

THE BALINGIT FAMILY

Serving in Halifax, Nova Scotia

Dear Praying Friends and Faithful Supporters,

Jan/Feb 2024

Thank you to all of those who have continually prayed for us and invested in us over the months. We have had a fruitful last couple of months and have seen God open doors!

Ministry Opportunities

Over the last couple of months, we have had the neat opportunities to minister and be involved in the community around us. In early January, as students were coming back into university for the winter semester, one of the bigger universities held a “Student Worship Welcome Week” where this was a chance for local religious organizations or churches to come and meet students to make contacts. Myself and Pastor Tim Silver went and represented our church and were able to make several student contacts. We really didn’t know what to expect but what we realized early on was that we were the only local church represented as the other groups were other charities, food banks, or other “good will” organizations. There was a lot of interest since we were the only church, and were able to hand out dozens of tracts and get contact information of several students. Since then, we have had two students attend our services, and I have had the opportunity to go out for coffee with two others with the hope of seeing them in church soon as well.

In early February, I was able to meet and chat with the community director of where our church was located and had a productive conversation with him regarding the church. I initially let him know that there is a new church in the community and our heart is to be a blessing and serve the people around us. We wanted to be able to be involved in community events, and be able to volunteer as a church in area that would be possible for us. By the end of the conversation, he was thankful for our heart and mission that he offered to interview our church leadership to promote the church and then he would put it on his social media pages as well as the community website. The following week, we had a short interview where we spoke on the church and shared our heart to serve our community by showing Christ’s love to all, and by the end, over 3,000 people had seen the interview and had a lot of people visit our website.

From the first month we moved here, Pastor Tim and I have continually prayed for opportunities to be involved the lives of people in our communities and both of these ministry opportunities were answers to that prayer. Between getting our name out in these two instances, and also launching our website and social media page, we have seen some interest had many people inquire about the church.



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Looking forward

As we look into the future, we are excited for what is ahead. We are currently running around 20 people every Sunday and have had first time visitors come for 3 straight weeks now. One of the ladies that attended was a newly graduated student named Wendy, who was a self-proclaimed atheist as recent as 3 months ago. She has since began searching and realizing that her beliefs may have been wrong. She met with Grace a few weeks back and was able to have a good conversation about the Bible and faith. Last week, Wendy attended church and for most of the service was in tears but also very engaged. We gave her some material she could read, as well as a Bible with hopes that she will continue to attend and see her need for Christ!

We have also started our men's ministry which will run once a month on a Friday evening. The goal is to build community with the men of our church and to edify one another through Bible study and building good connections with each other. We had our first one on February 16th and had 7 men attend and Pastor Tim gave a challenge from the Bible.

The biggest event on our schedule at this moment is the official launch service of our church which will be on April 21st. We are excited to have my sending church pastor, Pastor Robert Wall, come out and preach that service! Please pray that we will be able to get all the details set and see people come from the surrounding neighbourhoods. We are working on getting invites printed and will begin handing them out in the next coming weeks! We are excited to be able to update you all on what happens in the next few months and we are praying for much fruit as we minister here in Halifax!

