

In The Way

February 2017

The St-Onge Family
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Work Down South

Last week I visited with the leadership of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Haiti (ELCH), my first time in Port-au-Prince. We had a positive meeting and discussed how to reinforce the relationship between the LCMS and ELCH. We also spoke about how to strengthen theological education in Haiti.

Next week I will be in Puerto Rico working with our two missionaries there. We will be preparing our strategic plan for 2018, as well as working on ways to strengthen our young "Foro" support group. We keep getting closer to renting a worship space in Ponce, finding funding and preparing paperwork.

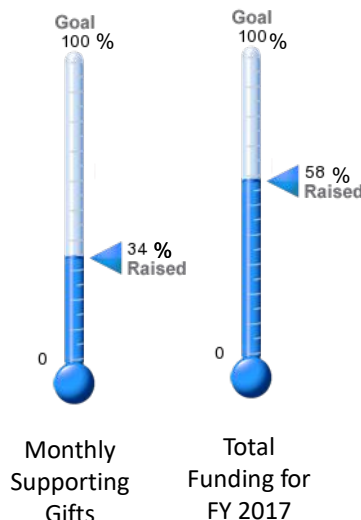
I've also been working on creating our first Foro for Jamaica. We are looking forward to partnering with Rev. Peter Kirby of Lutheran Hour Ministries on this endeavor, as well as with Lutheran Friends of the Deaf and with Rev. Jim Weist of Epiphany, Lake Worth, FL. We are continuing to work through the paperwork to acquire a permanent facility for St. Andrew.

Work Up North

I set a new record: 6 Sundays in a row at Ascension without being on the road. That hasn't happened in more than half a year, and the congregation has been thrilled (so have I!). **Mid-month we hosted over 40 kids and adults for our second "French youth event."** We are planning one for the summer, and I will be hosting an apologetics retreat in French this fall. We will be heading "south" to Maine for a mission festival at Redeemer, Waterville at the end of the month.

Financial Update

As of the end of January, we are a little over 58% funded for fiscal year 2016-2017. Thank you all so much! Four months ago we were only 9% funded, so we've come a long way. Currently about a third of our support comes from monthly or recurring gifts. Those are the gifts that really keep us going, and help us focus on our work and not on raising support. If you aren't already, **would you consider supporting us with a monthly gift of \$25, \$50 or \$100?** Visit lcms.org/givenow/stonge to do so.



Mission Moment (from Deborah)

This month Olivia and I are happy to share that we enjoyed another successful youth retreat - this time hosted in Montréal. Nothing beats 45 youth and adults gathered around God's Word, sleeping in the church basement, and driving home in a major winter storm. Praise the Lord for air mattresses (kids today have it so easy)!

I was tasked with planning, purchasing, and preparing the meals and the Lord provided all that we needed and, like many Biblical examples, even leftovers. Considering we were planning for 30, this was a great blessing. We had help from Ascension / L'Ascension's Pastors, Linda, Veronica, Spencer, and Rena and all the participants chipped in as needed. In addition to Bible study, devotions, worship, and games, there was lots of fun in the snow at Mont Royal.

This is really the only opportunity for our French-speaking youth to have Lutheran Fellowship outside of worship. Please keep these youth in your prayers that they are strengthened to be confident and even bold in the face of a doubting and confusing culture!



February 2017 Pictures

- see more online at intheway.org!



TOP LEFT: Some of the kids of Ascension; BOTTOM LEFT: Skating on Mount Royal; TOP RIGHT: Youth from Québec, Montréal and Ottawa gather at Ascension; BOTTOM RIGHT: Meeting with leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Haiti.

Prayer Concerns

For the health of Abasifreke Ite, who in addition to on-going kidney issues lost her father in Nigeria this month,

For continued work with our brothers and sisters in Haiti, that their work and ours might bear good fruit,

For our work with the youth and young adults of Quebec, that we might strengthen them to be little Christs in a secular world,

For our Foros and their partners, in thanksgiving for their support of mission work across Latin America and the Caribbean.

Support this Work

You can donate online at lcms.org/givenow/stonge. Or you may send a cheque, payable to **The LCMS**, to the addresses below. Include **St-Onge – LAC** in the memo line.

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