

# Newsletter March 2020

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Classes, young adults, coronavirus. Life never gets boring!

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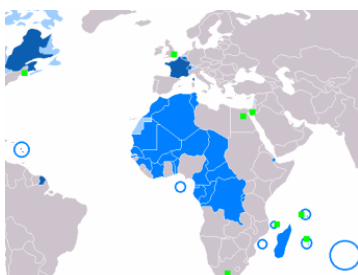
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## LYON

At church in recent weeks both Pamela & I have been teaching about **Christian gifts** from the Holy Spirit. In addition, Pamela spoke on the subject at the January ladies' retreat for French-speaking churches of Europe. She then extended her class this month to sisters in the French West Indies. (Next time we will make a special report on our Guadeloupe mission.)

Several months ago, our **young adult church group** asked me to spend an evening with them to share my personal spiritual journey. Most recently, it was Pamela's turn. They got to ask us questions and we had good discussions. It's a great way to better understand and appreciate each other, create deeper



Outreach to the French-speaking world

## FAMILY

Our daughter **Jana** recently had surgery and seems to be recovering well. She and her family plan to visit us for the month of June!

Our daughter **Karen** was able to go help Jana after surgery. Karen's family, after living on a farm for several years, is moving this month into the town of Cookeville, Tennessee, to be closer to school activities and church.



Since October surgery **my foot** is still bothering me, but the doctors say recovery will take up to a year. Patience is the watchword.

## FRIENDS

In January I hosted **Robert**

unity, and learn some life lessons.



Another day we had them over for an **American brunch**. They loved it and had fun playing games together afterwards. These young adults are 23-30 years old, and many are completing masters or doctorate studies. The Lyon area has 330,000 students in 55 universities & business schools.



I have been studying the Bible with **Benoît & Sarah**, a young couple with 2 children who moved to Lyon last year. He is French and is now discovering God; she is American and grew up in the church of Christ. We are studying "God's Plan" prepared by Max DAUNER, who used to be my coworker in Lyon. It's an excellent overview of God's workings throughout history with the climax in Jesus-Christ and our response to him.



in January. **Robert** **LIMB** and **Roland HERMANN** while their wives and Pamela attended the women's retreat. Robert is the preacher at the Moulin-Vert church in Paris, and he & I are very close. Roland and his wife Alberte are Christians from northern France. The 3 of us had a good time of sharing and just baching it.

We also had a great 3-day visit from **Frédérique GRIFFITH**. She is French and used to serve as a missionary with her husband Jim, first in Nantes then Toulouse. We also worked together at our Bible camp before they moved to St. Louis 25 years ago. It was nice to share memories, catch up on news and speak French, English and some "Franglais". Pamela commented that to her it's great to have a wonderful relationship with a man, but there's nothing like friendship with women. We both think that we are created with a desperate need to connect.

Our latest visitors were **Jacques & Eunice NANETTE** from Paris. They are Guadeloupean, which was a nice prelude to our present trip to Guadeloupe. We have that special tie besides simply loving each other in the Lord.



Please pray for our study.

To Pamela & me the **coronavirus** feels like déjà vu since Pamela survived the swine flu that killed 12,400 Americans in 2009. The difference is that COVID-19 mortality appears to be higher than for influenza. To date there have been 84 deaths in France. So far all that has changed for us is that at church, because of our elderly members, we have suspended shaking hands and greeting with a kiss. At any rate, this pandemic highlights where people place their trust: in medicine, in government, in their own personal measures or in God.

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Lyon is famous for its **150 giant frescoes**, and our city even has the world's first school for outdoor mural art. Here's a video about it:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/entertainment-arts-20798478/world-s-first-school-for-outdoor-mural-art-opens-in-lyon>



Bugnes, a Lyon Mardi Gras specialty

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## BEYOND LYON

We were blessed to be a part of the party celebrating **Craig & Katie YOUNG**'s 30 years of mission work in France. Their daughters prepared the surprise event, and 108 people came to Marseille to honor them. Can you believe it – in May I will be



Lyon city hall and opera house  
with Mont Blanc backdrop



Winter is a good time to observe  
goldfinches



Hummingbird hawk-moth on our  
viburnum



February flowers in the Hendrix  
garden

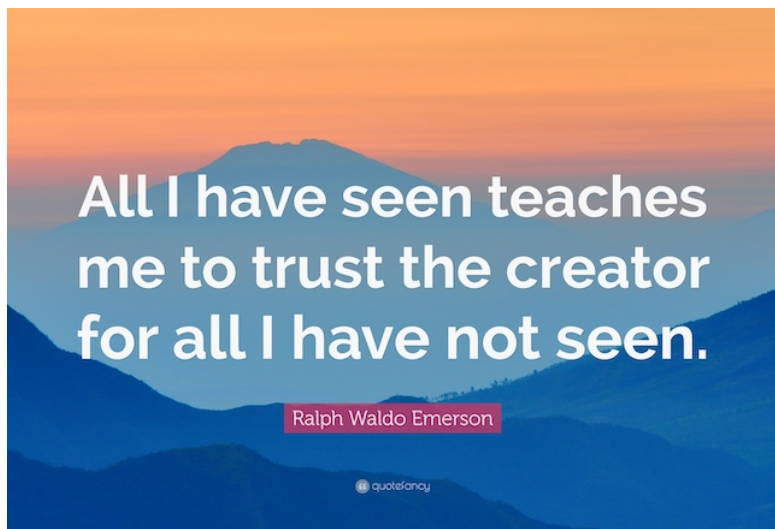
## Prayers

- That each of us may

never think can you believe it in May I will be  
celebrating 45 years in Lyon!



Winter sunrise & sunset from our home



recognize our place or  
service in the church  
- That we rely on God to  
furnish results in due time  
- Thanksgiving for our young  
adult Christians  
- For Benoît & Sarah's faith  
journey  
- Blessings on the Youngs'  
ministry and the whole  
Marseille church  
- For Jana & Karen  
- For my foot to heal  
correctly



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with all your soul and with all your mind and with  
all your strength." (Mark 12:30)***

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