

# A YEAR OF TRANSITION

*We believe the gospel — the message of salvation through Jesus Christ, the Son of God alone — is of first importance for all men and women of every tribe, tongue and nation everywhere on this earth. We believe, as followers of Christ, we are heralds of this good news.*

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Happy New Year to all of you! The year 2019 brought much change and growth to our families, and we're looking forward to everything that God has in store for us in this coming year. Thank you again for supporting us with your prayers and your finances as we step into 2020, with all the joys and trials that it may bring.

Time seems to move so quickly. It doesn't seem like that long ago that we were meeting Sawyer Nathan for the first time, and now he's fresh off his third birthday! Weston will soon be one, and Sage is already past the four-month mark. How fleeting is our time on this earth!

A prayer of Moses is recorded for us in Psalm 90:

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. (vs. 1-2)

Praise God, the everlasting One! Uncreated, eternal, alpha, omega. Everlasting God. Amidst all the change we experience, our Lord does not change (Mal. 3:6). When we are weak, he remains strong (2 Cor. 12:9). When we are faithless, he remains faithful (2 Tim. 2:13). Because our hope is in Jesus, we can echo the psalmists:



We will not fear though the earth gives way... (Ps. 46:2)

My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. (Ps. 73:26)

Serving our King Jesus is a joy; our duty is also our delight. Gospel ministry is far less an exhortation to escape wrath as it is an invitation to experience true joy and fulfillment in the only place it can be found. In the words of St. Augustine to God, "In yourself you rouse us, giving us delight in glorifying you, because you made us with yourself as our goal, and our heart is restless until it rests in you." Our burden is for the people of Quebec to know the joy of Jesus Christ, experienced through trust and faith in him alone for their salvation. He is our highest good and greatest treasure.

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Our time in Sioux Lookout is quickly approaching its end. In April we have plans to spend some time in Southern Ontario raising support before driving down to Louisville for “Together For The Gospel”. Afterwards, Zach and Olive have plans to spend two weeks in Quebec to help acclimate Zach to the new language environment before starting his training. In essence, we have two more months before things are set in motion. In that time, we hope to see progress in our financial support (we're currently on track to meet our monthly goal by the summertime, Lord willing, with the continued generosity of friends, families and strangers alike), and we also hope to implement some new habits of family worship. Our two families have made a practice of praying together as we've discerned our calling to Quebec, but we've seldom shared times of worshipping the Lord through singing together outside of our Sunday services. Pray for us as we establish rhythms of daily worship into our lives.

Please pray also for our transition as it draws nearer. We've asked before, and doubtless we'll ask again, but pray for us and those we love here in Sioux Lookout as we leave and after we're gone. We are leaving a sizeable hole in our local church in terms of various ministry roles, but perhaps more importantly we are drastically changing our proximity to the people we've grown so close to over these years. The emotional weight of that is quite real and your prayers make a difference.

Pray for us as we continue seeking financial support. If you haven't yet, please prayerfully consider joining our support team as financial givers. We are committed to the “long-haul” of gospel ministry in Quebec; our hearts are greatly encouraged seeing the people of God allocate the resources they've been given to help keep us there. We are confident God will provide in accordance with his leading.

In Christ,  
The Laustsen's and Murray's



## PLEASE CONSIDER PARTNERING WITH US

Find our donor page with Mission Quebec at:  
<http://missionqc.org/en/laustsen-and-murray-family/>

# KEY DATES IN 2020

## **April 4-12**

Partnership Trip to Southern Ontario.

## **April 14-16**

Together for the Gospel conference in Louisville, Kentucky.

## **Mid-April**

Zach moves to Montreal (the transition begins).

## **May 4**

Zach begins training in his new position at the Mirabel Airport.

## **May 12-13**

Acts29 Canada National Conference in Montreal, Quebec.

## **August-September**

Once Zach completes his training... house hunting officially begins.

## **September**

Anticipated month of transition for everyone to move to Montreal.

