

In The Way

November 2023

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It almost felt like we were trying to pack in maximum Jesus in the last few days of the Church Year! From a familiar guest preacher on All Saints, to a series of well-attended outreach workshops, to Laser tag and young adult fellowship, to an Urdu/Hindi evangelism weekend, there was hardly a slow moment all month long.

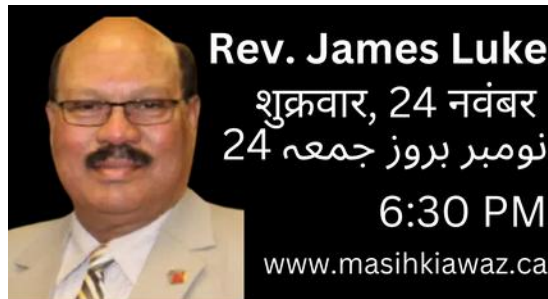
Who is Jesus?



Each Sunday after worship one of our lay workers, Lyman Stone, led a short introduction to Christianity workshop for a few dozen community members. At the same time Anna, Kayla, Ruth and Deb led a children's program in the basement, while I ministered to members and guests who weren't attending either. See more pictures on the back of the newsletter!

Ascension welcomed Lutheran pastor Rev. James Luke from Toronto on November 24-25. He led a Friday evening workshop on the theme "Preparing for Christmas" which close to sixty members of the community attended. On Saturday he led a Bible study for a smaller group on the subject of Jesus' return.

Outreach Weekend



This marked the first time we were able to have events purely in the Hindi and Urdu languages. We were excited to have at least one of the attendees return on Sunday morning for worship, and many more have expressed interest.

Quebec News

Quebec's governing party saw a precipitous drop in their poll numbers this fall. They are further clamping down on the use of English in the province in order to gain lost ground. A proposed tuition hike could force the closure of one of our three English universities, and threatens the futures of both Concordia and McGill. The war in Gaza has also enflamed tensions between Montreal Muslims and Jews, resulting in shots fired and fire bombs thrown at Jewish institutions not far from us. Prayers for peace!

Mission Moment

Much of our work in Montreal consists of building long-term relationships of trust with our neighbours in Parc-Extension. There are significant language, cultural, and religious barriers to overcome, and it takes time to get to know one another.

Over the months and years we have built relationships through our open houses, English classes, fellowship, service and worship opportunities. Through all these things we want people to *see* what the Good News of Jesus Christ looks like, and to *hear* the Gospel and the salvation of the cross.

One man that Anna, our deaconess intern, has seen more than once came up to her this last week with his phone – a common way of translating complicated thoughts! He typed something in, then showed her the translation: "**When I'm here, it makes my heart happy.**"

Thank you for your partnership in bringing joy to many people's hearts!



A Picture's Worth of Words



Top Left: Advanced English class breakfast; **Middle Left:** Pastor Luke teaching; **Bottom Left:** Vahid, Lyman and Pastor packing a U-Haul for the Stone Family; **Top Right:** Pastor Luke speaking to a Christian family from India new to the area; **Bottom Right:** Indian food baptism celebration luncheon for Rosemary Lys Adhirohan Stone – Pastor Charles and Deb are her godparents!

Prayer Concerns

For our city and especially our university campuses, that where so many seek to sow hatred, our Lord might sow his peace which passes all understanding;

For dear family and friends of our team who are grieving or ill, especially at the loss of my great-aunt Marion, cancer treatments for Deb's cousin Lindsey, heart surgery pending for my mother, and recovery from Bell's Palsy for my brother-in-law;

For Sophia and Olivia as they finish their fall terms and prepare for final exams!

Support this Work

Support can be sent care of "ST-ONGE FAMILY" at Mission Central or "MONTREAL MISSION" at the LCMS:

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