church of the Messiah platforms?

Navigate to our website at

www.churchofthemessiah.com

and click **Advertising Requests** across the top bar.



Please use this form to communicate advertising needs to the Church of the Messiah Advertising Team: Office Minister Wendy King, Media Minister Vita Mazzaluna, and Social Media Minister Yesika King.

- Requests must be submitted **1 week prior** to the Sunday of advertising start.
- **Please note, we may not be able to accommodate requests made with less than 3 business days lead time.**

Name (Required)
First: Last:

Email (Required)
Enter Email: Confirm Email:

Event/Project Title (Required)

0 of 50 max characters

Event Date (Required)

Scroll down, complete all applicable fields, and submit the form! The more information you provide, the faster we can begin advertising for you!

When submitted, the form is sent to the entire Advertising Team: Office Minister Wendy King, Media Minister Vita Mazzaluna, and Social Media Minister Yesika King.

Utilizing this form ensures that Vita can properly plan advertising in ALL the locations: website, social media, weekly digital ads, flyers, bulletins, monthly Messenger, etc.

She will reach out if she has any questions.

If you have images to share that you would like used in your advertising (logos, specific photos, etc.), simply send those via email to images@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Thank you for all you ALL do to help Church of the Messiah change the world with Jesus!



The Advertising Team!

Join and Login to our NEW Amplify Church Management Software

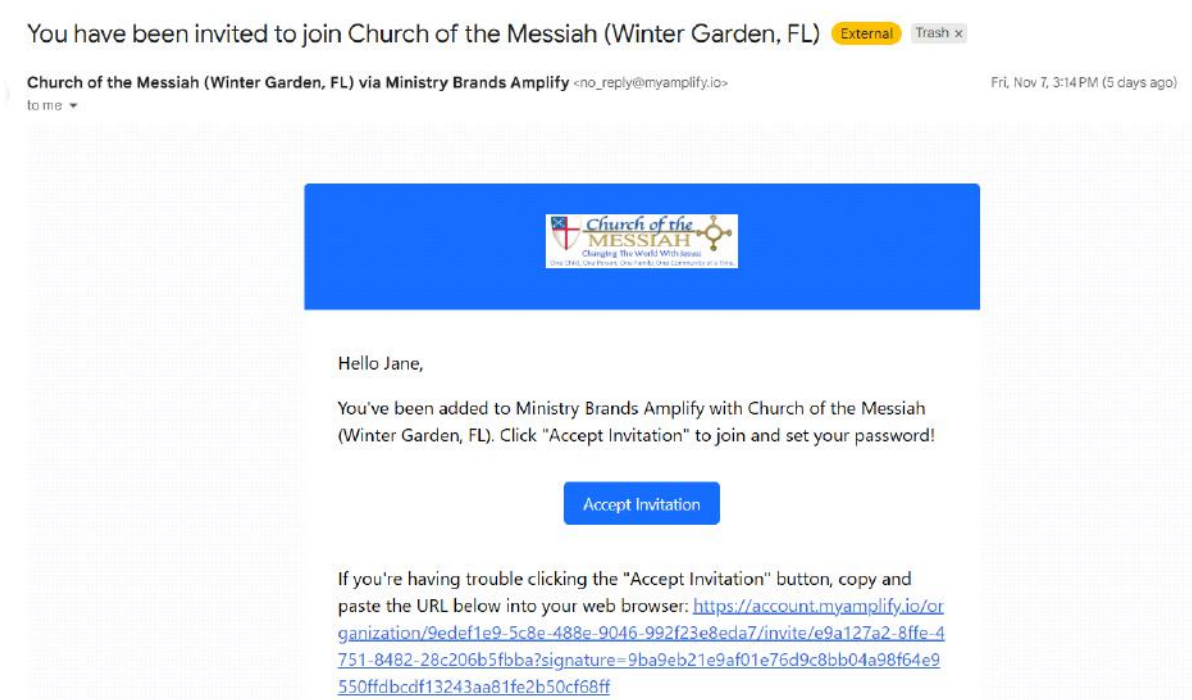
We have transitioned over from Servant Keeper to Amplify! Over the next several weeks, we will be sending invitations out to the congregation.

The invitation will come to your Primary Email address for the Primary Family Member in the system.

A sample email is shown below as well as instructions for accepting the invitation using a **computer**. See additional instructions for using the **My Church Amplify App**.

The SENDER name will be:

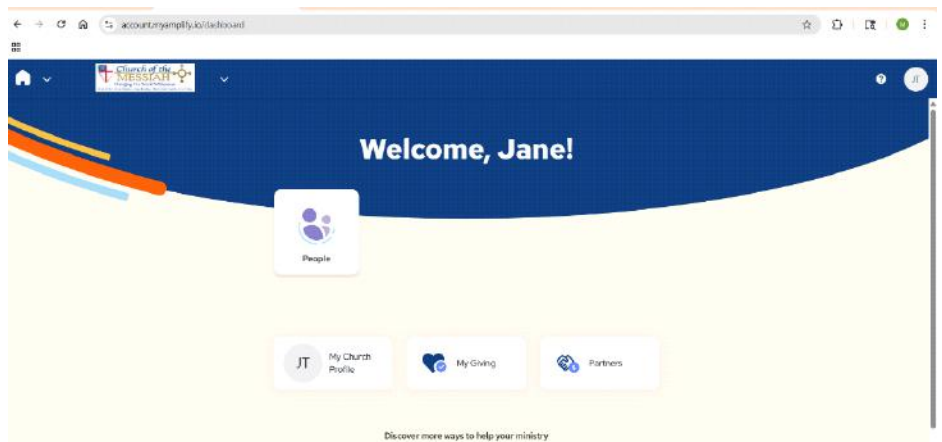
Church of the Messiah (Winter Garden, FL) via Ministry Brands Amplify
from the address `no_reply@myamplify.io`



- 1) Click **Accept Invitation**.
- 2) You will then follow the prompts to **setup a password** and **TWO-FACTOR Authentication**.
 - a. **Two-Factor Authentication IS REQUIRED.**
 - b. **The simplest method is to use SMS (text message).**

Once logged in, you will see this screen:

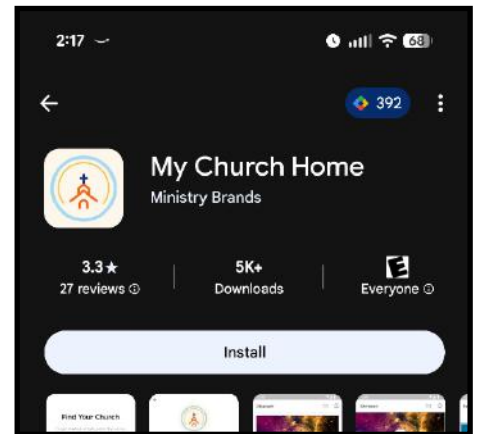
From it, you can view and update your profile, view your giving (My Giving), or click People to view the church directory listings.



Amplify My Church App Instructions with Screen Shots

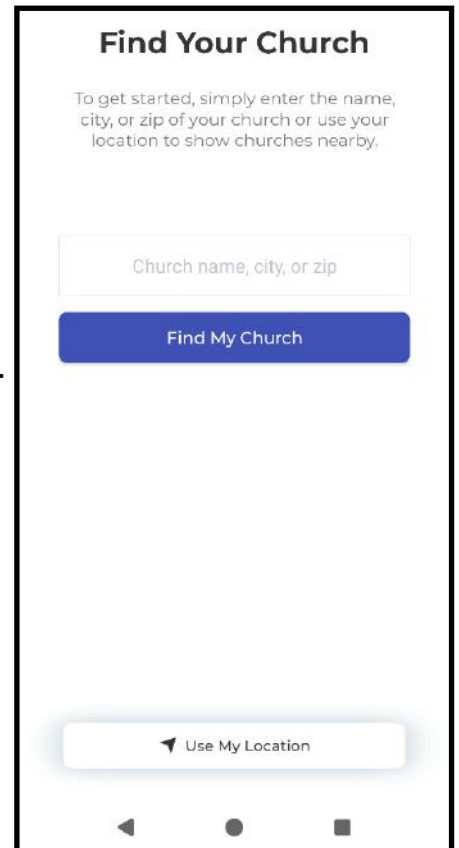
1) In the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, search for “**My Church Home**”

- a. See the image to the left to ensure you have found the correct app.
- b. Click the **Install** button.



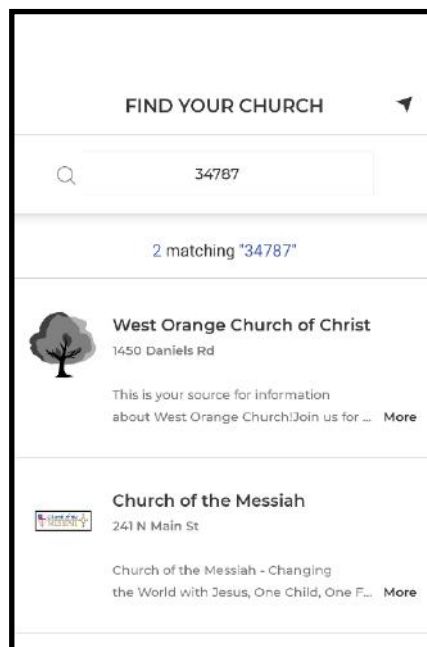
2) When you open the app, you will see the **Find Your Church** screen.

- a. Click **Find My Church** and enter **34787** as the Zip Code.



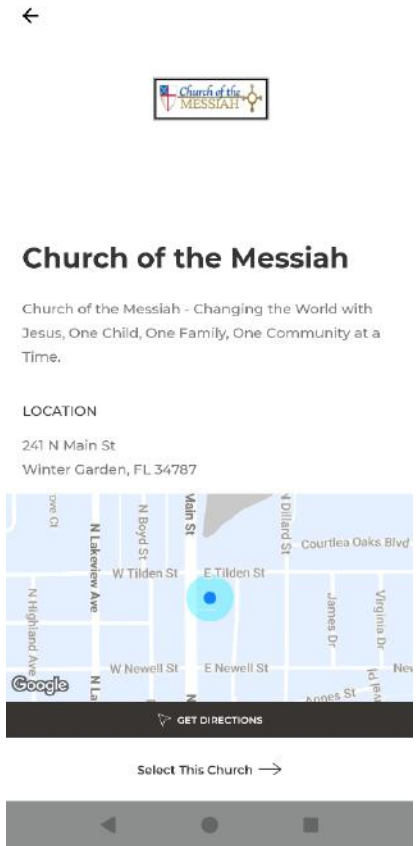
3) You should get the following results.

- a. Click on **Church of the Messiah**

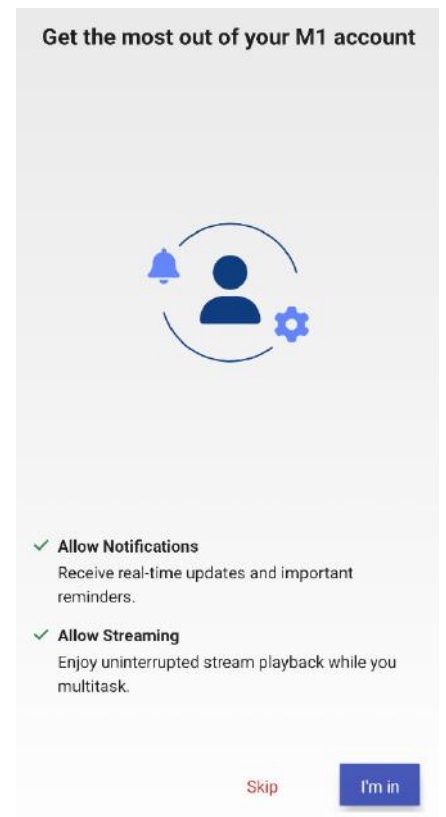


Amplify My Church App Instructions with Screen Shots

- 4) The next screen will show OUR church name, our mission, and a map.
- Click **Select This Church** at the bottom of the screen once you verify it is the **Church of the Messiah** account.

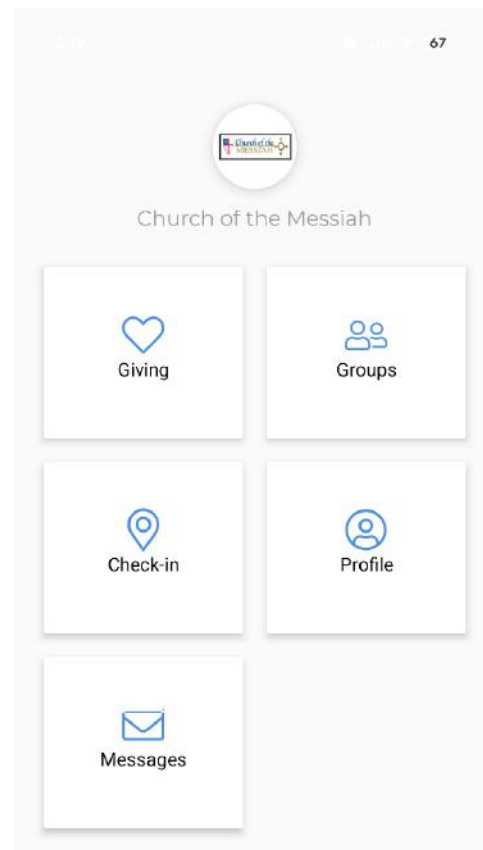


- 5) The next screen allows you to select options for Notifications and Streaming. Note: We will NOT be streaming through the app at this time.
- Click the blue **I'm In** button to enable notifications.

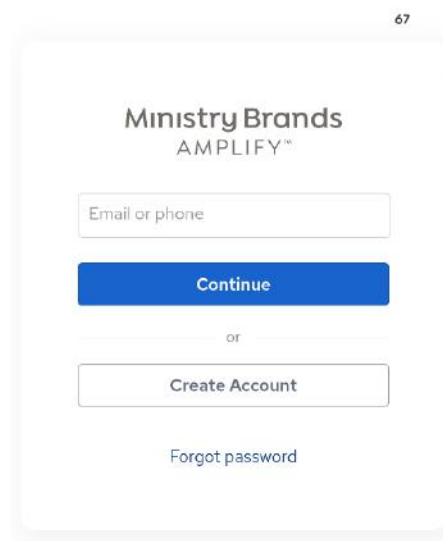


Amplify My Church App Instructions with Screen Shots

- 6) The next screen will be as shown to the right.
- Click **Profile** to be taken to the login/create an account page.



- 7) On the next screen, enter your **email** or **phone number** associated with your primary account.
- If you **HAVE** setup an account for giving or from clicking the invitation you received in email, click **Continue**.
 - If you have **NOT** setup an account for online giving or any other reason yet, you will need to **Create Account**.
 - Click **Forgot password** if you receive a message that you already have an account. It will send you a reset to your specified location.



- 8) If this is the first time you are setting up an account, you will be instructed to set up **Two-Factor Authentication**.
- SMS (text message) is the easiest option to select.
 - If you are comfortable using an Authenticator App, feel free to use your preferred app!

See the next page for I'm in! Now what??

Amplify My Church App Instructions with Screen Shots

Giving - See your giving statements for the year as well as add a one time or recurring donation.

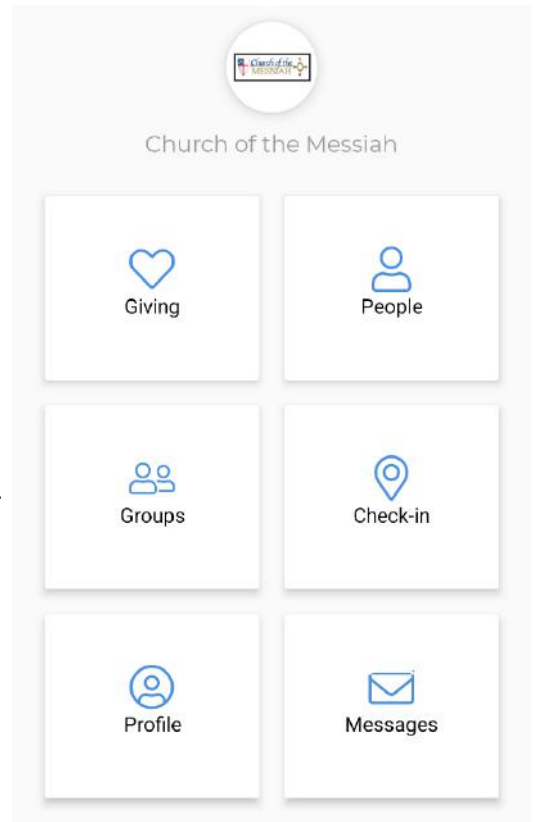
People - Search the directory and your ministry teams. (Your information is secure! Remember you received an invitation to Amplify, and you had to create an account and password to access the app. This Directory information is **ONLY** available to parishioners that we invite to our unique Amplify Log-in.)

Groups – This may be used at a later date for managing Ministries (Choir/Band, Sunday Servants, etc.)

Check-in - At this time only the preschool is using the check-in

Profile - View and update your and your family's profile.

Messages - Will be used at a later date.



**Attended/attending a
COTM Event or Ministry?
Send us your photos!**

**The 75th Anniversary History may be done
but NOW is the time to keep collecting
those photos for the
NEXT 25 years!**

**Please send your photos to
images@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com**





Autumn Cleaning? Preparing for the holidays?

By Marc Boese

As you clean, organize, declutter, please remember your COTM family.

We will be having our annual COTM Rummage Sale on March 14, 2026.

We did very well because many parishioners donated collectables or gently used jewelry.

We made sure to get top dollar for those

items. We also sold a lot of clothing, tools, household goods, and décor. Please box up your goodies and bring them to the church building in March when you see the reminders in the bulletin.

Furniture-wise, as in past years we do not want beds, stereos, televisions, or large furniture pieces. We are not equipped to handle large items or to dispose of the unsold items after the sale.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH
7:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
Save the Date!

Christmas Toys for Teens Drive



The Hope Center is collecting Christmas toys for teens age 13-16. Please help make this Christmas special for needy families in our community with teenage children. Look for the display in the church Narthex for ideas.

COFFEE HOUR NEWS



Beginning in January, COTM will be using coffee mugs for Sunday morning Coffee Hour! This is in response to Focus Group requests for sustainability and using less Styrofoam coffee cups. More details to come next month.



Messiah folks were VERY generous with food donations and Aldi gift cards for the Thanksgiving drive for Hope Center! A big thank you to Messiah people for the generous donations.

Also thanks to helpers that loaded at church: Vita and Donnie Mazzaluna, Bob Tate and Mark Boese.

Thank you Messiah Outreach Team!

A Habitat homeowner who lost her job due to government cutbacks was needing help with utility bills. Messiah outreach stepped in to help, and she is back in her home!



Patty and Bob joined the West Orange Habitat for Humanity Rock the House event as Mentors.



4 more houses being built in East Winter Garden!

Sunday Community
Supper 5:30pm in
the Parish Hall



Please see the flyer insert
and/or come, serve and eat.

11/30-12/28 is the ministry's
training/dry run month!

We will prepare for & serve
one another as
we learn the ropes!



**Come Fellowship with your
Messiah Family and Friends**

The First Tuesday of
every month at 6:30 p.m.



Ladies' Dinner Canapes,
Cocktails & Cookies
in the Parish Hall.

Men's Supper in the
Youth Hall.



Sign-ups for both are in the Narthex!

**Being a Messiah's Man
B.A.M.M**

Men's Fire Pit!

Wednesday, December 17
at 7:00 p.m.

Contact Chris Brown
407-864-1708

Christmas Toys for Teens Drive

We are collecting Christmas toys
for teens for the Hope Center!



See the Narthex
display.

Items are due
12/21.

Light Up Winter Garden

Friday, December 5th
6:00 p.m.

300 W. Plant Street

Join us as the Messiah Worship band
kicks-off the Christmas season at
Light Up Winter Garden!

**Being a Messiah's Man
B.A.M.M**

Men's Fire Pit!

Wednesday, December 17
at 7:00 p.m.

Contact Chris Brown
407-864-1708

Come join
our **CHILDREN'S
CHRISTMAS
PARTY**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19TH
5:00 PM- 8:00 PM

SEE THE FLYER
FOR
DETAILS

