

Hendrix Newsletter Nov 2013

1 message

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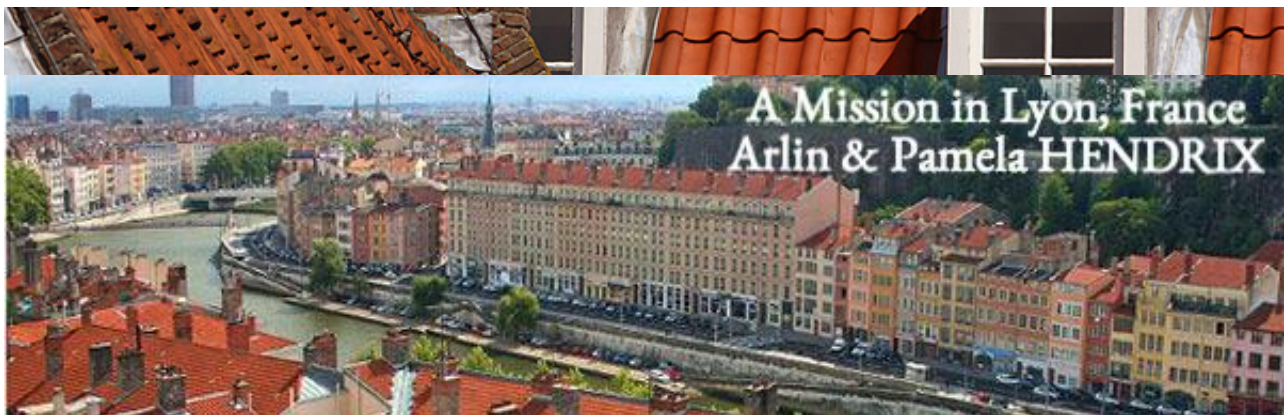
Tue, Nov 12, 2013 at 8:48 AM

HAPPY THANKSGIVING ! We give thanks for our pilgrim heritage. Non, France doesn't do Thanksgiving...

Tip: You can click on each picture to make it bigger. I finally figured out how to get that to work.

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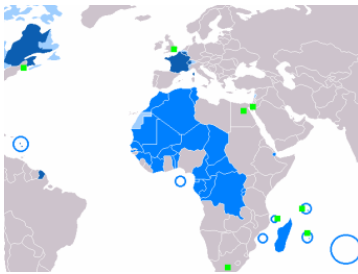
LYON

Seminar

Claude **ARNELL** from Paris presented some thought-provoking studies on forgiveness. Our church had the best attendance we have had in a long while. Two guests came away exclaiming how much the series had helped them and answered their questions about forgiveness.

Visitors

We have been having a lot of visitors at church. Just imagine if your Sunday attendance were 20% visitors!



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

Thanksgiving Prayers

- For our church visitors
- For Françoise
- For Pamela's healing
- For excellent medical care
- For our many friends & their support
- For God's love & grace
- For His gift of music



Lyon flower kiosk

That's what we had recently with 10 guests. One of our regulars, **FRANCOISE**, is most kind and has even offered to be put on the list of those who clean the church building. She also distributed invitations in her neighborhood for our series on forgiveness. Her zeal puts some of us to shame.

Immigrants

Three of our recent visitors were men who are either Roma or working with the **ROMA** immigrants in Lyon. Our church is going to start helping these men with clothing & food donations. There are an estimated 20,000 non-citizen gypsies in France, many living in squalid encampments. French racial prejudice seems to be strongest against this ethnic group.



Whites' going-away party in Lyon

Charles & Pam **WHITE** are making final preparations for their November 29 move to Boise, Idaho, and the next chapter in their lives. The Lyon congregation gave them a going-away party, and 18 out-of-town visitors got to come for the occasion. A friend wrote recently that their own church had "lost key people through death and job moves, but new people rise to the occasion, and new gifts & talents are nurtured. Living in the Kingdom is full of **CHALLENGES & UNEXPECTANCIES.**" Amen!



Square next to Lyon Opera



Downtown Lyon

You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people, but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. (2 Corinthians 9:11-12)

PARIS/MARSEILLE

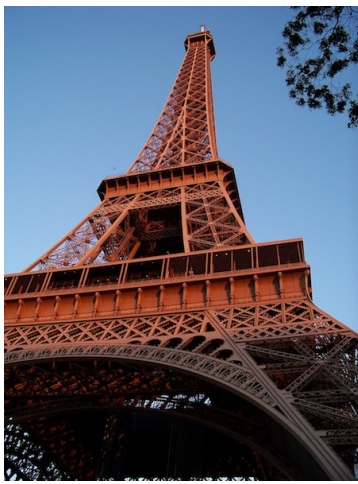
Because of Pamela's surgery, we have made 5 trips to Paris & Marseille in the last 6 weeks. In France we travel by **TRAIN** when possible because it's cheaper for 2 people than automobile gas + tolls. Not to mention the ease of high-speed trains going 200 miles per hour (320 km/h). Lyon-Paris is hence 2 hours by train, as opposed to 5-6 hours by car. And no one wants to try to park a car or drive in Paris. Marseille is 3 hours from Lyon by car, or 2 hours by train.



This is a 2-way avenue in Marseille

FRIENDS

We enjoyed hosting Claude & Marie-Chantal **ARNELL** the weekend he presented the seminar. Unfortunately, Pamela was still not up to speed, but we were still able to show them hospitality and I showed them around Lyon a bit. Fellowship is a sweet blessing indeed!



Towering Eiffel Tower in Paris



Arc de Triomphe, France's symbol of liberty



Ceremony at tomb of unknown soldier



Louvre Palace & sailboats in Paris

“COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS, NAME THEM ONE BY ONE.” The antidote for restless nights:

FROM PAMELA

No more infection, no more headaches & no more antibiotics! **HALLELUJAH**, I can sing again! I had extensive sinus surgery in Paris Sept. 23. All 4 cavities on my left side were filled with infection. The surgeon cleaned out the mess, drilled several openings and installed a flap. It seems my infection started out with a harmless Staph bacteria. But since my sinuses had closed up due to chronic infection, an anaerobic bacteria (thriving without oxygen) crept in and proliferated. Surgery samples identified that rare culprit, and for 3 weeks I took antibiotics specifically targeting that bacteria.



Paris hospital where Pamela had sinus surgery

CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

Did you know that French culture does not conceptualize providing **MEALS**? The heritage of pioneer days must be the reason behind that American custom. The only friends here who've done so for Arlin & me were American or Caribbean. In the past I took meals to a close friend who had given birth to a second baby, and she found it offensive. In her Brazilian culture that would mean I thought she wasn't

being thankful for
daily gifts.



Marseille Church of Christ



Prickly pear cacti near
Mediterranean coast



Little rental house in Marseille



capable of taking care of her own family. Fortunately we were close friends so we could talk it through!

While recuperating last month, I made the mistake of mentioning to a French friend that someone had brought us some yummy homemade soup, so that sparked her imagination. She & her husband came over with a wonderful meal, but with the expectation that we would dine together. Hence a full-blown 2-hour meal, and I was exhausted. You just have to laugh. Ah, the challenges of **CROSS-CULTURAL** communication!



Nose washings at Marseille sulphur springs

SULPHUR SPRINGS (in Marseille, not TX or AR)

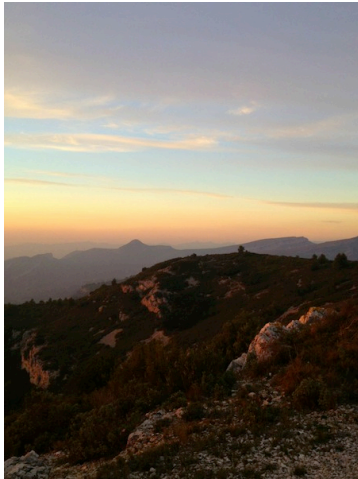
Right now I'm in southern France doing sulfur-water **TREATMENTS** until Nov. 16. I forget that the U.S. doesn't use natural therapies as much as Europeans do. Should you be tempted to laugh, consider this: Americans have the shortest lifespan of 17 developed countries (Consumer Reports, May 2013). But I must say that the USA excels in solidarity & thanksgiving!

France has over 100 centers for the 550,000 patients

Marseille region's famous
earthenware



Autumn in the Marseille hills



Sunset from Ruissatel, 1470 feet



Pagnol's scrubland in the
Garlaban range



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who do **THERMAL-WATER** treatments every year. Marseille has sulfur springs (lots of vitamin B1 too) whose anti-inflammatory & antiseptic water has been used since the 1600's for its healing properties for rheumatic & upper respiratory diseases.

In order to ensure healing after my sinus surgery, I currently am doing 18 days of nose washings, gargling, fog room, etc. No fancy swimming pool or spa or massages for me! It's just to clean my sinuses, no fun. That's every morning, and other than that I'm **RESTING** but also taking advantage of these Mediterranean hills to take up walking again. The sea air is invigorating too. An added bonus is seeing our friends here in Marseille.



Mediterranean seen from near the springs

How did I make it through 4 years of intense suffering? By the grace of **GOD** & with the encouragement of good friends! I am so very thankful. It has been a time of seeing God's loving care at work. There are so many ways He strengthened and blessed me through it all – I could write a book. Sing to the Lord and give Him the glory!

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