

In The Way

July 2018

The St-Onge Family in Mission
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News Up North

My focus of work this summer has been assisting the Chinese congregation during their pastor's summer sabbatical, and teaching several classes on apologetics Sunday mornings. Both have been well received. I also performed my first two Quebec weddings, which were true learning experiences. Unlike other places in North America, the pastor is responsible for all the (significant) paperwork needed to announce and then register the marriage. We are officially "ministers of the state" as well as ministers of religion, and I didn't want to accidentally file the green copy with one office that needed the goldrenrod stastical form (I am not making this up). The challenge, as always, remains finding the time to take advantage of doors the Lord is opening with the increased workload in my "southern fields."

News Down South

It was another three-island month, with trips to the Caymans, Jamaica and Puerto Rico. I preached at Safe Harbour and checked in with leaders as they prepared for their fifth interim pastor since 2017. We are looking for a retired pastor willing to lead services there part-time in 2019. I was blessed to have my father feel well enough to join me on that short trip. Our human care missionary, Jamielynn Tinkey, joined me in Jamaica to check in on Rev. It's wife Abas, who had spent two weeks in hospital. She is recovering, but still very weak. Please keep her in your prayers. Last but not least, I spent four days in Puerto Rico as part of the disaster response assessment process. We visited the homes to which we are supplying new roofing materials, discussed expanding our roof repair efforts, and prepared for the significant growth of our Puerto Rico team over the next six months. We will be excited to commission Ruth Maita and install Rev. DiLiberto October 14!

Mission Moment

A district official in our Synod once called Ascension a true "Revelation 7" church. Last Sunday was a great example of how true that is. I preached and led the French worship service which included a visitor from Columbia who spoke no English or French, only Spanish. I began a conversation with her, which was continued by our Brazilian associate pastor, so I could switch back to French for a conversation with two of our young adults about the upcoming bilingual retreat we are planning.

I then led our English service, which included an Urdu-speaking couple from India who would like to join the congregation. Fortunately, the father speaks some English. We will meet later this week and discuss the baptism of the family's two daughters.

Switching gears again, I led the Chinese worship service (this time through a translator). We had two visitors from the Baptist Chinese Christian community in Toronto who were excited to visit a church in Montreal worshipping in their own language.

"After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb." The Lord is making that prophecy a reality in Parc-Extension, Montreal, Quebec!



Would You Like a Visit?

I will be doing network support visits this fall in Texas, Iowa, Minnesota and Ohio, with the possibility of visiting neighboring states as well. Here's where I'll be and when I'm available: call 438-490-3698 or email (front page)!

Sunday, Oct. 21: The Edge, Azle, TX (available Oct. 22-26 in the Texas/Metroplex area)

Sunday, Oct. 28: Locksley, ON, Canada – Evening Reformation Service

Friday, Nov. 9: Iowa Falls, IA / Saturday, Nov. 10: Mission Central / Sunday, Nov. 11: Clarinda, IA
Available November 12th to 23rd in Iowa / Minnesota and surrounding areas

Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 17-18: St. Martin, Winona, MN

Sunday, Dec. 2: Memorial, Houston, TX (available Nov. 27-Dec. 7 in southern Texas/Louisiana)

Sunday, Dec. 30: Peace, Cincinnati, OH (available Dec. 28-Jan 3. in Ohio/Indiana/Kentucky)

A Picture's Worth of Words...



Top Left: With Jamielynn Tinkey, visiting with Henry and Rev. Ite at the site of their downtown men's bible study in Kingston, Jamaica.

Top Right: Praying with the owner of a roofless house in Mayaguez, PR. In the right foreground are roof materials we have purchased and had delivered to rebuild what was destroyed. **Left:** Meeting at the disaster response center, with Rev. Ted Krey helping us keep mercy connected to the work of sharing the Gospel of Jesus.

Prayer Concerns

For the congregations of our Synod, that they might open their doors and hearts to the missionaries serving on their behalf around the world,

For those newly married at Ascension and being instructed in the Word, that the Gospel may bear fruit in their lives,

For the proclamation of the Gospel in the Caribbean, that the Church may be well-established across the islands in which we work.

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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