

In The Way

October 2019

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Work Up North

There has been good follow-up from our first Montreal Forum in September, including work on bringing a deaconess intern to Ascension for 2020-2021 (see Mission Moment sidebar). Internet outreach continues with 3-5 people a week requesting information about prayer, healing and finding forgiveness. Our immigrant outreach through the teaching of English continues Monday nights thanks to the tireless work of volunteers from the congregation. Although we have had over two dozen requests for information on the class in the last two months, attendance is still around a dozen. There is a need for more consistent follow-up on calls and emails (see deaconess intern!).

The LCC and LCMS congregations in Montreal had their annual bilingual Reformation service with close to 100 people "from every tribe, nation and language" attending. I will also be the guest preacher for the annual Ottawa Valley Reformation service on October 31 in Pembroke, Ontario, my mom's hometown, about 3 1/2 hours northwest of Montreal.

Work Down South

This month culminates two busy months of travel throughout the south as I visited almost all my islands (save Haiti). At the beginning of the month I joined our Puerto Rico mission team for two days of visitations and preparations for our fall FORO meeting. We traveled together to our meeting site in Orlando, Florida, where team members were graciously hosted by members of St. Luke's, Oviedo (SELC District). Meetings were hosted by the Florida-Georgia District at their offices, and around two dozen missionaries representing multiple partners participated.

The following week I helped host a short term team from Grand Haven, Michigan in Kingston, Jamaica. We built walls for two classrooms at Parade Gardens Lutheran School, continued work on our ministry centre, and did some teaching with teachers and playing with the students. I also preached on Sunday morning and led Bible study Tuesday evening.

Mission Moment

Another family from India has been joining us in worship, bringing three adults to worship and two children who are learning both English and French. The family has expressed some surprise at how few Christians there are in Montreal. Jesus-followers from non-Christian countries often view Canada and the US as "Christian countries" and are surprised that, in practice, that is no longer true.

With the arrival of these two more children, we now have the beginnings of a real Sunday School, and may need to add a second class – or at least a second teacher. Teaching from five years old to twelve years old is quite a stretch!

To that end, Ascension is hoping to have a deaconess intern serve from 2020-2021, a next step in expanding several of our ministries beyond what we are able to do part time. Our intern would work alongside me to expand our immigrant outreach, children's ministry, and assist with visitations.



A Picture's Worth of Words...



Top Left: Confirmation of Isaiah Pervez on Thanksgiving Sunday. **Top Right:** Presenting at Puerto Rico FORO. **Bottom Left:** Thanking Millicent Moodie for her service to Lutheran Ministries in Jamaica. **Bottom Right:** Team members play with students of Parade Gardens Lutheran School.

Prayer Concerns

For Charles' father, admitted to hospital for the first time, that the Lord might grant him continued encouragement,

For the teachers and supporters of Parade Gardens Lutheran School, that many may come to know Christ through their work,

For the Puerto Rico FORO, that workers and supporters would find encouragement in each other through ongoing prayer and financial commitment.

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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