

Patty's Praises & Prayer Requests ☺ – November 2015

Late fall greetings from Villeurbanne!



Thanks to those of you who expressed concern following the tragic terrorist attacks in Paris on Nov. 13. I am safe (Villeurbanne is about 300 miles away) and I don't know anyone personally who was directly affected. I have had several opportunities to interact with people who are processing the events. Please pray that people will realize how uncertain life is and that they need to turn to Jesus who gives life and hope. On a related note, this year's Fête des Lumières (Festival of Lights) in Lyon has been cancelled for security reasons. Instead, it will be transformed into a tribute to the Paris victims, calling on Lyon residents to light up the city on Dec. 8 with candles on window ledges, in line with the festival's origins.

EPEVC (Villeurbanne church) – Please pray for the upcoming outreach activities:

- Update: Carole's project to purchase an apartment and rent out three rooms to gals that she will disciple has fallen into place. Loan was procured, apartment purchased, renters chosen, and move is imminent. Pray for wisdom as she invests in their lives.
- On Saturday, November 29 the church will distribute small bags of cookies and a gospel to those living in close proximity to the church, as we have done for the past several years. Pray that we can be salt and light in reaching out to near neighbors. I need to do some baking this week!
- An evangelistic dinner concert is being planned for December 12. Numbers will be restricted to 88 people because our meeting room and kitchen are limited in hosting such an event. Pray for those who will be invited to attend.
- On December 13, we will have a Christmas celebration for adults and children during both services.
- At this writing, Armand and Marlise (who work with CEF and are members of the church) have 11 Christmas children's clubs scheduled in various homes and schools. Pray that God would give them stamina, and that the children's hearts would be receptive to the message.

Church plants – Pray for Christmas activities for all as they seek to reach out in their communities.

- Pont de Chéruy: Pray that they can find a larger meeting place adapted to their needs. Pray for the organization of evangelistic events to which they can invite unsaved friend. Pont has a good number of young people - pray for those who are unsaved and for those who have already committed their lives to Christ that they would grow in their understanding and obedience as disciples of Jesus Christ.
- Trévoux: Two discovery Bible studies have been started. Pray for these friends who have a thirst to know God better. The church body is moving ahead with a project for a meeting place; pray that the Lord will direct their path.
- Montalieu: Pray that God would protect Jean-Benoît, Bénédicte and their children as they are living and working in a place with a strong occult influence. Praise the Lord that the mayor's office is allowing them to use a room for youth group and other activities which is at the heart of Montalieu's clubs and associations.

Chateau of Saint Albain -

- November 22-24 representatives from the Chateau (Greg, Christelle and Pascale) will participate, along with almost 200 ministries, at an evangelical conference/fair in the Paris region to promote the Chateau. Pray that they will have good contacts and that the number of reservations will increase so that the Chateau can continue to serve evangelicals in their ministries of evangelism, training, fellowship, and prayer.
- December 11-13 the Mâcon church and the Chateau will host the 5th Live Nativity and Christmas Market. Last year over 1,600 people attended during a weekend. Everyone will have an opportunity to see the story of Jesus' birth unfold before their eyes. A comic book will again be distributed that clearly presents the gospel in a captivating manner, for both children and adults.
- Pray for the urgent need to find and hire a director for the Chateau.
- As treasurer, I continue to do the bookkeeping by going up to the Chateau at regular intervals. Pray for wisdom as I field various questions from the Chateau staff.



Discipleship –

I am encouraged to see what God is doing in the lives of the people within my sphere of influence, and in particular my house group. It's not necessarily anything that I have done, but we have been walking on this pilgrim journey together for several years and progress is evident:

- ⇒ There is confidence to boldly pray for one another, whereas it was hard for some to even pray out loud. One person just shared how much she appreciated our prayers because God gave incredible peace in a very difficult situation. Faith is being strengthened as we wait on the Lord together.
- ⇒ Each one is using his/her spiritual gifts and talents in some area of service for the Body of Christ: Armand & Marlise, Jean-Louis and Christine, Sylviane & Patrick, Joannes and Annick all open their homes to host our house group; Armand & Marlise train and Jean-Louis is receiving training to teach children; Aude, Joannes and others serve to welcome regulars and visitors for the two Sunday services; several have stable job situations which allows for generous giving; others take part in church cleaning teams; Annick helps me and others by taking us to the airport or sharing rides; Jérémie has a leadership role with the church's young working people; Joëlle is meeting one-on-one in Bible study with Isabelle, a gal with motor skills and who is probably not yet a believer. (It was difficult for her in a group setting to get a word in edgewise!) Nassima has a ministry to people from Muslim background. And the list goes on... God is building His church!
- ⇒ Pray for Aude and Josiane who are planning to be baptized in January 2016.
- ⇒ Several unbelievers have been participating in our house group and through our collective witness and sharing in the Word they are growing in their understanding of who Jesus is. Please pray that Annick, Patrick, Lucie and Sophie would make a decision to trust Christ as their Savior.
- ⇒ We also know how to have fun with one another! For our next house group meeting on December 4, we'll share a Christmas meal that Christine (and Jean-Louis) will prepare with specialty dishes from her native Lorraine.

I continue to teach the bi-weekly ladies Bible study on the Life of Moses. So far, we've made it through the first 18 chapters of Exodus. We've learned a lot and have had good discussions. Of course, we enjoy fellowship with one another, and it is a privilege and blessing to pray for one another and see how God answers for His glory. Fourteen ladies were present this past week.

Miscellaneous –

- In October, I enjoyed a visit from Betsy, Margie and friend Annie. The time was fun, but too short!
- On Sunday, Nov. 29, my friend Liliane and I will prepare a Thanksgiving meal to be shared with three couples. I don't think I've fixed a turkey in three years so would appreciate your prayers. ;-)
- My cat Squirt is doing well. We just celebrated 11 years of sharing our lives and my home together.
- The Encompass Church Planting network directed by Dr. Paul Klawitter will meet in Dijon, France February 10-15, 2016. Pray as I help with logistics. Pray for times of spiritual encouragement, equipping, discussions, outings and more as they meet for the first time.
- Europe Charis Partners, some church leaders, and some Encompass staff (including myself) will meet in Dublin, Ireland February 18-21, 2016. Pray as we consider issues such as support, encouraging one another, sharing of resources, building common vision, etc. A task force of five has already been discussing these topics during the year.
- Please pray that God would meet my support needs. I lack about \$1,100 in monthly commitments. If you can help, 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 mission's website: <http://www.encompassworldpartners.org/give/giving-to-encompass>

All throughout the year I thank God for you!

Patty ☺

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Serving with:

