

THE BALINGIT FAMILY

Serving in Halifax, Nova Scotia

When God began working in our heart about church planting in Halifax, we prayerfully narrowed down two specific communities within the Greater Halifax Area. After spending much time researching and getting a feel for the needs of these communities, it was clear that these were the two we would pursue as there really was no strong church presence there. When we moved here in the fall of 2023, God allowed us to both live in and begin our church ministry in one of those communities. The community of Spryfield was mostly known for many years as a rough and unsafe neighbourhood that would not see growth because of that. But since 2022, the government made a strong effort to rebuild this community, which began with building new schools, apartments, and homes in hopes to attract population growth. Two years later, Spryfield is one of the fastest growing communities in Halifax and it doesn't seem like the growth will stop any time soon. It has been a great blessing to grow our ministry in a community that is growing as well. Since the summer ended, we concluded much of our organized outreaches but that has not stopped us from seeing new people.

Since September, we have met one young lady that recently moved from Australia, and another young man that also recently moved from Toronto, but before that, from Ecuador. Both of them have regular attended our services and have made efforts to come to our other events throughout the week. We had the privilege of having them at our house for dinner on a few different occasions and through conversations with them, we know they are both saved but are both looking for a solid church to grow their faith. We are thankful for the way they have connected with our people and for their desire for growth.

We also had another family find us from a mutual friend of mine and showed up out of the blue one Sunday. They have roots in South Africa and have been looking for a good church for a couple years now since moving here. They live about 40 minutes away but make the drive every Sunday to attend our morning worship service. We are excited for them as they have told us several times that there is a small South African community they are a part of and are proactively inviting these several families to come to one of our services with them. Please pray for all these new comers that they would be faithful in attending and that God would give us the opportunity to keep on investing in their lives to see growth in each and every one of them!

This past Sunday, we began our long awaited campus services at the Saint Mary's university. We had a total of 12 people come with 8 of them being university students. Although we were praying for more students, we are thankful for how this first meeting went as we met a couple students who had recently moved from the Bahamas, who had many questions about Jesus and the Bible. We stayed close to half an hour after the service answering their questions on top of them already hearing the gospel during the message.

We are excited for the future but we know that there is still much work and investing ahead. Thank you for your support and prayers as it all does not go unappreciated. We are praying for each and every one of you and your ministries where God has placed you.

