

Hendrix May 2015

1 message

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God fills our lives with people from all over the world.

In this newsletter we talk not only about Lyon,
but also Marseille, central France, Geneva, Belgium, Boston, Chicago, Oklahoma, Tennessee & Texas.

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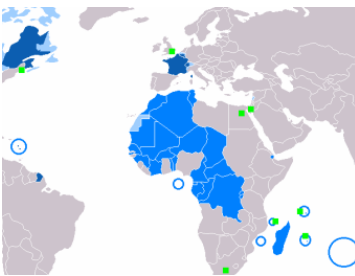


Website

LYON

The Lyon congregation spends one day together annually for edification. This year, studies on **prayer** were interspersed throughout the day with periods of discussion, singing and of course prayer.

Pamela & I regularly invite the **church young people** into our home, and this spring 4 of them came over for a weekend. We spoil them with good food and sometimes an outing, but above all we try to offer



A global outreach touching
all parts of the French-
speaking world

HOPE

For 35 years we've had a good relationship with our **landlord's family**. Their 25-year-old grandson was murdered in March and, needless to say, the family was devastated. The funeral was truly tragic because there was no faith in God and no words of hope. Pamela & I plan to spend time with them soon. Death is a taboo subject in France, so please pray that God give

spiritual life lessons.

One way of reaching the French public with the gospel is through concerts. In Lyon last month we were blessed to have the Marseille chorus (**La Chorale Harmonie**) present a great concert that was inspiring. We always look forward to their visits.



Also in April, **Jean-Marie FREROT** came from Verviers, Belgium, to teach a series on The Reliability of the Bible. Jean-Marie's approach was very thought provoking for all of us, and especially our friends considering becoming Christians.

John 12:24-25

"Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies,

us wisdom in our conversations with them.

The French are famous for their pessimism. I too would be a pessimist without spiritual faith. But I choose to be an optimist. I have **hope!** I've read The Book and I know how the story will end. Optimism is one way that Pamela & I shine bright, in contrast to almost everyone else around us.

C.S. Lewis wrote in ***Mere Christianity***:

"Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exists. A baby feels hunger: well, there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim: well, there is such a thing as water. Man feels sexual desire: well, there is such a thing as sex. If I find in myself a desire that no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world. If none of my earthly pleasures satisfy it, that does not prove that the universe is a fraud. Probably earthly pleasures were never meant to satisfy it, but only to arouse it, to suggest the real thing.

"If that is so, I must take care, on the one hand, never to despise or to be unthankful for these earthly blessings, and on the other, never to mistake them for the something else of which they are only a kind of copy, or echo, or mirage. I must keep alive in myself the desire for my true country, which I shall not find till after death. I must never let it get snowed under or turned aside. I must make it **the main object of life** to press on to that country and to

it produces many seeds. Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life."

Do you want to live your own life or accept God's call?

BEYOND LYON

I have periodically helped with upkeep at the church camp in **central France**. I recently recruited Daniel, Hervé and Xavier to join Craig, Frédéric (from Marseille) and me for 3 days of repair work.

FRIENDS

Pamela & I were delighted to host **Jean-Marie & Suzanne FREROT** in our home for a weekend. He is the oldest European preacher in French-speaking Europe. Both he & Suzanne have serious health problems and it was a real joy to serve them.

It was great to see **Jennifer BYRAM** (from Chicago) again. Two years ago she was a student in Lyon, and we were happy to catch up during Jennifer's visit back to Lyon.

Pamela took the train to Geneva to see her old friend visiting from Boston, **Jennifer RADL**. Jennifer credits Pamela for her conversion 37 years ago (!) when they were both living in Geneva. For Pamela it was the opportunity to spend precious time with Jennifer and also spend the night with **Doyle & Barbara KEE**.

FAMILY

It's seldom that we make a trip just to see family, but we did so earlier this year. First we spent time with

help others to do the same.”



Renaissance festival in Old Lyon



Courtyard normally closed
to the public



Stairwell access to apartments

Pamela's mother, **Lois WHITESELL** in Edmond, Oklahoma, to help with the removal & installation of a new carpet and numerous other tasks.

We also went to see our daughter **Karen LOVE**, her husband Rick and their 4 children near Cookeville, Tennessee. In November they settled on the farm belonging to Rick's parents, after moving back from Zambia after nearly 7 years of mission work in very difficult bush circumstances. We had not seen their family for over 2 years, and for us it was a must to spend time with them.

We then flew to Dallas for a visit with our daughter **Jana JOHNSTON**, her husband Timothy and their 3 children. We were also able to spend time with our son **Daniel** who lives 45 minutes from Jana's family. We can never get enough of visiting with family and especially being with our grandchildren, so we are very thankful to God for that opportunity





Five-story suspended snail steps



Warm welcome to the Hendrixes'



Spring explosion of color
at our house



April promise
of a good cherry crop



Prayers

- Thanksgiving for the Lyon Church of Christ outgrowing its current facilities

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

- For the faith of the next generation

- Praise for the variety of gifts (means) that God gives us to share the Good News

- That we will all seek & seize opportunities to share the Good News

- Comfort & hope for our landlord's family

- Thanksgiving for our physical family and also our spiritual family in Christ

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Stadium being built 0.4 miles from our house

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