

Hendrix Jan. 2016

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À : Arlin & Pamela <hendrixap@gmail.com>

A lot going on – concert, movie, homeless, retreat, hospitality, marriage counseling...
Plus pix to recap 2015 in Lyon

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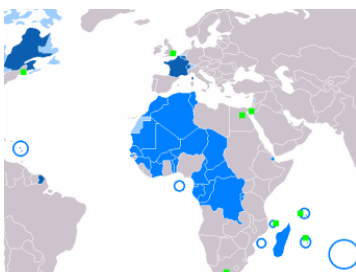
LYON

I often remind our members that when things are going well, like our church growth and need for a new meeting place, Satan usually attacks. (2 Timothy 3:12 talks about persecution for those who try to live right.) A recent example is that Pamela & I have had to do **marriage counseling** with 2 couples. Notwithstanding, one of the couples has chosen to divorce. This is particularly hard on us because they are our close friends.



Another challenge for our congregation is an **immigrant** situation. Madeleine is in France illegally (but not a refugee), and she's been living with us and other church members off & on since August. We want to help her, but she is intrusive and strong-willed. We are striving to get her to take responsibility to live and work legally so as to honor God and be a good example for others.

At church one Saturday in December, we showed the movie "**The Nativity**". The next day my sermon was drawn from the film, focusing on the reason for Jesus' coming in the flesh: born to die for our sins.



A global outreach to the French-speaking world



This month the chorus of the Geneva Church of Christ traveled 90 minutes to worship with us in Lyon. Their **concert** was preceded by a potluck – prepared by the men to give our ladies a rest! Their director commented, "We came to encourage, and we returned to Geneva encouraged." It always works that way, doesn't it?



Church potluck prepared by the men this month

BEYOND LYON

Each year **church leaders of French-speaking Europe** have a retreat an hour north of Lyon. Lyon was responsible for the housing and Marseille for the program. We focused on the upcoming generation of leaders and how we older ones need to cherish teamwork with the

FRIENDS

As we mentioned last time, **Kaitlin PLACHY**, a graduate (French major) from Harding University, is teaching English this year near Lyon. Her family from Massachusetts came to visit her for the holidays, which gave us the opportunity to cook for them and sing praises of their daughter.



We also had a visit from our friend **Christine ZIMMERMAN** from near Geneva. She brought her very obedient dog, who reminded us how much we miss our Labrador Nikki.



Welcome to the Hendrix Home

younger ones. They represented half the attendance and they participated wholeheartedly in the discussions. It was reassuring to know that the church will be in good hands and remain viable in the years to come.



PERSONAL NEWS

Pamela & I were home alone at Christmas. Our good friends the **Varoquier** family invited us over for a sumptuous 4-hour Christmas dinner. We are grateful to God for our many good friends.

Our neighborhood is changing drastically. There is a new **60,000-seat soccer stadium** 0.4 miles (0.7 km) from our house. Naturally there are traffic jams and we can hear the chants of the crowd. All this makes it difficult for us to have company because our street is closed to non-residents 3 hours before, during and 2 hours after the games. Ah, life in the big city.



60,000-seat soccer stadium next to our house (red arrow)



45 min. east of Lyon -
Oncieu built in a circle



Communal bread oven &
adjoining laundry pool



Dusk & fog settling over Lyon &
Massif Central mountains



Chicken competition held since
1862 in Bourg en Bresse

Prayers

- For the couples having marriage problems
- For wisdom in handling immigration issues

We can't complain though: The World Health Organization classifies Lyon as an **Age-Friendly City**. This network is made up of cities allowing seniors to remain active & healthy participants in society. Key areas to meet WHO standards include access to public transportation, appropriate housing, community support & health services. Only 2 U.S. cities have received this distinction: New York City & Portland. So Lyon is a great place to live since we're not exactly spring chickens!

December 10 was our anniversary, and we took off 2 days and headed to the hills east of Lyon to relax & enjoy God's nature.

2015 LYON HIGHLIGHTS

Last year was full of blessings, and here are some pictures recapping 2015.



1-Visit of daughter Jana's family, June2015

2-Monthly Lyon church potluck

3-Marseille chorus in Lyon, Apr2015

4-Marriage seminar in Marseille, May2015



- That hearts in France will be more open to God

- For French church leadership in the years to come

- Supplications for God to help us find a new meeting place

- Pray for us to have wisdom to find a way to solve this problem

- And pray that we will have the faith to use the solution that God gives!

Contributions are tax-deductible for 2015 if sent by January 31 to:

Poplar-Warner Church of Christ

Attn: Larry Byte
320 North Poplar
Guthrie, OK 73044
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5-Harding Univ French students, June 2015

6-Each year Robert McCready brings students

7-Nonstop Hendrix hospitality in summer

8-Baptism in Lyon, Nov 2015



Skyping with son Nathan in Seoul

Happy New Year 2016

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."
(Romans 15:13)

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