

March/April 2024

Dear Praying Friends,

"Did all those people come out for soup?" was the question the pastor of my sending church, Jason Watford, asked me on the phone after our latest church event, Soup Sunday. During the long winters we try to have church events to keep our people encouraged. We decided to have a Soup Sunday. We made plans for a simple church social for our church people. We were very surprised that we had record attendance as regulars and visitors crowded in for Soup Sunday. This was only one of the record-breaking days we had this winter.

Every winter, our church puts on a Tropical Sunday. We have a tropical themed meal and encourage everyone to dress in bright colors. Our focus is on joy and encouragement. In leading up to this event, our people worked to distribute Winter Encouragement Packages our church put together, that included treats, a Tropical Sunday invitation and a New Testament. They were all encouraged in having this opportunity to reach out through love and kindness to those in their lives. We have found in Canada it takes a prolonged effort to see someone come to Christ. On average it takes 1-5 years for someone to get saved. So when we are able to help provide another avenue for people to plant seeds in the lives of those they to whom they have burdens, it encourages their hearts. Through this program we were able to put Bibles in the hands of coworkers, friends, and lost children. We know for sure that some of them have been reading the Bible they were given. We are encouraged by how God is working in our people and the lost they come in contact with.

Pastor Wall of Faithway Baptist Church of Ajax, Ontario, was our guest speaker. Every year, Tropical Sunday is an event to which everyone looks forward. As the event set up began, college students from my Bible college class and church members decked out the auditorium in tropical décor. We set out 54 chairs and loaded tables with food. As some of you who minister in cultures that aren't time sensitive will understand, my uncertainty grew when we began services with about 15 people in the room. No one would imagine that before the day was over we would have had a **record attendance of 51**, and six first time visitors. This is a mile marker of attendance that I personally have been praying for 18 months. It was a wonderful day of fellowship and encouragement! Two of those visitors already returned.

Please be in prayer with us as we continue to pray about replacing our vehicle. We are still needing \$5,000 for this project. Please continue to be in prayer for Abhi, Imogen, & Juan for salvation, the two people we have in Leadership Discipleship training, and for the church acquiring a church office space. Please follow us on FB for updates and videos.

Serving in the City,

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Cory McTague

