

THANKFUL LEE 4 FRANCE

Peter and Katherine | Missionaries to Avignon, France

Prayer

Perseverance and prayer

Peter's missionary

license: managing a promotion at work while finishing his oral history paper

Developing church partners:

Lakeview Covenant Church,
Bethel Christian Church,
Redeemer Life Church

Partner church in Avignon: for church renewal through a program called "Vitalité"

Partnership

Merçi beaucoup to North Park Covenant Church for hosting the PrayforFrance.org prayer group!

To donate? See enclosed response form or give online: covchurchgiving.com

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Pray for France: Signs of Hope

This past month, we were privileged to facilitate one of the 65 prayer groups for the 2016 PrayforFrance.org campaign. God encouraged us through meeting Hannah, a Moody Bible Institute student preparing for missions, and Lionel who shared his experiences since he is originally from France. We prayed for signs of hope in France such as the church's unified response to the terrorist attacks, youth revival, houses of prayer and missionaries we personally know in France.

Prayer for France also reminded us to trust in God to accomplish His mission despite secular challenges to the French church. Personally, we were also strengthened to face discouragement in raising support or uncertainty in not yet knowing our departure. How can we hope in His control instead of our control? Prayer.

In preparation for Easter, let us look to Jesus's example. Jesus withdrew to a solitary space, the wilderness—and for a time, 40 days—devoted to being in God's presence. Our goal-driven tendencies might diminish the importance of prayer. Yet preparation in God's presence gives courage, guidance and purpose. In light of the Lord's resurrection and return, our hope for you is to seek a place and time apart for God's presence and have a blessed Easter!





Kid's Cultural Corner

Theodore (6)

Loved playing with clay at "Elephants with Riders" (above), a recent art fair at a nearby high school...a sign of affinity to French culture?

Counting down the days for Easter egg hunts...*un, deux, trois!*

Boaz (9)

Skied and rode the chairlift on his own for the first time. Played on his school's chess team.

Signing his homework with his name in cursive.

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Thank you! Merci beaucoup!

Peter and Kathy

P.S. Please see the enclosed response form to help with donating.

Signs of the Church Alive in France

Does -20 degrees and blustery winds make for a perfect visit to downtown Chicago? Vincent Mievile, president of the French partner denomination, thought so. See photo below at Millennium Park. Maybe he was warmed by the Chicago-style pan pizza he had just eaten. Vincent, alongside other Francophone church planters, was invited to the Covenant Midwinter Conference and delivered a talk entitled "The Church is Not Dead: Vitality in French Context."



(L to R: John Kerl our Regional Coordinator, Peter, 3rd from left, Vincent Mievile, 5th from left, then Katherine, 2nd from right)

Our last newsletter ended with a translation of Vincent's inspiring quote following the Paris attacks. In his CovTalk, Vincent similarly exhorted attendees to remember that the church in France is alive! He confidently stated, "...when we consider that France is very influenced by rationalism and secularism, where anti-clericalism is a sort of national sport in France, the fact that the church of Jesus Christ is not dead is quite a miracle."

Signs of a Licensed Missionary

Peter has nearly completed his preparation for a missionary license, which includes: classes in Theology of the Covenant and History of the Covenant, reading books and online articles, passing an interview, writing theological papers and an oral history...whew?! Our marriage is now enlivened by discussions about Christ's reconciling versus penal substitutionary atonement. Thank you for joining us as partners in this surprising journey of preparation for God's mission to Avignon, France!