

Working in Quebec* to see communities flourish as they find and follow Jesus

*at the intersection of DISCIPLESHIP, YOUTH and the ARTS

Glory to God! She's finally here!

What a year it has been! If you had told us this time last year that we would be holding a child in our arms by the time we wrote our next update, I'm honestly not sure how we would have reacted. Here's the story in a nutshell:

We began trying to start a family in 2010, when we began serving as full-time missionaries at YWAM Dunham. It became clear pretty quick that it wasn't going to happen right away. After many appointments and exams with doctors, fertility clinics, osteopaths, and naturopaths over the years that followed, there was nothing conclusive - according to what the doctors could see, there were no issues. "Sometimes people just can't conceive," is what we were told. The prospect of in vitro came up, and though that seemed like the next logical step, we felt the Lord telling us not to go that route. Over those years, we had also begun pursuing fostering to adopt. This also did not work out. It seemed that every door we knocked on was closed. It was a long and painful decade. After finding a Catholic organization that pursued natural fertility (NaPro), we were able to find out that due to a hormone imbalance that had gone undetected all those years, it would be impossible for me to conceive, let alone sustain, a pregnancy. Though devastating news to hear, it was reassuring in some way to know that there was in fact something going on. It was also encouraging to know that it was treatable. But after months of taking hormone supplements, things still were not moving forward. It appeared that this was perhaps not going to happen for us. After meeting with a grief counsellor, we were able to go through a healing process, inviting Jesus into the loss we experienced month after month for twelve years and surrender this dream to the Father. He met us with deep healing and comfort and for the four years that followed between then and last December, we were able to move forward as a family of two, content and ready and excited for life in that configuration.

And so you can understand our surprise and delight when, on December 21st, 2025, life as we know it changed completely when we found ourselves looking at a positive pregnancy test and feeling 16 years of infertility melting away, and 16 years of prayers and longing all fulfilled!

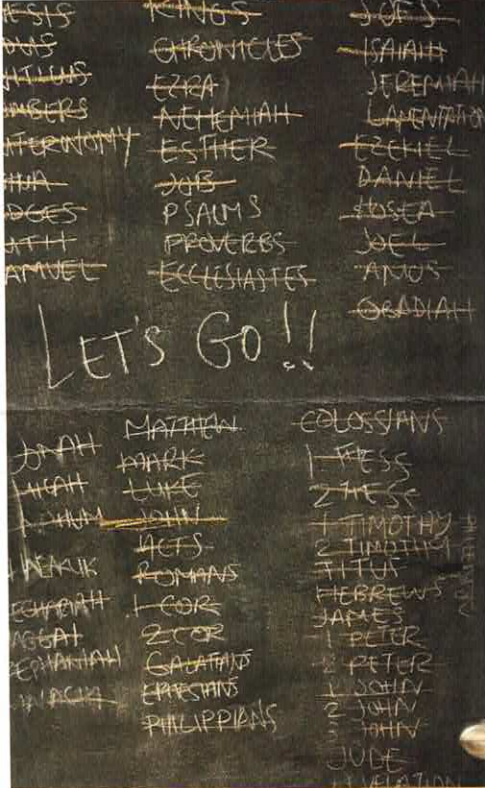
He did it. He did the miracle. He did what we couldn't do for ourselves. All those years of crying out to him and he knew the day was coming.

She arrived August 25th, 2026. Maisie Grace Hall, our "long-awaited child given in delight."

Thank you for the years of prayers, comfort and encouragement. We are grateful to have been so well surrounded on this journey that had been so difficult. We are ecstatic to now be able to celebrate this miracle with you all!



Ministry highlights and key events from 2025/26



1. YWAM Dunham celebrating 50 years! In honour of this milestone, an outreach to Montreal was organized this last July and there were many healings, prayers for/with people, people who gave their lives to Jesus and even several baptisms.
2. Edition #3 of the summer youth art intensive. 17 youth explored what it means to make art that serves others. Some of the teens even purchased a Bible for a fellow participant who they had been sharing their faith with! We couldn't have run it without the financial support of many of you so thank you from all of us!
3. Edition #2 of our artist collective's fall creative retreat.
4. Edition #1 of our collective's yearly seminar for local Christian artists. We dug deep into a theology of arts and the incarnation of Jesus, and finished with an epic art show.
5. One of our nieces did the Arts and Music Discipleship Training School this past January.
6. We ran 8 schools this year: 2 Discipleship schools, a French language training program for missionaries, a ministry school for staff, a Bible school, and schools of acting, film-making and photography. Our centre was bursting with energy and creativity!! We had the privilege to support these schools in different ways (teaching, translation, and staff support) and saw many sent into missions.
7. Joining the *Missions and Team based Communication Graduate Studies* (MATBC) staff team (Dan). He will have the chance to help create/organize curriculum, follow-up and grade students, and facilitate in-person intensives.
8. Leading Bible week for the DTS (Dan)
9. Teaching a week on God's nature and character through Biblical Covenants in Senegal West-Africa (Dan). Dan had the privilege of baptizing one of the students at the end of the week!
10. Completing the School of Biblical Studies (Sarah). It's a deep-dive into every book of the Bible - every paragraph is observed and studied in light of what it meant to the original readers of the texts, and students are trained to see how God reveals himself through every page of scripture. A life-changing experience and key stepping stone for future projects and motherhood.
11. Teaching Matthew's gospel on the School of Biblical Studies (Dan)
12. Inter-church good Friday service with several churches from our area - over 150 people from 4 local churches + YWAM gathered to worship and celebrate Jesus and share in communion together.
13. YWAM America's gathering in Panama (Dan)
14. Painting a mural on the exterior wall of Dunham's bakery (Sarah)

From top to bottom: Thank you from the youth art intensive; the moment the Bible was given; every book studied in the School of Biblical Studies; the DTS classroom in Senegal; the bakery

Some things coming up

Parental leave - Dan has just gone back to work and Sarah will be on maternity leave this year, with a few projects here and there.

50th grand celebration - Over thanksgiving weekend, YWAM Dunham will be hosting a huge celebration with alumni and partners from throughout the years to celebrate this momentous occasion. If you are interested in participating, check out the YWAM Dunham website and register at: <https://ywamdunham.com/en/50th-anniversary>, we'd love to see you there!

We'll continue to run the **Beautiful Gate Artist Collective** as well as our monthly **youth Art Hive** art drop-ins and will be expanding the co-ordinating team. We share more detailed updates on these activities in our monthly prayer email updates.

We'll be heading to **Pennsylvania** in November for a gathering of YWAM workers for North-Eastern North America. It will certainly be the first of many long road-trips for Maisie!

We are hoping to travel all together to the **MATBC** in-person intensives. The school is online, and every 6 months they meet together in person in a variety of nations, so we're praying about how to make that work. It will be a much larger financial step for our family, but we're trusting God to show us the way forward. The first one will be this May in Scotland.

As you can see, this year was one long sprint! It was exhilarating in so many ways and we saw God at work in incredible ways, but it was also definitely exhausting. We are grateful for vacation and parental leave this past summer that allowed for us to slow down and enjoy some well-needed quality family time as well as to prepare our hearts as we transition into a very new rhythm as parents.

As always, thank you for all your encouragement and support! With lots and lots of love,

Dan, Sarah & Maisie



