

## Patty's Praises & Prayer Requests ☺ – July 2016

Dear praying friends,

Much has transpired since I last wrote. Thanks you for your faithful prayers that got me through some very busy months. God is answering!

Thank you for praying for the **Ladies Bible study** group which will now take a break for the summer. One woman wrote: "Patty, thank you for this year's studies which were very enriching. There's a lot to remember from the life of Moses, this man "more patient than any man on earth," the people so forgetful of the blessings that God showered upon them, and also God's faithfulness to his promises – the wherewithal to look back at our notes and meditate again throughout this summer." Lord willing, we will be studying the book of Romans next year. Please pray as I begin to study and prepare.



We ended our third year together as the **Lyon East house group**.

We finished our series in the Beatitudes, consecrated an evening to worship and singing (we need to make progress!), said farewell to Josiane who got a job in another European



country, and we ended with a barbecue last Friday night. The icing on the cake is that we also celebrated my 60<sup>th</sup> birthday - I'm 3<sup>rd</sup> of 6 in the group this year! Pray as each person continues to grow in his knowledge and obedience to Christ and that we put the "one another" verses into practice. It was especially rewarding this year to see each use their spiritual gifts for service and edification of the Body.

The end of June, the 10 or so house group leaders had an evening of sharing, evaluation and prayer. We thanked God for what transpired in the various groups during the year. It was also an opportunity to see if we are remaining faithful to the church's vision, "To know Jesus Christ and to make Him known," to our mission, "to multiply disciples, multiply leaders

and multiply churches" and to our values – is what we are doing biblical (source of our teaching, behavior and priorities), pertinent (adapted to our cultural context), authentic (sincere, motivated by love), collegial (working in teamwork), excellent (giving God our best) and familial (living in unity, love and conviviality).

### EPEVC updates / prayer requests:

- On June 26, Philippe Viguier was officially installed as the pastor of the *Eglise Protestante Evangélique de Villeurbanne-Cusset*. It was a privilege to have three generations of pastors: Larry DeArmey who started the church in 1982, Florent Varak who passed the baton after 25 years and Philippe. Prayer was also offered for newly appointed elder, Fred Marchal.
- We've gone to one Sunday worship service for the summer. Volunteers (including myself) will give the regular Sunday school workers a break by filling in during July and August.
- Begin to pray that God would meet us in a real way during the annual church retreat that will be held September 17-18. John Glass, pastor of the International Evangelical Church of Geneva, will be the speaker.
- Sébastien and Virginie Artero (and their two girls) who have been in the Villeurbanne church for the past six years and leading children's church will soon be moving to Dijon as a pastoral intern under Franck Segonne (who himself was originally from the Villeurbanne church). They will also assist in the Fair Trade Café. Praise that they have already found housing. Pray that they will be able to raise the needed support for their internship.



## **Church plant updates / prayer requests:**

### Pont de Chérury /Montalieu –

- The first week of July a third annual “summer party” was held. They provided games, activities, snacks, and presented the gospel. Jean-Benoît and Bénédicte could hardly contain their excitement: “It’s really incredible to see how we made giant steps in just two days. I’m blown away; our youth group came through in an astonishing way. It bonded them to a point that even they could not have expected... I’m filled with enough good reasons to praise God for the entire year!!!!”
- Pont de Chérury was able to purchase the building in which to meet!! Praise the Lord for this wonderful tool. Pray as they move ahead with the work that needs to be done. They’re giving themselves 30 days to have everything finished. The first worship service, which will also include baptisms, is scheduled on July 17. Pray for numerous friends that have been invited and that God would be glorified.
- Pray that each family will be renewed physically and spiritually during the summer vacation. Preaching series this summer: the life of Jonah.

### Trévoux –

- The fall will hold some important changes: move to *weekly* worship services, inauguration of their rented meeting place, and a weekend church retreat. Pray that these events will serve as opportunities to live and preach the gospel.
- Pray for friends who are being followed up this year; pray that the church folks would be able to maintain contact with them and pick up relationships in September.

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

- Pray for Nicolas Alfonso (and his wife Nancy) as he becomes director and she a volunteer on September 1. The plan is for them to move into the gate house on the property with their two young children. Pray for a 2-year transition team that has been put into place by Encompass, owner of the property, to formulate plans for evangelism among youth, upgrading the facility, sustainable financing and future direction (next generation).

### **Home Ministries 2016:**

- In summer 2015 I took a shortened home assignment to visit supporters in California with the understanding that I would take the second part in 2016. For different reasons I almost decided not to go this summer, but things finally came together. I will thus visit supporting churches/individuals in Utah, Texas, Ohio, Indiana, and to a limited extent California. I will also spend a couple of days in Arizona for a Morris mini family reunion with us six siblings and families! - about 15 of us. The dates of my trip are August 10 – September 21. Please pray for stamina, profitable and fun visits, and uneventful travel. Pray that my cat Squirt will stay healthy and get along with Dévora and Cedric as she stays with them.
- Please pray that I will be able to connect with new people in order to share the ministry in France. I need to discover additional prayer and financial commitments to carry me through my last 5-6 years of ministry in France. I currently lack \$16,705 in annual commitments. (In 2015, several older faithful friends and supporters passed away or were no longer able to continue giving which contributes significantly to my need). Financial support (clearly marked for Patty Morris) can be sent directly to: Encompass World Partners, P.O. Box 3298, Monument, CO 80132-3290. Gifts can also be made on-line through the Encompass website: <http://www.encompassworldpartners.org/missionaries-giving-list> by scrolling down to my name.

I can’t thank you enough for your friendship, prayers, encouragement and financial gifts that have allowed me to serve in France for the past 33 years. In fact, some of you have partnered with me since I went on short-term missions to France in 1976 - 40 years ago! (I can’t believe I’m saying that – I’m not THAT old!)

With love in Christ,

*Patty ☺*

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Serving with:

