

# In The Way

May 2024

The St-Onges  
244 21e Avenue  
Deux-Montagnes, QC J7R 4H1  
Canada



## Mission Moment

We are often reminded that we serve somewhere “not normal.” While the rest of Canada celebrated “Victoria Day” on May 20, Quebec celebrated “Patriots Day” in honour of those who rebelled against the British crown in 1837. The party currently leading the polls in the province has promised another referendum on Quebec independence if they are elected. Mailings to our home from the government are no longer bilingual but in French only.

Growing up as teenagers here has been a challenge for both Sophia and Olivia. None of Sophia’s friends this year have parents who are together. Many have had to deal with abuse at home and substance usage. None are part of any organized religion. Sophia has brought some of them to worship.

We were therefore pleased that Sophia’s school nominated her for a perseverance award, which she received at a gala event this month!

## Reconnect 2024

In the summer of 2013, we started building a network of supporters to do mission work in China. Eleven years later, we are beginning our sixth network reconnect journey to visit you all!

Things are different now that we are a project of the Office of National Mission rather than network supported missionaries. We are paid in Canadian dollars through Ascension Lutheran Church. Since the LCMS’s retirement and health care plans do not cover workers in Canada, we have foregone our pension and insurance to continue our work here. We set aside funds each year in the Canadian equivalent of an IRA and are enrolled in Quebec’s prescription and medical care programs. Quebec health care is slow, but it is very inexpensive!

Ascension is able to cover 15% of our compensation. The SELC District covers another 15%. Your support comes to Ascension as a grant that covers the other 70%. Because of your generosity we have met our fundraising goals each year and have the funds on hand for our FY25 grant—praise the Lord, who does all things well.

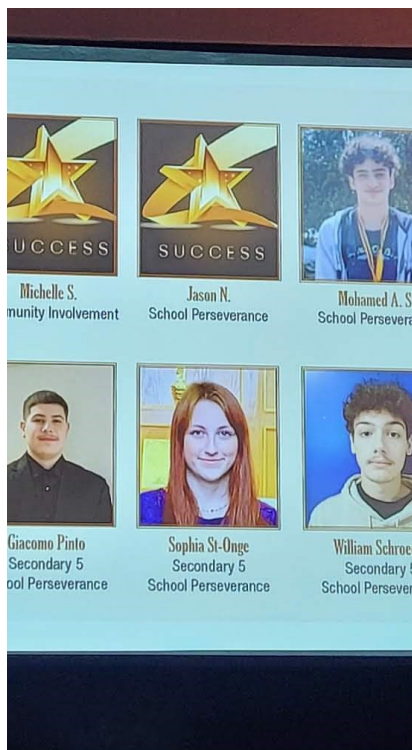
We are taking advantage of our location in North America to spread our reconnect over a year and focus on those of you who are already supporting us. That means that Sophia, Deb and I will be at **Memorial on Sunday, June 30** and in **Houston, Texas June 28 to July 5**. We will be at **St. Athanasius in Vienna, VA on Sunday, August 4**. All four of us will be in Iowa August 16 to 19, specifically at **Mission Central on Saturday, August 17** and **Immanuel in Clarinda on Sunday, August 18**.

We are also hoping to visit Messiah in Middletown, Ohio around Christmas and Concordia in Macungie, PA sometime in the fall.





# A Picture's Worth of Words

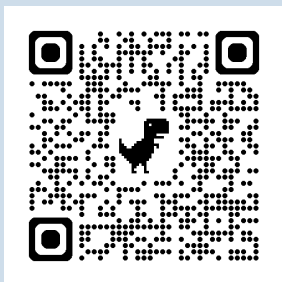


*Clockwise from Top Left:* New paraments to go with our new banners; Pentecost meal at Ascension; French and English gather for our Pentecost feast; Spring 2024 English class graduates; Proud of Sophia, who won a board-wide award for “perseverance”!

## Prayer Concerns

- For Olivia, who is away from home on an internship in Middletown, OH this summer,
- For Sophia, who is finishing her fifth (and hopefully final!) year of high school in June,
- For Deb, whose eyesight is dimming, that it she may still have some years of sight left.

## Support this Work



By check and mail c/o  
 “Montreal / St-Onge” at:  
 Mission Central  
 40718 Highway E16  
 Mapleton, IA 51034