

“REACHING FRANCOPHONE CANADA”

Francophone Church Plant Portfolio



NAME OF CHURCH:

Église de Beloeil

LOCATION:

Beloeil, South
shore of Montreal

MEETING PLACE :

255 Boul Constable,
McMasterville, QC, J3G
6N9

Contact Information

Primary contact person:	Phone :	Meeting place and mailing address :
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Who we are

Married to Nancy for 18 years, Stephan worked for the federal government for several years at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. After a call to pastoral ministry in the Christian camps, Stephan joined Camp des Bouleaux in 2007 as Director of Ministries and Programming.

There, he had the opportunity to take care of young Christians who worked there as volunteer staff. He also preached regularly to the staff and took charge of coordinating the content offered by the camp during the year. With his wife Nancy, they were involved in the local Church of Mont-Laurier, near the camp.

After around 9 years at Camp des bouleaux, God called Stephan and Nancy to be trained as a church planter and to start a church in Beloeil, a suburb of Montréal. The couple answered God's call and began their training in 2015. The Beloeil mission project started in 2016 and God has been adding and encouraging them. Since October 2019, the mission project became a church planting project and is growing in the community.



Stephan, Nancy, Alyssa (11 years old), Sarah (7 years old) and Loukas (2 years old)

Mission Field

Why choose Beloeil for church planting? At the heart of the Richelieu Valley, where 120 000 people live, it is geographically situated between Montreal and Saint-Hyacinthe, two major cities. Therefore Beloeil is a central location.

In the past 20 years, there were three evangelical churches of around 200 to 300 people each, for a total of about 600 people attending churches in this area. Unfortunately, due to church divisions and conflicts, less than 150 people now meet in a church in the near town of Beloeil. Many Christians transferred to churches in Montreal or have joined St-Hyacinthe's Church. Sadly, many of them do not attend church anymore.

We therefore believe that it is a region that really need the gospel, where a church with good foundations and a good vision could impact people and bring them to Jesus. According to a recent research, 14% of the Beloeil's population even have a negative view of the church. We are convinced that they need to see and meet Jesus through his living disciples before being drawn to the church.



Our project: plant a church in Beloeil

We want to build several missional communities in different areas of the city. We are thus using initiatives such as *J'aime mon voisin* (*Loving my neighbor*, which is an initiative to help people in the community with any type of needs), neighbourhood gathering/parties, kids club and being involved in the community organization to serve meals once a week, all with the purpose of building relationships with non-christians and share with them in both words and deeds the love and grace of Jesus. We also have Sunday gathering in a building we rent for that purpose only.

With the powerful action of God, more people turn to Jesus, and we progressively see a church being planted in Beloeil. In the context of a secular Québec, church planting takes time, but we definitely see the hand of God in action, turning people to Jesus.



Mission

God's mission of salvation becomes our mission. I have the deep conviction that the church is primarily a community of believers who have been, and are still, transformed by the Gospel ; a community of believers who love Jesus in a passionate way and who live out this love one with the other and with non-believers, living and sharing the Gospel.

Vision

We dream of a community who will live out their mission in every aspect of their lives, who consider their calendar, their wallet, their family life, their work and their relationships through the lens of the mission given to us by Jesus, sharing the Gospel to non-christians.



How to achieve this vision?

We multiplied our missional community and now have four missional groups. We are still working on multiplication, as missional groups are central to our strategy to reach the city.

We also organize, since about a year, Sunday morning gathering twice a month. Since our first Sunday morning we have seen the church grow (it actually doubled !) and we are now 75 to gather regularly on our Sunday morning gatherings. These gatherings will allow us to bring our missional groups together, but also reach with non-christians and Christian of the region who don't attend church.

We want to continue our involvement with J'aime mon voisin, neighbourhood gathering/parties, kids club and helping the community organization so we can build relationships with non-christians.

God graciously uses these efforts as we have develop deep friendships with non christians and as we listen to their stories and share with them the love of Jesus.

Our Needs

Stephan and his team need 26 000\$ from outside partners to help them achieve their mission and be a light in their community. They already have 3 fellowship partners and we are looking to help them find 4 more partners of 3400\$ per year. Would you consider joining us and Stephan to help us reach the beautiful city of Beloeil to Christ?