

In The Way

October 2024

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



Mission Moment

I've had wonderful conversations with two young men volunteering in our English class. Both are relatively new to Montreal. One is from Bangladesh and the other from Turkey. Neither are Christian, but both are very interested in learning. One of them has actually been attending our worship services on and off for a while, and we've had other conversations about Christianity and "what it's all about" (spoilers: it's all about Jesus!)

A gentleman with some mental issues has been attending Ascension for years. He came to our joint Reformation service and, as he sometimes does, started to "preach" during worship. This shocked a few of our French partners, who were very disturbed by the "disturbance." Some wondered why he wasn't immediately escorted out. We pointed out that we know him by name and that he attends almost every Sunday. Sometimes even Lutherans need to be reminded that Lutheran churches are for sinners in need of a Saviour!

Forum, Circuits, and Reformation

October is one of the busiest months of the church year at Ascension, next to April. This October was no exception. Oct 3-5 we hosted leaders of the SELC District and the Mission of Christ Network to discuss the last year's work and how we hope to share the Good News and show Christ's mercy in 2025. See pictures on the reverse as well as many more at intheway.org.

October 13 was Canadian Thanksgiving. Olivia's university, being a good, public, secular institution, scheduled two mid-term exams for her that day. "No religious exceptions granted." We ended up not having our traditional turkey dinner, but instead opted to meet up with my sister and mother an hour away in Ontario for a Monday Thanksgiving brunch.

October 15-19 I attended, first, a joint meeting of the Eastern and Southern circuits of the SELC District. About sixteen pastors and church workers met in Sandy Cove, Maryland to discuss the challenges of ministering to people in our shifting culture. After that three-day meeting I drove north to attend the Fall Forum of the Lutheran Church—Canada's Ottawa Circuit. That particular circuit extends from Timmins, Ontario in the west to Halifax, Nova Scotia in the east and includes five of Canada's ten provinces. Imagine a circuit of fourteen single and multi-point congregations that stretches from Fort Wayne, Indiana to Houston, Texas!

We continued our Beginners' English class and started an Advanced English Class. We had over sixty people attend our Police Open House, and many members (old and new), as well as friends from the community, came to prepare the building for winter and for our Reformation Potluck. Speaking of which, we had about eighty folks attend our joint LCC/LCMS bilingual service and stay for the potluck.



A Picture's Worth of Words



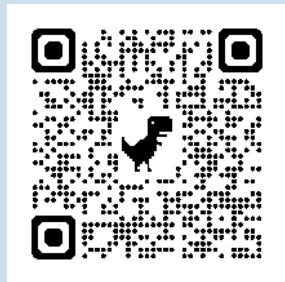
Top left: Montreal Forum Partners' meeting. **Middle left:** Police services' open house. **Bottom left:** Pastors of the LCC—Ottawa Circuit. **Top right:** Across from Ascension. **Bottom right:** Fall in Parc-Extension, Ascension steeple.



Prayer Concerns

- For Omar, that the Spirit who comes through the Word would enliven faith in Jesus in him,
- For those whose minds are wandering and anxious, that the Lord would comfort them,
- For our many mission supporters, that the Lord would grant them his peace through his promises.

Support this Work



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