

THE DALTONS

Spring-Summer Review

A time of Celebrations!

Celebrate with us as we cover what God has done these past months! We mentioned in our last newsletter that God was doing so many things we needed to carry them over to our next newsletter. If you read the stories and testimonies below, you will find them full of reasons to praise God for his perfect (and sometimes mysterious) plans.

What's new in this update?

Celebration Week

Y-Teens Baptisms!

Graduations

Worship Closet → Sound Booth

Youth Art Intensive

What's Next

Celebration Week



The Group Photo of all the participants and students who participated in the open DTS lecture week

Outreaches now concluded, we kicked off the remaining three lecture weeks with a bang. Continuing with the trend of recent years, we decided to advertise and make a great effort to invite participants to join and open lecture week of the DTS. These have been very successful the last few times we done so. While the week have generally always been 'open' for auditing, to intentionally go out and invite people to taste and see is something God has put on our hearts.

In this spirit, we offered our Celebration week, which touches on the Biblical feasts and their accomplishments in Christ and also celebrating God in our own stories, completely free! By God's grace we managed by scraping together funds from various ministries and making use of funds from our outreach teams, themselves beneficiaries of generosity of certain hosts turning down an honorariums offered for lodging.

Astonishingly, we had so many inscriptions, that we needed to lodge many of our guest in tents and even rent a porta potty.

As recent memory serves, this is the largest week of lectures we've had in decades.

With nine staff, twelve students and an estimated twenty-eight participants of a variety of ages, we had **FORTY-NINE** participate in the week! Praise God.

From the courses, to the sports and games, to the meals times and community times of prayer and bible study, we were able to witness a profound impact on many individuals, including healings. Many also expressed an interest in doing on of our discipleship training schools.

Y-Teens Baptisms



It all started with our final regular y-teens night before the summer. We had put the whole evening in the hands of the older teens from the opening game, to icebreakers, the bible teaching and small group discussions.

One of our youth gave a teaching about baptism to the others (despite the fact he had never been baptized) and he along with five others got baptized two weeks later! **It was completely unprompted by us staff, and was purely a move initiated by the teens themselves.** We of course had moments throughout the year talking casually answering their questions and we followed up with them on why they wanted to and what it meant to them. But it was so encouraging to see the older teens really feeling convicted that this was the next step they wanted to take with Jesus.

We all went to one of the families houses located on the lake side, and proceeded to hear from each teen why they were getting baptized and what one way they want to be more like Jesus - boldness, compassion, gentleness, patience. They testified before their families and peers about Gods impact on their life and their desire to be transformed into his likeness.

We were so proud and honoured to be a part of this moment, the both of us along with the other staff baptizing the teen that we had walked the longest alongside.

Praise God for this move of his spirit prompting them, but also for their obedience and boldness to testify!

Graduations



Winter Discipleship Training School

A graduation yet again! Wow things go fast! This years winter Discipleship Training School came to close in July when we graduated our 12 students. Over the course of 6 months we witnessed spiritual breakthroughs, the development of relational maturity, and bold proclamations of faith from people who started the school afraid and uncertain. We were both beaming with pride to see

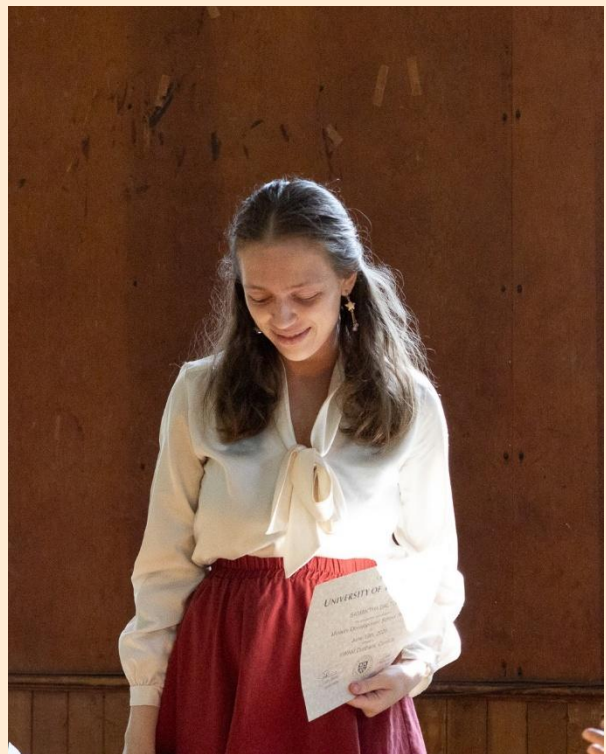
the students we had walked closely beside transformed before our eyes into confident disciples of Jesus.

It is always bitter sweet saying goodbye to people you have grown so close to over such a short period of time, but we know they were all going home with a new zeal to make God known and equipped to make more disciples.

Ministry Development School

You may remember Stephan recently graduated from our 2 year Ministry Development School (MDS) that all the YWAM Dunham Staff complete over their first 2 years. After many projects, teachings and one on one coaching sessions, Sam graduated!

She enjoyed the program so much that she has decided to join the staff who run the school, and serve our community of missionaries in the form of peer-to-peer style continuous training. She has also decided to return back to the school as staff, aiding others still completing the program!



From “Worship Closet” to Sound booth

In our last update, we mentioned how I recently was charged with overseeing the worship ministry. In that vein, one of the first major projects I tackled was renovating our storage closet which, in a bygone era, had served as an enclosed sound booth. It is no wonder that it was relegated to mere storage given its less than welcoming state. Hoping to reclaim some space in the worship room and ascribe the space renewed purpose, I requested permission to renovate. This would be primarily achieved with spare wood, bits of dry-wall and paint from prior renovations around the building.

BEFORE:



YWAM Dunham's worship room closet - housing an assortment of instruments and sound equipment, this is what it looked like on a good day.





When we had a closer look there were many unfinished sections in need of a lot of love and care: unfinished drywall, exposed pipes and beams, and even a pipe not connected to anything!

With help from a few friends, some dedicated colleagues and my amazing wife, we were able to transform the closet into a hospitable sound booth. Together we finished the bare walls and ceiling complete with painting and trim; redid the electrical, installed a new wall-mounted desk and a reference screen, and refinished the floor. This time we ditched the glass windows to allow the sound-tech to feel more present in the space during times of worship and to also allow the option of setting up a camera on a tripod for events.



New flooring at the entryway and a fresh stain on the sanded plywood made a huge difference!



A fresh coat of primer and paint on completely finished feeling and walls and trim! This really pulled together the new stained floor with the brick wall.





AFTER:



YWAM Dunham's new renovated and transformed sound booth!

Renovations aside, I have also brought a few technological updates. We've upgraded to a newer wireless sound system, and have acquired and set up two iPads to house our worship library. We even have bluetooth page turning pedals to pair with them.

All in all, our hope is that, however practical the changes may be, they will serve to foster a better and more seamless environment for corporate praise.



Teen Art Intensive



A Photo of the Staff and Students of the 2025 Teen Art Intensive, taken in our final art exhibition space!

The past two years YWAM Dunham has run an art intensive for the youth in our community. They join for 2 weeks of the summer where everyday they create, get inspired by other artists, have

deep conversations about what it means to be an artist and the challenges we can face, as well as just have fun connecting over the summer with other teens. This year I (Sam) was finally able to help out, because the last two summers we have been away on missions trips. I was so stoked to hang out with the teens and share some of my technical knowledge as a visual artist through leading some workshops.

What I really appreciated was the opportunity to disciple and encourage the teens in the chill environment of creating together. We had a total of 17 youth ages 11-17 join us for the 2 weeks which all culminated in a final exposition to showcase their work. I became so proud of so many of them, but I'd like to highlight two stories from the weeks:

One of the teens flew all the way from Australia to come!

This was a very cool continuation of a story of God connecting this teen with the group last year. He had just moved to Canada, knowing nobody his age and it being the middle of summer. He happened to be connected with two of our Y-teens who invited him out to last year's art intensive. He came, and him loving the time so much he was sure he would continue connecting with the group. Unfortunately, before long, he had to move back to Australia so soon after receiving just the community he was hoping for. Fast forward to this year, and his parents remained in contact so they could fly their son back to Canada for this Summer Art Intensive ! Him and his family do not come from a christian background, so seeing him come out was an awesome testimony about the impact the teens had made in his life, and how much he felt loved and belonging in the previous year. He said he can't wait to see us all again next year!

Testimonies of Healings

Our art intensive had a theme: Love. But specifically looking at love that is generous as an inspiration for all the art we would make. Art as a Love that gives. For their finally project they were encouraged to make something inspired by this theme. With this subtle emphasis given throughout the two weeks, we saw so many of the youth use this as a springboard to testify about Gods generosity and love in their lives. To clarify, not all the teens who attended or their families are christian so this was so encouraging to see the teens who were believers step up in boldness and encourage their peers. One girl suffering with juvenile arthritis got a doctors confirmation on the last day of the intensive that her healing (that had taken place earlier this summer) was legitimate! Another teen made his final project about a healing he had witnessed the week prior of his cousin being healed of his cancer who our y-teens had been praying for all that last year. All in all, there was an excitement in the air about God being Love that gives!



During their years Art intensive, we saw the older and recently baptized youth step up in their leadership and boldness, we testified of God's love and goodness to those who don't know Him well yet through our final exposition, saw the teens cultivate lasting friendships, and saw them excel in their artistic abilities! We also did a mini outreach in Montreal where we gave out and hid works of art all around the city for people to find and read of God's love for them. I am so glad to have been a part of an arts-focused youth discipleship opportunity where my passions and gifting align.

What's Next for us?

Backbone Ministry Work

- We are heading back into serving our community through working in the hospitality and kitchen ministries.

2026 Arts and Music DTS Prep

- January 2026 is the start of our next DTS, and we are already processing applications and communicating with future students and staff



Prayer Points 🙏

- Pray for the work-family balance as we jump back into our many ministry commitments - we want to prioritize both parenting our growing daughter and the ministry work we have been called to.
- Good health for the upcoming cooler months - protection for Sophia especially during cold season as she plays with the other kids

Blessings,

*Stephan & Samantha
Dalton*



**Help us reach Quebec and
Beyond with the Gospel!**

Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions 😊

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Join our Prayer Calendar

Prayer is essential to our ministry. To ensure what we do is thoroughly covered in prayer, we're aiming to have prayer partners for every day of the month. On that day every month we pray for you as you pray for us!

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