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Sending Church

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Mission Board

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It is hard to believe that 2024 is already almost half over! Time has been flying by, and much has been happening as we prepare for a busy summer here in Québec. I am thankful that this year we have had the opportunity to be much more focussed as we grow in the ministry and our preparation for the next steps.

I have consistently been able to preach at least once a month at our church, for which I praise the Lord. It has been a wonderful opportunity for me, as preparing messages in French still takes much more effort for me than in English, but it has certainly helped me grow. We have also begun having more regular teen activities for our young people, and I have opportunities to be involved with this as well. Please continue to pray for our youth to grow in their walk with the Lord. Next week we will be having part of an activity at our place, which we are looking forward to.

At the end of May we had a wedding for a couple in our church. Pastor Roy pointed out several times that this really was an evangelistic opportunity for our church family, as several unsaved friends and family of the couple were in attendance (including two Jehovah's Witnesses), and the gospel was clearly preached several times, especially through the personal testimonies of both the bride and groom. But perhaps greater than the spoken message was the testimony of everyone in the church working together to provide everything needed for the wedding. Literally everything - food, decorations, organization, music, photos, clean-up - was taken care of by members of our church. Even some of the guests, while not in as many words, pointed out the truth that, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." - John 13:35. Pray for fruit from the many gospel seeds sown!













In recent weeks God has really been showing His hand in regards to the trip I mentioned to the community up North. We have sensed His clear direction for a group from our church to go assist with a VBS in Great Whale River, Québec. This is a community of around 1,400 people, of which half are Inuk and half are Cree. 5 of us will be going, and many details are falling into place, with flight tickets already booked. Please be in prayer for this event. There is much spiritual oppression and darkness in this far northern region of our country, and we certainly need the Spirit of God to go before us and speak to the hearts of the teens and children we will be ministering to this summer. I will be leading the teen group, so please pray as I still have much preparation ahead for the messages I will be preaching. The dates are July 5-7. I look forward to sharing how the Lord works on this trip, and Lord willing I will also be able to do some video work during our time there to help raise awareness of the great need for the gospel in these isolated native communities. I would certainly appreciate prayers in this regard as well.

Please also be in prayer for Elizabeth and her health. Overall the kids are growing and doing much better sleeping, but with occasional nights of them waking in the night, the lack of sleep for Elizabeth can really drain her physically. This week has been particularly difficult for her, and I have needed to watch the kids so she could sleep in the afternoon a few times. While this does take my time away from other things I need to do, I am not complaining as I am grateful for the time I can spend bonding with my children (though of course it can still be tiring at times). But I say that mainly to ask that you would pray for her while I am gone in July for the VBS, that she would get the sleep and rest she needs that week to handle the kids by herself.

Thank you for faithfully upholding our family in prayer.

By God's grace, and for His glory, Josiah and Elizabeth Coates