

# In The Way

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## Work Up North

Our English outreach is now in full swing. The fact that it is almost spring is a big help. Most new Canadians struggle to get out in the winter, and this winter has lasted quite a long time. We are praying that May might bring some warmer weather at last, after a very cold and snowy April.

I am continuing adult instruction with two young Pakistani men who are hoping to become members of Ascension at Pentecost. Daniel's new wife is still in Pakistan, but we are hoping she will be arriving in August. He is excited about having his whole family as part of the body of Christ in this place! His brother Samuel is still unmarried, as is their younger sister Mona who brought them to Ascension. Their extended family drives 30-40 minutes to come to Ascension each Sunday, one of many members who commute from the suburbs.

I started pre-marital instruction with a couple this month by "video conference," since I'm away so much and the bride-to-be lives in British Columbia. The groom to be, who is half-Greek but from Mexico, is also going to be taking instruction and joining the congregation!

Last week I participated in the convention of the SELC District. We passed a resolution encouraging the LCMS to reach out to The Lutheran Church – Canada on the issue of missions in Quebec. I was also privileged to be a devotion preacher and a mission presenter during the convention.

## Work Down South

It was also a busy month down south. The second weekend of April I was in the Cayman Islands, discussing the next steps for mission work there and leading the worship service at Safe Harbour. We have a list of potential supporters of a "Friends of Safe Harbour" Foro group that need to be contacted.

Two days after that trip I was in Arapahoe, Nebraska for the spring "Friends of Jamaica" Foro meeting with Pastor Ite and Pastor Krey. We met with the leaders of the Jamaica Lutheran Mission Society, and continued to build up the group of partners who will be supporting the work in Kingston and beyond.

Pastor Krey and I left immediately from Arapahoe for Puerto Rico for our spring Foro meeting there. We participated in the installation of Rev. Gustavo Arturo Maita, our newly ordained disaster response coordinator. Two new members were confirmed, one each at Principe de Paz and Fuente de Vida. Many of the Foro attendees participated in a devotional service and food distribution to over 200 families.

## Mission Moment

Most of the people who have been attending our English outreach classes are from Latin America, including a number from Brazil. What a blessing that the Lord has sent us a Brazilian pastor to labor alongside us! We are praying that a new Portuguese language congregation might arise from this work.

Another woman who has been attending for several weeks is from Sri Lanka. She became a Jehovah's Witness, but is now attending a Seventh Day Adventist church. What has been lacking in her religious life is a clear proclamation of the Gospel! She is thinking about coming to one of our services to hear the Gospel difference.

Although we have many Christians attending, we also have other young people who are being exposed to Christianity for the first time. Please pray as we share the Good News of Jesus with them. Pray, too, for our faithful volunteers and teachers, especially Susia Lim and Gail Spence.



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



**Top Left:** Beginners' English Class at Ascension, Gail Spence teaching. **Top Right:** Friends of Jamaica partners. **Middle Left:** Puerto Rico Foro partners. **Bottom Left:** Taking Lutheran Youth Corps visitors from Boston our for Indian food across from Ascension. **Above:** Mark Blaauw (President and Lay Delegate) and Pastor St-Onge at the SELC convention in Cleveland, OH, advancing the cause of missions in Quebec.

### Prayer Concerns

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

For the partners supporting the work in Puerto Rico and Jamaica, that they might be an encouragement to our missionaries on the ground,

For our work in Quebec, that in the midst of other work we might be encouraged in sharing the Gospel here in English, French, Chinese and many other languages!

### 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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