

## Patty's Praises & Prayer Requests ☺ – August 2015

Dear praying friends,

Greetings once again from Villeurbanne! The summer has been slower because of vacations in July and August, but also because of the excessive heat. In July we had 16 days in the 90's F + 6 days in the mid to high 80's. Already in August we've had 3 days in the 90's (including right now as I write) + two in the low 100's. I'll have to admit that my energy level is diminished since there is no air conditioning! I am thankful that I at least have ceiling fans!

### **EPEVC (Lyon-Villeurbanne church):**



Philippe & Sophia Viguier

Praise the Lord for His provision for an apartment in Villeurbanne for the Viguier family which will put them in closer proximity to the church. They have been ministering in the Villeurbanne church for ten months and the transition to his being the new pastor has gone very well. He is an excellent preacher of the Word.



Jean-Daniel & Anne-Claire Pikus

Jean-Daniel and his family moved to Villeurbanne a couple of weeks ago. He will head up youth ministries in the local church and I believe she will continue to work as a medical doctor. Pray as they adjust to living and ministering here. Pray for the youth in the church – children, teens and college students – that they will become true followers of Christ.

September 19-20 the EPEVC will have its annual church retreat. Pray as we worship, pray, study God's Word and play together. This is always a great time for getting to know one another better, and setting vision and direction for the year.

Because of limited space and a growing congregation, the church is planning to go to two services starting October 4th. Pray for continued growth, unity, and additional workers to care for the additional needs that growth represents.

On Aug. 16, five of our young people (2 students and 3 young professionals) will return from a 3½-week missions trip to Burkina Faso where they organized a camp for orphans and did a camp with tutoring for teenagers. They were also able to meet up and encourage a young mid-wife from our church who is serving for a year with SIM. Pray for their impact on the children's lives, and pray that God will use this as a life-changing experience in their walk with the Lord.

May I ask you to pray for Carole, a math teacher in the church who has the gift of evangelism? Several months ago God laid it on her heart to get an apartment where she would live and also rent out the other three rooms to young women (students or employed). She would disciple them and they would have regular times in the Word and prayer together. They would be encouraged to witness to their unsaved friends, be active in a local church and, for the students, be involved in a Christian campus club. Carole will sign the papers for the apartment when she returns from a 3½ week missions trip to Cambodia where she accompanied eight young people (17-27 yrs. old). If all goes as planned, she should have the keys in mid-November. Pray that God would help her discern which women should be a part of this venture.

The ladies' Bible study will start up again on September 22, and we will meet every other Tuesday from 2-3:30 PM. Please pray for me as I am responsible for the leading/teaching the group. We will be studying the life of Moses (Exodus-Deuteronomy). Please pray for my planning and preparation.

In about 4 weeks, the dozen or so house groups will start up again after taking a break for the summer. Pray particularly for the Lyon East group for which I am responsible. We will be starting our third year together. (Many of us were in a group which met during the 4 previous years). I am encouraged as I see spiritual growth in the lives of each one. I think almost everyone is using their spiritual gifts in some type

of service: new volunteers to teach Sunday school, cleaning, giving, praying, hospitality, evangelism, etc. For our study time we'll start off by picking up where we left off with the 9th commandment in light of the New Testament. Pray for God's guidance as we decide together what we want to study next. We'll meet every other Friday from 8-9:30 PM.

We have had the joy of seeing several babies born (including identical triplet boys!), couples married and the sadness to see loved ones die. Fortunately, we sorrow not as those who have no hope!

### **Chateau of Saint Albain:**

- Christelle, Bruce & Karen Beck, and Janet LaBarge and some other willing volunteers are working hard and doing a great job doing extra maintenance and cleaning projects at the Chateau this summer while hosting the guests.
- Please continue to pray for the hiring of a manager. The couple that was interviewed is still prayerfully considering accepting the position.
- We've had some plumbing problems - toilets and showers in one area are blocked and the problem is still not resolved after having a company come in with a back hoe to dig. Please pray for a definitive solution so it is not a hindrance to the groups that are scheduled.
- I'll be going to the Chateau tomorrow (8/13) to update the accounting and to touch bases with the team and the president, Joël Rongier. Although I've not been on the property as much as I thought I would this summer, I continue to give oversight of the accounting and have spent quite a few hours/days doing some analytical work from home.
- Pray for Claire Martin as she raises support to join the Chateau team for 1-2 years.
- Bringing the Chateau up to handicap standards is still a huge project that is looming. If you would like to contribute to the project you can send donations to Encompass World Partners marking them for the Chateau upgrade project #7400.

### **Church plants:**

- Pont-de Chéruy & Montalieu (east of Lyon): August 1<sup>st</sup> was Jean-Benoît's official start date working as paid staff in Montalieu where he and his family live. In September, he plans to start weekly discovery Bible studies with individuals and/or groups. They hope to start monthly meals/debates centered on themes that the participants choose. Pray for activities that are being planned for the combined youth.
- Trévoux: Jérémie B. from partner Action Biblique preached last Sunday at the EPEVC. He took advantage to give an update on the work in Trévoux (north of Lyon). He asked us to pray for God's provision for a place to meet - they have a building in mind but it has to go through the approval processes. Pray for effective follow-up with contacts that were made in the city and neighboring towns when they hosted a group of teens from Ukraine. Pray for safety for the teens as they have returned to their war-torn neighborhoods and that they will put their trust in God despite difficulties.

Over the past few years I keep running into a woman in my neighborhood, Leila, originally from Tunisia from Muslim background. She is open spiritually. Pray that I can share the hope of the Gospel with her.

Please pray that God would meet my support needs. Three elderly supporters passed away in recent months, and although I gained some new support while I was home in April-May, there was actually a net loss. Gifts can be mailed to Encompass World Partners, P.O. Box 80065, City of Industry, CA 91716-8065 marked for "Patty Morris support" (#270) or you can make on-line gifts at the following website:

<http://www.encompassworldpartners.org/give/giving-to-encompass>

Summer is almost over and I don't yet feel ready to start the new ministry year. Pray that I'll yet have opportunities of renewal and refreshment.

With love and gratefulness for you and your partnership,

*Patty ☺*

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Serving with:

