G'Day!



or
'Good Day'
as
Americans say it!

G'Day



No, we're not Australians. We're Americans located in the mountains of central Arizona in **Strawberry**, one hundred miles north of the Phoenix metro area. In addition to being Americans we're also Christians. . .and **get this**, our special outreach is to **gays**, **lesbians and others who have been disenfranchised** by many churches. **We are**:

Olive Tree Ministries



We are *Ambassadors of Reconciliation!* We take the New Testament message of reconciliation seriously. Coupled with reconciliation is our Lord's emphasis on:

LOVE

The bottom line of authentic Christian faith is love: God's love for humankind, our love for God and love for our neighbor whoever and wherever that neighbor may be. See – Matthew 22:36-40.

St. Paul spoke of reconciliation in 2 Corinthians 5:17-40. *Whoever*, and we literally mean *whoever* believes in Christ <u>is</u> reconciled to God. It is not a process, rather it has already happened!!

Reconciliation to God <u>is not</u> reserved solely for one race, one culture or one sexual orientation. *It is <u>for everyone</u> who believes!* It

is based entirely in total upon God's grace through faith. See – Ephesians 2:8-10.

One of the goals of this ministry is to share God's message of reconciliation with all people, with <u>a special emphasis</u> in reaching out to those who have been disenfranchised by many institutional churches, those who have been lied to, deceived and rejected. Christ invites all people to come to him. <u>See</u> – Matthew 11:28.

Are We a Church?



No, this ministry <u>is not</u> a formalized organized church. We are non-denominational but <u>not</u> anti-denominational. We seek to work with churches whatever their label, affiliation or denomination. Our desire is to help combat homophobia in a positive Christlike manner, to educate and aid in equipping the followers of Christ in discipleship.

Why Are We a Ministry?



We believe that God has raised this ministry up to help fill a void in the Body of Christ. We are not ashamed of the fact that we view our sexual orientation as God-given, normal and natural. We emphasize agape [godly love] and are seeking to work for the continued reformation and renewal of the Church. We view the Church as Reformed, always reforming! Reform and renewal in the Church must never cease. It is our intent to aid in this ongoing work of God in the Church.

What Do We Believe?



It is not our desire to get caught-up in theological debate. We adhere to the basic foundational tenets of the Christian faith as expressed in the **Apostles' and Nicene Creeds.** We also have a Statement of Beliefs that is found in our **Olive Tree Handbook.**¹

We view ourselves as <u>inclusive evangelicals</u>. We part company with those Christians who dismiss, alienate and/or refuse people into their fellowships based of race, age, culture, ethnicity, sexual orientation, economic or educational status, etc. We believe that 'the evangel' i.e., 'gospel' includes <u>all</u> people who personally trust in Christ as Savior and Lord.

What Does this Ministry Offer?

This is a small ministry therefore our resources are limited. However, we are able to offer:

<u>Literature</u>. This is our first priority. We produce and offer many folders, booklets, handbooks and other material on various subjects as an aid to Christians regardless of their sexual orientation or denomination. The material that we offer falls under two categories:

Reconciliation Series



The material in this series deals with sexual orientation and what the Bible *does and*

¹ The **Olive Tree Handbook** is available from Olive Tree Ministries.

does not say about it. It seeks to help equip GLBT and supportive heterosexual Christians combat homophobia as it manifests itself in Christendom especially among fundamentalist, evangelical and charismatic Christians. It also seeks to assist Christian gays, lesbians and others to accept their sexual orientation of God.

In addition to the numerous folders offered in this series a handbook titled, "Christians Combating Homophobia Among Christians" deals with various aspects of homophobia as well as discussing the biblical passages that are often used to condemn homosexuality as well as GLBT men and women.

Strawberry Mountain Views



"Berry Good News!"

This is <u>an opinion series</u> written by the founder and director of this ministry, *Frederick L. Pattison*. The material in this series is "Unique, Challenging and Controversial!"

This series gets it name from the fact that as *Pastor Fred* sits in his office at his computer writing he is able to look out at Strawberry Mountain. The subject matter in this series covers **varied subjects**, many if not most, not dealing with sexuality. This material endeavors to be thought provoking.

What Else Does Olive Tree Offer?

In addition to the literature aspect of this ministry we also offer:

<u>Preaching & Teaching</u> by *Pastor Fred* who is open to ministering wherever and whenever an invitation is extended to him.

Some of the Seminars & Workshops offered include:

Biblical Prophetic Events on the Horizon
Combating Homophobia Among Christians
Gay & Lesbian Relationship Living
Healing Ministry in the Church
Our Spiritual Roots in Judasism
Children of the Reformation
Leadership in the Local Church
Practical Outreach (Evangelism)
Learning from each Other

Looking at the Cults
Charismatic: Churches and Christians

Olive Tree Prayer Network

We believe that God is sovereign and continues to reign. We further believe that Jesus is intercessor and ministers at God's throne for the people of God. We invite you to regularly send us your prayer requests. Let us know those requests that can be shared with others in the network. Requests that you would prefer not be shared with others are also requested. Strict confidence will be kept. We also ask that you not only let us know of your prayer requests but that you share the answers with us. Often Christians request prayer, then fail to let those who have been praying know when God answers.

OLIVE TREE MINISTRIES

"Ambassadors of Reconciliation!"



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