

In The Way

November 2024

The St-Onges
244 21e Avenue
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Mission Moment

It was right before one of our English classes that a gentleman approached me with a question: “Do I have to be baptized again to join this church?” The church he had been attending insisted that, even though he and his wife had already been baptized, they needed to do so again to become members there. No, I said. One baptism is enough—because the Lord’s promises are certain even when our faith wavers.

Later, after a service, he asked about the “Witnesses of Jehovah.” He took out his Hindi Bible, and said that he pointed out 2 Corinthians 3:14-16 to them: “For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away... But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.” Clearly he had a very good knowledge of the Scriptures—and was looking for a church that would take them with equal seriousness.

As our world becomes smaller, we will increasingly cross paths with followers of the Lord from every corner of the planet. Be awake to whom the Lord might send your way!

The Year In Review

Although I intend to send a Christmas letter next month, this newsletter will be the last “newsy” one of 2024. It has been a year of great joys and of sorrows—for this is the life of the Christian in this world.

We began a year-long project to investigate the cost of repairs and improvements to our 72-year-old building. The initial repair bill for bricks, our bell tower, concrete lintels, windows, and repairs to our foundation came to \$397,000 Canadian. This week we will begin seeing what could be done with half that.

Our average worship attendance was 43 this year and average Bible study attendance was 17. We engaged about 460 people from our community in English classes, open houses and workshops in 2024. Our largest open house attendance was 86; our largest English class had 61 students in attendance.

We welcomed six adults into the Kingdom through Holy Baptism, two of whom have confirmed their faith already and two more who are preparing to do so soon. We also welcomed three folks to communion with us. Many dozens have come to our worship services and studies, exploring Christianity and Jesus’ promises to them and to the world.

Anna, Kayla, Grace and I are in regular conversations with many in our community and across Montreal, sharing the Good News of Jesus and helping people on the path of discipleship. We engage people over tea and coffee, over meals in our homes, via email, texts and “WhatsApp.”

We thank all of you for your support of the Lord’s work in Parc-Extension and Montreal. May Jesus keep us rooted in the Good News of his salvation through 2025!



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A Picture's Worth of Words



Top: English class. **Middle left:** Learning about immigration lawyer fraud and how to spot it. **Bottom left:** Beginners' English Graduating Class. **Right:** A German meal prepared for us by a Quebecoise wife and a new Argentinian Lutheran member.

Prayer Concerns

- For the many who are hearing the promises and Good News of God at Ascension, that the Spirit of the Father would draw them ever closer to God and each other,
- For our mission workers, that they would be kept safe and healthy through the winter season.

Support this Work



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