

In The Way

October 2016

The St-Onge Family
244 21e Avenue, Deux-Montagnes, QC J7R 4H1, Canada
charles.stonge@lcmsintl.org
intheway.org

Coming to See You All Soon!

I'm finding dates and times to visit as many supporting individuals, groups and congregations as possible during our network reconnect over the coming three months. Deb and the girls will be with me on the first weekend of our trip to the upper Midwest, then I'll be on my own for the rest of the dates:

Sat., Nov. 5 th , Afternoon :	Mission Central, Mapleton, IA
Sun., Nov. 6 th , 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM:	Immanuel, Clarinda, IA
Tue., Nov. 8 th , All Day:	Int. Center, St. Louis, MO
Wed., Nov. 9 th , 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM:	Immanuel, Iowa Falls, IA
Thu., Nov. 10 th , 8:30 AM:	Peace, Hutchinson, MN
Thu., Nov. 10 th , 5:00 PM:	St. John, Hutchinson, MN
Fri., Nov. 11 th , 6:00 PM:	St. Martin, Winona, MN
Sun, Nov. 13 th , 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM:	St. John, Newhall, IA

Our next trip is to Texas and the South, and there are still openings. Deb and the girls will be with me Nov. 25-28, then I'll be on my own for the next couple of weeks. There are still lots of dates open for dinners, morning bible studies and LWML meetings:

Sun., Nov. 25 th , 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM:	Memorial, Houston, TX
Wed., Nov. 30 th , Evening:	Grace, Elgin, TX
Thu., Dec. 1 st , 12:00 PM:	Good Shepherd, Azle, TX
Sun., Dec. 4 th , 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM:	Redeemer, Mandeville, LA
Wed., Dec. 7 th , All Day:	Crown of Life, San Antonio, TX

In December I hope to be visiting some congregations in the northeast, closer to Montreal. My first confirmed date is at Concordia, Bethlehem, PA on the evening of Wednesday, December 14th.

In early January we will all be in Ohio, where I will be preaching and presenting at Messiah, Middletown, OH on Jan. 1, and at Redeemer, Sidney, OH on Jan. 8. I'm also hoping to fill in some more dates for that trip to Ohio and Indiana next month. **Please call 513-442-2884 (our US-based home number) to set up a date, or email me at charles.stonge@lcmsintl.org. We would love to see you, your family, and your congregation!**

Mission Moment

In the Latin American region we work very hard to bring "mercy" and "witness" together, just as Jesus did when he used his miracles as opportunities to teach. When we do mission work in an area we ask ourselves: how would Christ show love to these people? How can we give a small demonstration of the love of Christ, to help our proclamation of eternal life in Christ?

In the Cayman Islands many things we take for granted must be shipped in (see the size of the largest of the Cayman Islands on the next page!) That makes those products very expensive. One product, laundry soap, can put a real strain on a local family's budget. So Pastor Hasskarl and the congregation figured out how to make some inexpensively. They then give out that detergent once a month at a local Saturday market. Included in the packet are instructions for use, and a card from the church.

This "sign of soap" has turned out to be a simple way to share the faith, even with complete strangers! "The soap is free?" "Yes, it is." "Who are you people with?" "Safe Harbour Lutheran Church. Do you know anything about Lutherans?" "No, not really." "Martin Luther was the first protestant, and he was upset that the church at the time was selling salvation in Jesus Christ instead of giving it out for free. The soap is free, and so is the forgiveness of sins we preach every Sunday at Safe Harbour."

When I helped distribute soap in October I was amazed at the conversations it started about faith, church and Jesus Christ.

What needs are there in your community that you could help address? Could addressing those needs be a sign to your community of the grace we have received through the cross of Jesus?



A Busy Month All Around

This month I was blessed to attend our eastern circuit meeting, with special guest speaker Tim Goeglein. Tim, a committed LCMS Lutheran, was a former aid to President Bush and now works for Focus on the Family in Washington, D.C. as one of their vice-presidents. We talked about the upcoming election, the future of religious freedom in the U.S., and what we as pastors can do to remain faithful to the Gospel while engaging the government. On that same note, I attended a board meeting of Lutherans for Life as well as their national conference in Minneapolis. There is a lot of concern in the U.S. about the loss of freedom of conscience.

As someone who lives and works outside the U.S. I can tell you that Christ remains Lord of His Church, and continues to sustain His people no matter where they might be and no matter what conditions they are living under. In the face of God's promises, we dare not lose hope and confidence in our Lord's promises to us!

At Ascension, I've prepared a banner design for our bell tower, to have up for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, and a website I'm creating to go with it. In the Caribbean, I've been helping to find care for Abasifreke Ite in Jamaica, our missionary's wife, who continues to suffer from health issues. I've also provided supply coverage for Pr. Leif Hasskarl as he develops a network of support in the US, and also begun working on the process of identifying leaders for a new early childhood center in the Caymans. The family is glad to have me back, at least for a few days!

**We preach
Christ crucified**

**Nous prêchons
Christ crucifié**

**我们却是传钉
十字架的基督**

luther2017mtl.com



**LUTHER
2017
500 Years of
Reformation**

**Dimanche à 9h00
Sunday at 10:30
星期天 13h00**

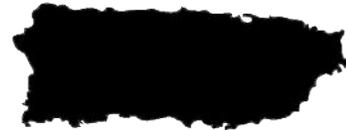
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Cayman Islands: 58,435



Montreal: 1,854,000 (3,824,000 greater area)



Puerto Rico: 3,548,000



Jamaica: 2,715,000

ABOVE: The four islands that I serve, to scale. Yes, the City of Montreal (and a few suburbs) are also on an island, created by the delta of the Ottawa and St. Lawrence Rivers! CENTER: The banner which will hang on Ascension's bell tower for the next year, proclaiming Christ in English, French and Chinese.

Prayer Concerns

For our support network reconnect this fall and winter, that the Lord would continue to support the work He has called us to do,

For the health of Abasifreke Ite, that the Lord would see fit to grant her a good diagnosis and treatment plan,

For Deb, Olivia and Sophia, as I travel away from them, that the Lord would guard them with His holy angels,

For myself, that the Lord would keep me safe in all my travels.

Support this Work

Make checks payable to The LCMS, memo line: St-Onge Family Support, and send to:

Mission Central
40718 Highway E16
Mapleton, IA 51034

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 790089
St. Louis, MO 63179-0089