

Newsletter April 2019

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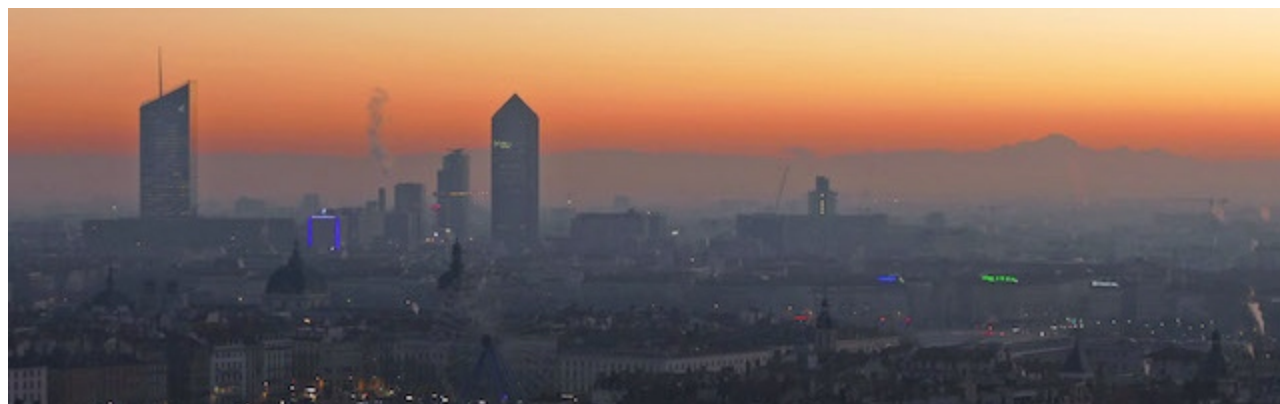
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Photo below: Sunrise over Lyon & Mont Blanc 98 miles (158 km) away



HENDRIX NEWSLETTER - Lyon, France
Volume 47, Issue 2, April 2019
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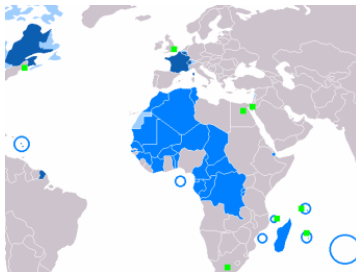
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LYON

Class series: As follow-up to her 2 previous ones on "Anger" and "Forgiveness", Pamela completed a 3-part series on "**Rejection**" for our group of ladies. It apparently touched their hearts because someone wrote Pamela a moving thank-you note. As in the past, this series is being shared with persons beyond the Lyon church.





Outreach to the French-speaking world

FAMILY

Last month we were able to spend time with our daughters **Jana & Karen**, their husbands and our 7 grandchildren. This year we got to go on vacation with Jana's family, and we made a 2200-mile road trip in an RV from Texas to the Grand Canyon. Can't get much more awesome than the Grand Canyon, other than maybe the Alps!



Church library: Years ago a library was created for our members, and I have made all my French reference books available there. This year Pamela, with the help of **Christiane RAZAFIMANANTSOA**, one of our young adults from Madagascar, is completely reorganizing and re-cataloguing the library to make it more appealing and easier to use.

Young adults: We are thrilled to have a very active group of college students & young professionals. As part of their **weekly program**, I was recently invited to talk about my conversion and my life in Christ, followed by a question and answer period, then a meal. We find this contributes to deeper intergenerational relationships, as well as a better grasp of what it takes to come to and live in Christ.

Life but a vapor: In February we lost a close friend in our town of Meyzieu. **Philippe & Rose Marie's** daughter was our daughter's best friend in high school. Philippe was not a believer, even though we tried throughout the years to interest him in God. However, his wife has drawn closer to God and she asked me to speak at his graveside. This was the only moment when anything spiritual was mentioned that day, and thankfully some of those attending appreciated my remarks.





We then spent time with Pamela's mother, **Lois WHITESELL**, now 93 years old. She is doing quite well and is now living with Pamela's brother **Wayne** & his wife **Kim** in Sulphur, Oklahoma, but Mom returns to her home in Edmond when Pamela & I visit.



PERSONAL

Not only do we live in France's gastronomic

New award for Lyon: Our beautiful city is now the **European Capital of Smart Tourism**. The title was given because of its responsible tourism and respect for the balance and well-being of its residents. What we appreciate most is Lyon's typically French art of living. This video tells you more about it:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RWONjtEhgRw>

BEYOND LYON

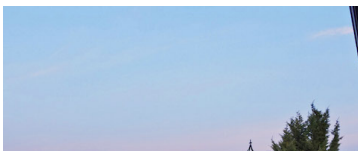
Geneva

We recently made 2 trips to Geneva, 2 hours away. The first was to spend Christmas with dear friends **Luigi & Mirka**, as we would have been "home alone".

The second was an invitation to preach for the Eglise du Christ in Geneva on January 27. On the 25th we received the sad news of Doyle KEE's death. Since he had been a missionary there for 47 years, I presented a message of hope as a **memorial to Doyle**. It was comforting to them and to Pamela & me to be in Geneva at that time of grief.



France's gastronomic capital, but I am also lucky to be married to an excellent cook. Pamela enjoys sharing her culinary passion by emailing 2 recipes weekly to friends who have requested them. Drop Pamela a note if you'd like to be added. Her spring collection includes Smoked Salmon & Artichoke Salad, Spring Asparagus Quiche, French Gratin Dauphinois (Au Gratin Potatoes), Classic French Beef Bourguignon, Old-Fashioned French Chicken, Brown Butter Broccoli Halibut en Papillote, Caribbean Caramel Coconut Custard. **Bon appétit !**



U.S.

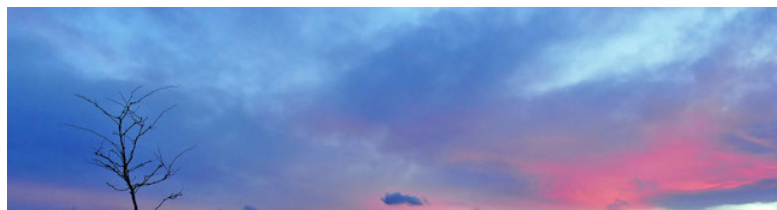
My close friend & coworker for more than 50 years died in Searcy, Arkansas. **Doyle & Barbara** had retired there barely a year earlier. Three members of the Geneva church and I were able to make the trip for Doyle's funeral, and two of us gave short eulogies.

I had first worked with the **KEES** in New York in 1968, and 2 years later they moved to Geneva. I first met Pamela during a campaign there in 1973. I moved to Geneva in 1974, to work with the Kees while learning French before moving to Lyon in 1975. As a young single, Pamela was Doyle's secretary 1976-78. Our lives have been closely intertwined with the Kees, and we are like family in faith, mission and friendship.

"May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones."
(Paul's letter to the church in 1 Thessalonians 3)

Prayers

- That we seize every opportunity to teach about God
- Thanksgiving for our young adult group at church
- For **Rachael TAITT**, our member undergoing chemo
- For our Meyzieu friend **Rose Marie** & her daughters
- For **Barbara KEE** in Searcy, Arkansas
- Thankfulness for our family & friends
- For those who support our mission through prayers & financial help





European robin in our garden;
butterflies already out in March;
sunrise (moonset) out our window



Renaissance Lyon



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