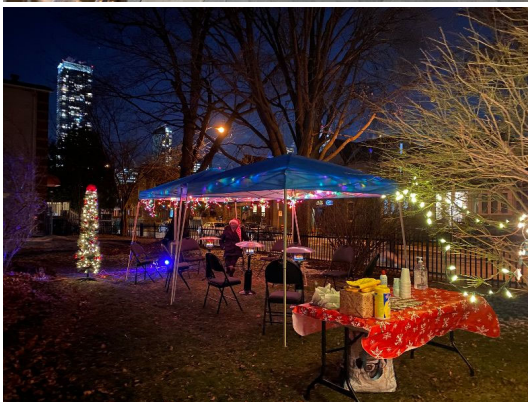
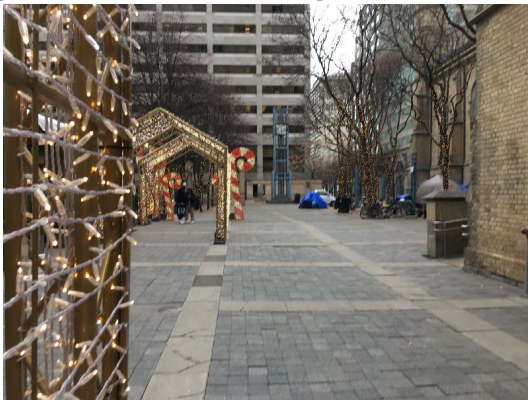




Thanks for following along and joining in prayer for these needs, as well as for your financial support and encouragement! Send me an email or message if you'd like to get together to talk more in depth.

Snapshots of Joy



1. Behind the Eaton Centre it's a magically lit wonderland, juxtaposed by tents surrounding Church of the Holy Trinity
2. One of Light Patrol's long-time friends decorates a tree in front of his space.
3. Even though Toronto was in the gray zone, we were able to gather 7 of our hotel friends to have an outdoor Christmas party with Christmas baking, hot drinks and GIFTS, thanks to our Operation Good Thing - where partners could donate to a specific youth's needs at Christmas time.
4. The walk back after our Christmas party reminded us "Strings of streetlights even stop lights Blink a bright red and green".



whitesquirrelbrigade
Trinity Bellwoods Park

...



While I'm happy to share good news stories like those above, the holidays haven't all been candy canes and silver bells. We've all experienced so much loss, pain and challenge over the last year. Here are a couple of challenges faced by one camp.

Just before Christmas a serious fire claimed almost everything one of our young friends owns. The caption for the above photo reads that he "maintained his calm like the stoic sage that he is". This camp is a pretty organized spot, and they care for each other well and got him taken care of pretty quickly.

Tragically though, one of the camp's members passed away between Christmas and New Years. I only met him once, but my co-worker provided some tender and humble care for him, changing some sleeping bags that he had soiled as he was withdrawing from fentanyl, praying for him and visiting him the following week to check in with him. Pray for our team and especially Nick, as we process this tragedy.



Friends, thanks for sticking with me through a very busy season. I came on to ask for prayer for the day ahead but quickly realized that I hadn't update you since November! December was an absolute whirlwind of activity and blessing - we were able to shop for and deliver very personal and meaningful gifts to our friends in great need. We were able to bless them, but as is often the case, ended up receiving much blessing in return.

After having some wonderful and quiet time off with our families, Light Patrol has been back at it this week. Mondays remain online, but I will typically be in Toronto Wednesdays and Thursdays, though this week we've been getting our feet back under us and making plans. Something I'm adding this semester is supervising an intern from a child and youth worker program, so I spent some time this week getting familiar with our responsibilities and creating her schedule with other staff.

Looks chilly, doesn't it?



We have been so grateful to the Lord for a not-too-cold winter where our indoor options for hanging out with youth are nonexistent. In December I was able to share the Gospel over a gyro lingering at a park picnic table. It was a great time and met with openness. Please pray today for a follow up with that young woman who attended our outdoor Christmas party and received a devotion book and bible as part of her gift. We're getting together to take a look at those around 7 tonight!

Another matter for prayer today is for wisdom in a first meeting with a young couple one of whom is a trans man who is pregnant and living with his male partner. Complex territory for me and my co-worker. Pray today for good rapport and for the beginnings of trust to start building.

It's a long day ahead with a morning prayer retreat with our Toronto staff - yay, Zoom! - and some walking outreach before meeting up for bible study this evening.



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