

# In The Way

May 2018

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## Work Up North

It has mostly been a quiet spring month here in Montreal. We extended our winter English classes by two more months due to popular demand! We are continuing to offer a warm welcome to many new, young immigrants to Quebec from around the world (Venezuela, Paraguay, Brazil, Mexico, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and China at last count!) We pray the Lord's Prayer at the beginning of each class, and some students are reading through the Small Catechism as well.

As you can read in the *Mission Moment*, we celebrated the confirmation of two young men on Holy Trinity Sunday. One other young man is planning to start instruction in the summer. His parents have been coming to worship as well.

On May 10 I joined a dozen Lutherans in Ottawa to walk in our national *March for Life* around the streets of the capital. Although the majority of walkers were Catholic, there were not a few Evangelicals and Anglicans alongside us!

At the end of the month Olivia joined me at Bethel, Kitchener where I was the inaugural speaker of the 1<sup>st</sup> annual *Forging Armour* apologetics conference. You can hear, and soon watch, my talks at [forgingarmour.com](http://forgingarmour.com).

## Work Down South

I made one trip to the Caribbean in May at the end of the month. The Executive Director of Disaster Response Rev. Dr. Ross Johnson, our Regional Director Rev. Ted Krey, our business manager Blake Warren and I had a meeting with our team to plan out the next steps in our disaster response. In addition to the relief supplies being distributed we will also be helping with some much-needed roof reconstruction. I continue to chair a weekly conference call for our growing Puerto Rican team, which will soon include Rev. Anthony and Jamie DiLiberto and their children.

## Mission Moment

Mona, her sister Karin, and Karin's daughter Sable had been infrequent attenders when I first arrived in Montreal. I mentioned to them one Sunday that I would love to come and visit them. Not only were they enthusiastic about the idea, they invited our entire family to their home for a full Pakistani dinner.

The extended Asif family lives about 25 miles from the church building, just off the west end of Montreal Island. Their parents (who attend an Urdu-language church) brought them to Canada from Pakistan when they were young children, and they first lived in Ascension's neighborhood before moving further out. At dinner we met Mona and Karin's brothers, Daniel and Samuel, who hadn't really been attending any church. I encouraged them to come. Their sister Mona had been strongly urging them to come as well.

Last Sunday, after a few weeks of instruction, Daniel and Samuel both publicly confirmed their faith. Daniel is married, and is looking forward to his bride joining us when she receives her paperwork to move to Canada from Pakistan. Karin's new husband will also be moving to Canada soon and we look forward to him joining our fellowship.

Who needs an invitation from you to go to visit them and invite them to worship?



## A Picture's Worth of Words...



**Top Left:** Samuel and Daniel Asif join our communion. **Top Right:** With Rev. Paul and Ardith Pollex, serving in the Cayman Islands in May and June. **Bottom Left:** Teaching at Bethel Lutheran Church, Kitchener, Ontario and the "Forging Armour" Conference. **Above:** At the annual "March for Life" in Ottawa, the Canadian capital, about two hours west of Montreal.

### Prayer Concerns

For our English outreach in Montreal, as we open our doors and our hearts to the community and share the Gospel with them,

For our work in the Cayman Islands, as we look for supporters and partners to keep that work moving forward,

For our parents, who are suffering from joint replacements (Betty and Carol), congestive heart failure and Parkinson' (Donald), and renal cancer (Denis), that they might know and be kept in the peace of Christ.

### Support this Work

You can donate online at [lcms.org/givenow/stonge](https://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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