Dear Members and Friends of the ACP,

Warm greetings to you... literally! As I’m writing, here in Paris, we are expecting an extended heat wave and I fear it won’t be the last this summer. A recent special report from NASA’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change gave the following dire forecast:

At Earth’s mid-latitudes, the hottest days will be up to 3 degrees Celsius hotter at 1.5 degrees Celsius warming and up to 4 degrees Celsius warmer at 2 degrees Celsius warming. The warmest extreme temperatures will be in Central and Eastern North America, Central and Southern Europe, the Mediterranean (including Southern Europe, Northern Africa and the near-East), Western and Central Asia and Southern Africa. Longer warm spells will affect many densely populated regions. At warming above 1.5 degrees Celsius, twice as many megacities as today are likely to become heat stressed, potentially exposing 350 million more people by 2050. At 2 degrees Celsius warming, the deadly heatwaves India and Pakistan saw in 2015 may occur annually. *

You’ve probably heard the definition of insanity is “doing the same thing over and over again but expecting different results.” It seems to me that although there are different opinions about what should be done, the fact of climate change and the impact of human activity on the earth’s ecosphere is incontroversible. Yes, I’ve read the small minority of scientists who believe otherwise, but frankly, the data seems overwhelming. The question is, what is a Christian to do?

The Psalmist reminds us, “The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it” (Psalm 24:1). It seems the first thing we should do is remember that the planet we inhabit is not “ours,” but “God’s.” We are called to be stewards of this amazing ball of life. To have “dominion” over the earth as we read in Genesis does not mean we’ve been given free rein to destroy the planet through willful ignorance or irresponsible environmental impact decisions. I lived in Mexico City for six years (1987-1993), and no one can tell me that human life and pollution doesn’t have a huge influence on our world!

I raise this issue as a topic for your reflection during the summer, as many of us are trying to get away from the heat and pollution of the city for some rest and refreshment in the countryside, seaside, or mountains. Yes, the obvious fact is that it gets hotter in cities! I invite you to take time on your vacation to learn more about what you can do to be more responsible as stewards of God’s good earth.

The ACP Council has talked about a goal of going “paperless” by the end of the year. We’ll see. Let’s pray. Let’s listen and learn. Let’s make changes that will be life giving for us and for future generations. Here is a website that offers the 101 Top Web Resources on Climate Change: www.environmentalsciencedegree.com/climate-change.

You may be tempted to think that your impact on the world is insignificant. I love the classic story told by Loren Eisley: One day a man was walking along the beach when he noticed a boy picking something up and gently throwing it into the ocean. Approaching the boy, he asked, “What are you doing?” The youth replied, “Throwing starfish back into the ocean. The surf is up and the tide is going out. If I don’t throw them back, they’ll die.” “Son,” the man said, “don’t you realize there are miles and miles of beach and hundreds of starfish? You can’t make a difference!” After listening politely, the boy bent down, picked up another starfish, and threw it back into the surf. Then, smiling at the man, he said... “I made a difference for that one!”

May our rest, reflections and life changes be an act of worship, honoring God and the creation that is brought into being by God! Always remember that you can make a difference!

In Christ,

The Brilliance
Performing at ACP in October

by Natalie Raynal

The Brilliance is a – yes, brilliant – liturgical duo creating spiritual protest music, acclaimed across the US. Their music has been called “thoughtful, relevant, eclectic,” focusing on empathy that leads to action. Don’t miss the opportunity to hear and meet with them at the ACP over the weekend of 18-20 October.

David Gungor is a songwriter and musician based in New York City. He is married with four children and lives in Chelsea, and serves as a pastor at Trinity Grace Tribeca. John Arndt is a pianist, producer and composer, and has performed all over the world in a wide variety of venues and musical styles.

They created The Brilliance in 2010, crafting music that gives listeners “time and space to fully soak in the beauty that lies in every lyric and sonic nuance.” Their debut album, Brother, focused on peacemaking, and they recently partnered with World Relief to raise awareness for the DACA dreamers.

In their third album "Suite No. 1 Oh Dreamer,” the single “Welcome to the Darkness” hones in on the traumatic stories of DACA Dreamers, while “Welcome to the Darkness” is an ode to the excluded and damned.

The Brilliance will perform in concert at the ACP on Saturday 19 October at 20h, and will join the contemporary service at 13h30 on Sunday 20 October. A two-part workshop with The Brilliance will take place on Friday 18 October from 19h-21h30 and Saturday morning from 10h-14h. We will invite all those interested in re-imagining the contemporary worship service to explore the role of creative imagination in worship with us. There will be 30 slots available and registration will begin the first week of September. Save the date!

Bible readings for August

4 August  8th Sunday after Pentecost
Hosea 11:1-11
Psalm 107:1-9, 43
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

11 August  9th Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 1:1, 10-20
Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

18 August  10th Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19
Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

25 August  11th Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

Would you like to propose articles, write, proofread, do layout or take photos? Contact Alison Benney at Spire@acparis.org.

Note: Deadline for the September edition of the Spire is Wednesday, 21 August.
Legos and the larger story

by Rev. Tim Vance
Associate Pastor

A few weeks ago, I walked into our apartment to find a giant mountain of LEGOS in our living room with LEGO pieces scattered everywhere. All three of our kids were on the floor playing and sorting through thousands of old LEGO pieces that a friend had given to them. Several days later the pile had been scattered more widely across our living room, but now it was only Ezra (our youngest) who was playing on the floor. Since his older brother and sister had moved onto different things, he wanted me to play.

So there I was on the floor sorting through the mess, trying to find matching pieces for Ezra and me to put together. As I found different characters and pieces, I began to create my own growing pile. Eventually Ezra walked over to my pile and said, “Dad, I just need to take some of your pieces…” Without thinking I responded, “NO! Don’t take any of those pieces!” Ezra looked at me sort of confused and said, “Why?” “Because I’m collecting them…” and then, as if in slow motion, I could hear myself saying what I should have remembered in the first place, “…so you can play with them!”

Still looking confused and now with little fists full of the pieces I had collected Ezra said, “I’m just going to take these.” Of course, this was the game. I’m not here to building my own tower pile of LEGOS. I’m on the floor so that I can play with my son. I’m looking through these pieces so that Ezra can play with them. How had I so quickly lost the bigger story? How is it that we can often lose track of what’s important?

The Bible essentially is a story of God’s ever-expanding movement of goodness, creativity, grace, freedom and love. It begins in a garden, but then moves increasingly outward until we eventually get a new heaven and a new earth. This movement, of course, is repeatedly challenged and resisted by all of us who keep losing the plot. But in return God draws near to us again and again and again.

With this in mind the Biblical story will continually point us back to the larger story, whenever we lose our way. As we get caught up in all kinds of arguments over basically anything you can think of, what is the larger story? As we focus on building our own individual lives of comfort, what is the larger story? As we try harder and harder be in control of the things we cannot control, what is the larger story? As we fail again and again and again, what is the larger story?

As the tower of Babel story reminds us, “The Lord came down…” (Genesis 11:5). Along the way Jacob discovered that, “surely God was in this place, and I didn’t know it.” (Genesis 28:16). And John reminds us that in Jesus “The Word of God became human and made his home among us…” (John 1:14). God is here, inviting us to be carried along by Jesus’ ever-expanding movement of goodness, creativity, beauty, grace and freedom.
JOIN US FOR THE 54TH ANNUAL

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THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS
65 QUAI D’ORSAY

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER
CRAIG CARLSON
Restaurateur & Author
Building a Successful Business in France

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
ADRIAN LEEDS
Real Estate Professional
Finding Your Perfect Paris Home

LISA ANSELMO
Author & Coach
Creating Your Best Life in the City of Light

OLIVER GEE
Host, The Earful Tower
Uncovering the Unexpected in Paris
VBS is Going Green!
By Allison Wheeler

It is my pleasure to announce that Vacation Bible School at the American Church in Paris is changing with the times: our theme for 2019 is “ReNew: The Green VBS!” During this crucial time for the health and well-being of our planet, children attending this year’s VBS will experience “an environmentally-focused VBS program that inspires kids and adults to grow in faith, have fun, and change the world as they practice stewardship of creation.” Children will still get to take part in VBS favorites like singing, games, and crafts, but we will do so with an eye toward teaching, modeling, and equipping children to care for God’s great gift and charge to humanity: the earth and its many growing, swimming, flying, crawling, photosynthesizing, leaping, and slithering inhabitants.

So much of the story of God’s people as revealed in Scripture describes our dependence on God, and God’s provision for His people through the gifts of the natural world. These scriptural images of trees, animals, and flowing streams are woven throughout each activity that the children will participate in. And each day, the children will re-hear and lean deeper into different aspects one of these stories in particular, of the Parable of the Sower.

One of the ways that we will be modeling good creation care at ReNew VBS is by making a responsible use of resources. Therefore, rather than purchasing mostly new materials, we are hoping to keep our activities running through the power of donations. In particular, we are hoping to collect clean glass baby food/yogurt/jam jars, newspapers, old gardening supplies (suitable for use by children), empty egg cartons, and gardening magazines and catalogs. Donations can be left in the reception area on Sundays in a box marked “VBS 2019.”

God loves all of creation, and by God’s love we are in turn called to live our lives in ways that honor the goodness of God’s great gift to us. While VBS may appear to be “all fun and games,” we will be equipping our present and future generation of leaders - our children - to carry on this absolutely essential Christian call.

Vacation Bible School runs from 25-29 August, from 9h-12h each day. You can register your children on our website. We need many volunteers for this important ministry, so if you’re able to lend a hand, please contact Allison Wheeler at childrensworship@acparis.org.

Focus on forgiveness
by TL Valluy

The monthly women's Bible study restarts Sunday 1 September. This year’s theme is Focus on Forgiveness. We will prayerfully study what the Bible says about forgiving and being forgiven. Each month we will discuss Biblical principles, ideas and/or stories and then spend a bit of time in personal reflection, with the goal of growing in Christ.

This class has been scheduled to coincide with the kids’ Bible study, which is for ages 7-12. The nursery will also be available. The women will meet from 12:15 to 13h15 in room F2, which is on the first floor.

All women are welcome—no registration necessary. For more information, contact Teri Lee Valluy at sundaywomensbible@acparis.org. Anyone interested in the kids’ Bible study can contact Allison Wheeler at childrensworship@acparis.org.

Note: the schedule for the year can be found online, at https://acparis.org/acp-groups/womens-ministry-6600/1651-women-s-once-a-month-bible-study

ACP Spire, July/August 2019 7
Docent details

The Tiffany windows

If you’ve ever taken the bateau mouche tour down the Seine, you may have heard the narrator describe the American Church in Paris and mention our Tiffany windows. Our two Tiffany stained glass windows are indeed special; dating from 1901, they are classified as French national monuments, and the only Tiffany windows installed in a church in France.

The two angels were created at the turn of the century in the New York studios of Louis Comfort Tiffany. They were originally installed in our first church building on the rue de Berri in 1901, donated by Rodman Wanamaker of Philadelphia in memory of his wife, Fernanda.

Mr. Wanamaker was a member of our congregation, arriving in Paris in 1889 as resident manager of the Wanamaker department stores. He was a patron of the arts and an investor in early aviation, and is credited with fueling an American demand for French luxury goods. The Wanamaker organ in what is now the Macy’s in Philadelphia is still the largest functioning organ in the world, with over 28,000 pipes.

The Tiffany windows he commissioned and donated to the ACP are installed in the lower level of the nave of the church. The window depicting the angel holding the Bible is called “The Word” and the one of the angel with hands folded is “Contemplation.”

Tiffany revolutionized the art of stained glass, with his bigger palette of colors, and the three-dimensional aspect of his windows. He would mold pâte de verre into the shapes he needed, whether creating raised folds of a robe, or the striation in the angels’ wings. He achieved a deep multi-color effect by gluing three to five panes of glass together, and also painted right on the glass, as one can see in the face, hands, and feet of the two angels in our windows.

All of the beautiful windows in our church tell a story. If you’d like to know more, join a docent tour after the 11th service every Sunday except the first Sunday of the month. Better yet, join our team of docents; if you’d like to learn and share ACP history with our visitors, contact Alison Benney at Spire@acparis.org

Thanks to Fred Gramann for his photos

DOCENT TOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Love history? Proud of the American Church in Paris? Learn and share the history and architecture of our church sanctuary with visitors on one Sunday a month, and lend a hand on the weekend of the Journées du Patrimoine in September. We need you to help welcome neighbors and strangers into the church! Contact Alison at Spire@acparis.org
Perhaps no moment in the history of the American Church stands out more than the day Martin Luther King, Jr. preached here on Oct. 24, 1965. Indeed, his likeness is carved into the pulpit!

Unfortunately, it appears that no one thought to keep a copy of the sermon, or to record it in any fashion. So when we find someone who was actually there, it is a chance to relive that history in a small fashion.

Earlier this year, Pastor Scott Herr mentioned Dr. King’s visit in a conversation with a group of Christian educators, and one of the guests said, “I was there!” That man was Nicolas de Chezelles – one of the pioneers of the Alpha Course in France. Recently, Pastor Scott and I sat down with him to gather a little oral history.

Mr. de Chezelles spoke English, he explained, because he had attended the St. Paul’s School in Concord, New Hampshire. He was there in 1964 when President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. Back in France, aged 17, he learned that Dr. King would be speaking.

“I've forgotten how I heard about the event,” he said. “I had never been to the American Church. But I felt it was the place to be somehow. Normally on a Sunday morning I'd be in my own church.”

A “huge crowd,” standing room only, had gathered, and people were sitting on the steps outside listening to Dr. King over a public address system. “I couldn't even get into the church, it was so crowded. There was so much emotion. It was an honor to be here.”

Pastor Scott estimates, based on reports from the time, that there were about 750 packed into the church, which seats about 550, and many more spilling outside onto the sidewalk.

Dr. King’s sermon was filled with “words of hope, of expectations. For a young man of 17, you are building your expectations. I was so moved by being near that man.”

But, not surprisingly, nearly 54 years later, Mr. de Chezelles cannot recall the precise content of Dr. King’s sermon.

“It wasn't a talk about violence or resistance,” Mr. de Chezelles said. “It was inspirational. He spoke to give hope to people. He mentioned God, but it was also a social talk. It was about people.”

When Dr. King was assassinated, Mr. de Chezelles said he was busy preparing for his university entrance exams, and it took a while for the news to sink in, but that he never forgot the lessons he learned that day.

“At that age, I was a lousy speaker, and I really believe I was cured by the Lord, during a prayer meeting in 1973,” he said. “That has been a gift, a gift inspired by Dr. King, because he had the ability to move mountains through his words. He’s a model to anyone who wants to use his voice to lead people.”

By all accounts, Dr. King's Sunday morning sermon was a hastily arranged affair. He had come to Paris at the invitation of the Fédération protestante de France, to which he spoke that same night at the Maison de la Mutualité. We have the French reports of his discourse there, in which he strongly defended his policy of nonviolence and outlined his plans to begin campaigning against inequality in the northern United States. He avoided talking about the Vietnam quagmire, but indirectly criticized the legacy of colonialism that had helped to create it. The Mutualité speech, Le Monde archly reported, generated “a level of enthusiasm for which we had lost the habit.”

But as for his address to our church, the only coverage of the visit appears to have been in the New York Herald Tribune, where the correspondent Ronald Koven included exactly one sentence from the sermon: “Speaking earlier to an overflow congregation at the American Church in Paris, Dr. King cautioned against Negroes who want to substitute one tyranny for another.” The article itself was buried on an inside page of the next day's paper.

Writing in Jet magazine, the late jazz pianist Art Simmons, who attended that morning service, identified the title of the sermon as, “The New Jerusalem, a City Foursquare.” But he is silent about the content.

I contacted Clayborne Carson, head of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute at Stanford University. Dr. Carson, who gave a Thurber lecture last

Continued next page.../...
year on Dr. King’s legacy as well as speaking at the 50th anniversary of his ACP sermon, said his own research had turned up nothing.

As a last-chance effort to crack the case, I contacted David Garrow, the American historian whose 1986 book, “Bearing the Cross: Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference,” won the Pulitzer Prize for biography.

I explained all that we knew and what we wanted to know. He tried to let me down easy. “Keep in mind that Doc was always on the go,” Mr. Garrow wrote back. And by 1965 he was “speaking probably more than once a day on average, so there are literally hundreds of MLK orations that we don’t have.”

Dr. King regularly repeated himself, he noted, and if one searches the internet for MLK and “The New Jerusalem” it will return thousands of hits dating back to as early as early 1954. Translation: Most likely Dr. King was recycling one of his standard sermons. Out of luck.

That means we should treasure all the more the first-person narratives that we do have. “I realized I’d heard somebody very special,” Mr. de Chezelles said. “A witness to the kingdom, where we should go, how we should be. That inspired me. You know, life is a long journey.

ACP Ministry Fair
Sunday 15 September

While many activities such as Bible studies and fellowship groups will be taking a break in July and August, we encourage you during the summer months to pray and ask God to guide you on how you could be (more) involved and connect with brothers and sisters in Christ, in His kingdom here at ACP, in this city and beyond.

At the rentree, make sure to stick around after church for the annual ACP Ministry Fair on Sunday 15 September. It will inspire and inform, with ideas for how you can use your particular talent, or find a group that taps your interest.

Bible studies, on Sunday and during the week

Building and property
Children’s worship, Christian education,
Communications: Radio show, Spire magazine, website, social media
Community Life: Kitchen team and events organization
Clerical, accounting, human resources
Fellowships: African, Filipino, 30Plus, movies, knitting, writing
Lay care ministry, prayer chain
Missions: Prison ministry, feeding the homeless, refugee (administrative) assistance
Hundred Nights of Welcome sleep-overs (winter)
Music: Choir, contemporary, handbells
Women’s and Men’s ministries
Sunday worship: Welcoming, ushering, reading, communion
Youth & Young Adults ministries
ACP Artist in Residence
Freiman Stoltzfus
by Anna Zweede

In the summer of 1999, a student travelling through Europe and wanting to find temporary housing came to check the ACP notice board. He found an apartment, a language group, friends and — during a longer stay in Paris in 2003 — a choir and a church home. Now an established artist in the United States, Freiman Stoltzfus will be back at the ACP as our Artist in Residence this August and early September.

Freiman is a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, where he currently resides. He studied in New York City at The National Academy and Art Students League, and has travelled extensively in the Middle East as well as Europe where visits to museums and churches in particular inspire his work.

Music is an equally essential element for him in both his life and his art. He sang with the Oratorio Society of New York, is now with the Philadelphia Singers, and is fondly remembered at the ACP for his contribution to the tenor section.

Freiman says, “I believe that art is a vital, regenerative act. It is the nature of God, and it is the nature of love, to create. Since we are made in God’s image, it is also in our nature to create. In my own experience, art breaks down barriers of every kind: religious, psychological, socio-economic, and political. Art clarifies and heals; art confronts and insists on justice.”

During his weeks as Artist in Residence, Freiman plans to offer a workshop, to create a visual diary of daily sketches and watercolors, and have a role in Vacation Bible School. A high point of his time with us will be an event in the sanctuary on Saturday 7 September: “Soundtrack for a Painting.” A number of our own remarkable artists will surround Freiman with music as he creates a painting. Please note the date, and plan to attend what is sure to be a powerful creative experience.

Prayer Chain Team

Do you have a prayer request for our Prayer Team?

If so, please forward your prayer by email to prayerrequests@acparis.org. Your prayer request will remain strictly private and confidential.

Prayer is powerful. We are here for you.

If you would like someone to pray with you after services, a Prayer Team member is available. Meet in the chapel next to the theater after each service.
Summer in the city
by Alison Benney

Feting the maillot jaune
Three weeks, 22 teams, 3,460 kilometers: Cyclists in the 106th edition of the world’s biggest annual sporting event depart from Brussels on Saturday 6 July, and roll up on the Champs-Elysees on Sunday 28 July. Join the thousands of supporters on the sidelines and keep an eye out for the yellow jerseys. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the maillot jaune, and the leader will wear a different jersey each day. The final maillot jaune will sport an image of the Arc de Triomphe.
www.letour.fr or follow on Twitter @letour

Paris plages plus
Sun, sand, and sprinklers are back again this year on the quais along the Right Bank of the Seine, and at the Bassin de La Villette. If you fancy aquatic sports, La Villette’s got La Baignade with its three swimming pools, along with kayaking and paddle boats. On both “beaches,” whether you settle down in deckchairs under parasols or palm trees, play pétanque, or listen to music, it’s all free, and there are plenty of eateries as well. Need reading material? Look for the pop-up libraries.
6 July - 1 Sept, 9h-24h, https://parisinfo.com

Bastille Day, 14 July
The whole city parties for French Independence Day, especially by getting out and dancing at the fire stations on the 13th and 14th. Catch the military parade and jet flyover starting at 10h on the Champs-Elysees, and don’t miss the spectacular fireworks at the Eiffel Tower. The theme this year is “Les federations.” If you want to hear the concert starting at 21h15, grab a space nearby or else tune in to France Inter radio or France 2 TV. Catch the fireworks at 23h from up high on a rooftop, or down low on a bateaux mouche.
During the day, visit some cultural icons for free, like the Louvre, or the Pantheon where the Armée de l’Air will perform the “Petite Symphonie” by Gounod. Or spend the entire day on the roof of the Grande Arche de la Defense, where in the morning you can get a close look at the jets, and in the evening dance to music DJ’ed by Bob Sinclair.
www.parisinfo.com

The silver screen en plein air
Nothing says summer like watching an outdoors movie, and cinema-mad Paris steps up. The top venue is “Cinema en plein air” at Parc de la Villette, where this year’s theme is “Tomorrow.” Highlights include both versions of Blade Runner, Captain Fantastic, Jeremiah Johnson, Lost Horizon, and Chaplin’s Modern Times. Open at 19h, starting at nightfall, from 22 July to 23 August.
https://lavillette.com/programmation
La Chaise et l’écran, from 26 July to 9 August, projects feature films as well as animated and experimental films, and are shown in a number of sites around the 11th arrondissement.
www.mairie11.paris.fr/actualites/
Festival Silhouette focuses on short films, at Parc de la Butte du Chapeau Rouge and the Peniche Cinema, both in the 19e. As this is a festival, from 30 August to 7 September, check the schedule for presentations, debates, and an awards ceremony.
www.association-silhouette.com/festival
What’s up in Paris

Summer event listings
by Karen Albrecht

Mobile numbers
The Picasso Museum’s show juxtaposing 20th century titans Alexander Calder (1898-1976) and Pablo Picasso (1881-1973) demonstrates just how much snap, crackle and pop each of them radiated. Some 120 works highlight their creative use of space and emptiness, underscoring some surprising resonances and many delightful touches of humor, be it Picasso’s bicycle-seat bull’s head with handlebar horns or Calder’s loose-limbed Josephine Baker, brilliantly rendered in coiled steel wire.

Rewriting (pre)history
“Prehistory, a modern enigma” at the Centre Pompidou looks at modern and contemporary artists’ fascination with the notion of prehistory, as displayed in works ranging from Picasso, Miró, and Paul Klee to Josephs Beuys and Louise Bourgeois, and up to the present day. In counterpoint to the artworks, arrowheads, fossils, Paleolithic sculptures, and other artefacts are on loan from Paris’s Natural History Museum, plus an amusing sideline on prehistory as portrayed in popular films such as “Jurassic Park” and “The Quest for Fire.”

Isn’t it Romantic?
The twin show “Paris romantique, 1815-1848” paints a vivid portrait of the French capital between the fall of Napoleon and the 1848 revolution. An immersive exhibit at the Petit Palais recreates a day in early 19th century Paris: courtly life at the Tuileries Palace, shopping in the chic Palais-Royal and the bustling theatrics of the Grands Boulevards. The companion show at newly refurbished Musée de la Vie Romantique offers an intimate glimpse into the period’s literary salons and its rich artistic and musical life.

Class clown
The one-man show “Circus Incognitus” by Quebec-based Californian Jamie Adkins is a magical mix of acrobatics, oddball conjuring tricks and some highly poetic clowning. Adkins pulls a mind-boggling number of ping pong balls from his mouth, juggles atop a high wire, gets up to some loopy antics with a couple of ladders, and even catches fruit lobbed by members of the audience with a fork held between his teeth. The result is touching, funny and easily accessible to all ages and nationalities.
Until 11 August, www.theatre-atelier.com

Groovin’ in the grass
The annual Paris Jazz Festival at the Parc Floral adjoining Bois de Vincennes is one of the best-loved treats of summer in Paris, with afternoon concerts by top international jazz acts you can take in for just the €2.50 price of admission to the botanical gardens. In August the “Classique au vert” festival takes over, and all summer long the Wednesday afternoon “Pestacles” series offers excellent programming specially designed for kids.
Jazz Festival 6-28 July, Classique au Vert 10 August to 1 September, Pestacles until 4 September. www.festivalsduparcfloral.paris

Armchair tourists
The most brilliant thing about “Architect’s Furniture, 1960-2020” is the way its 300 pieces of emphatically modern design sprawl throughout the Cité de l’Architecture et du Patrimoine’s extensive permanent collections of architectural treasures from across the millennia. Whimsical armchairs and crazy-colored couches loll impudently amidst stately Gothic arches, faded frescoes, and classical colonnades, underscoring contrasts, inviting comparisons, and heightening awareness of both old and new.
Until 30 September, citedelarchitecture.fr

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The Movie Discussion Group
19h30, Thursday, 22 August
Salle G2 or, weather permitting, courtyard
This month’s movies to see beforehand:
Midsommar,
Can You Ever Forgive Me?/Les Faussaires de Manhattan,
Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood,
Penguin Highway/Le Mystère des pingouins
Contact: movies@acparis.org

Sunday Worship at the ACP
09h00:
Traditional Service, with weekly communion
11h00:
Traditional Service, with choirs, children’s worship service; communion first Sunday of the month
13h30:
Contemporary Service, with children’s worship service, and live band accompanying sung worship

Serve the City
Are you feeling the urge to help those less fortunate around you, but not sure how? Serve the City Paris meets 5 days a week at Café C familial (75004) at 8h30 to deliver food to the refugees and homeless throughout Paris.
For more information, visit the site www.servethecityparis.com or write to info@servethecity.paris. You will find great opportunities to a part of the Serve the City movement of volunteers, seeking to show compassion and kindness to the most vulnerable in our city.

The American Church in Paris
PRESENTS
Jen STEPHENSON soprano
J. Bradley BAKER piano
Dimanche 1 Septembre 2019 À 17h
Oeuvres de
Robert Schumann, Modeste Moussorgsky,
Reynaldo Hahn, Leonard Bernstein
The Liberation of Paris
by Rebecca Brite

The Liberation of Paris near the end of WWII is an iconic moment in the history of France and its capital, and that is no accident.

True, the Battle for Paris stemmed from a spontaneous uprising on 19 August 1944, but it was also a carefully stage-managed series of events bringing the Resistance and the leaders of the Free French to the forefront. The Allies, who had taken the leading role in D-Day and the Battle of Normandy a short time before, were now relegated to the backdrop.

This month marks the 75th anniversary of those events. As every major anniversary passes, fewer and fewer are alive to recall them. Thus it is fortunate that the city of Paris is taking this opportunity to consolidate many of the physical objects and documents related to the Liberation in the new Musée de la Libération de Paris - Musée du Général-Leclerc - Musée Jean-Moulin.

The triple-barreled name commemorates Philippe Leclerc de Hauteclocque, head of the Free French Second Armored Division (2e DB), and Resistance leader Jean Moulin, who died after being tortured the year before the Liberation.

The museum site serves as a tribute to another Resistance leader, Colonel Henri Rol-Tanguy, head of the French Forces of the Interior, the Resistance armed forces. From his headquarters beneath a former toll house on Place Denfert-Rochereau in the 14th arrondissement, he orchestrated a more or less organized uprising after municipal workers went on strike on 15 August, a movement that culminated in the general strike of 19 August. His command center has been incorporated into the museum, which occupies the toll house and newer buildings behind it.

Under a slightly different name, the predecessor of this museum was formerly located not far away, behind the Montparnasse SNCF station and the Tour Montparnasse. It began life in 1994 as the Musée Jean Moulin and was later expanded to commemorate Leclerc and the Liberation.

The toll house on Place Denfert-Rochereau that will now house its collections and a considerable amount of added material is one of twin pavilions built in classical style in 1787 by the architect Claude-Nicolas Ledoux. The other forms the entrance to the Catacombs.

Both sites are city owned and run. Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo, visiting the Liberation Museum a few weeks before its opening, said she hoped its proximity to the well-known and much-visited Catacombs would draw people who might have missed it in its old location, which was much farther off the beaten path.

The Musée de la Libération de Paris - Musée du Général-Leclerc - Musée Jean-Moulin will be open to the public as of 25 August, 75 years to the day after General Dietrich von Choltitz, the German military governor of Paris who had ultimately turned a deaf ear to Hitler's query “Is Paris burning?”, surrendered to the French. Entry is free.

Among the many special events scheduled for the Liberation anniversary is a parade featuring vintage military vehicles, which starts at the Porte d’Orléans at 15h30 on 25 August and follows the route taken by Leclerc’s 2nd Armored Division to Denfert-Rochereau. Everyone is welcome to join in, and period costume is encouraged. A jazz band will accompany marchers with 1940s music and give a short performance upon arrival. Meet 15 minutes ahead of time at Place du 25 août 1944.

Stamp collectors will want to check out the limited-edition €1.30 international-postage stamp introduced for the anniversary. Canceled first-day covers will be available on the 25th from 14h to 18h30 at Paris Rendez-Vous in the Hôtel de Ville (entrance 29 rue de Rivoli). The stamp goes into general circulation in a run of 600,000 on the 26th and will be withdrawn at the end of August.

And don’t forget the annual concert of songs and readings celebrating the Liberation on the Parvis de l’Hôtel de Ville from 18h30 to 19h45, this year featuring the actor François Vincentelli along with the national choir of the republic (Chœur de l’Armée française) and the Paris police band (La Musique des Gardiens de la Paix). The latter, incidentally, formed its own Resistance unit during the war; the survivors reassembled at the Prefecture on 24 August, 1944, to play the Marseillaise for the first time in public since the Occupation began.

Open Tuesday through Sunday from 10h-18h, 4 ave. du Colonel Rol Tanguy, Place Denfert-Rochereau, 75014. See www.museesleclercmoulin.paris.fr/.
Volunteer for the Breakfast and Sandwich Ministry

The **Breakfast Ministry** takes place on the first two Fridays/Saturdays of each month, with preparation on Friday at 19h, and distribution on Saturday at 8h.

The **Sandwich Ministry** takes place on the last two Fridays/Saturdays of each month, with preparation on Friday at 19h, and distribution on Saturday at 13h.

Contact sandwichministryacp@gmail.com. Get more information at www.acparis.org/homeless-ministry.

Welcome in!

by TL Valluy

Have you ever considered being an usher at one of the church services? Our ACP ushering ministry strives to shine for Christ. As the first contact for those coming to church, ushers endeavor to make people feel not just welcome but also wanted.

Youth usher Max Valluy said he especially appreciates “greeting people at the door because it’s just nice to say hello,” and ACP member Daphne Elfferich said “Ushering brings me much joy.”

Along with welcoming people, ushers also hand out bulletins, light candles, assist with the offering and communion, help people find seats, direct people to areas in the church building, inform others of church programs, provide technical assistance, help keep the sanctuary orderly, and coordinate with ACP security.

Ushering coordinator Delia Esteban said, “Serving in a ministry is a privilege, allowing me to share God’s love, mercy and grace with others.” If ushering sounds like the ministry for you, make sure to attend the Ministry Fair on Sunday, 15 September, and talk to the Worship and Music committee. If you have questions, please email acpworshipandmusic@gmail.com. They’ll be happy to hear from you.
When my mother shared the phrase “bloom where you are planted” with me many years ago, it was meant to encourage me as our family of five made corporate moves with my husband David’s career. Little did either of us know then how impactful that phrase would be to me as an empty-nester many years later.

After traveling to Europe many times and finding ourselves particularly drawn to Paris, David and I decided in 2016 to “seize the day” and, while on a trip to Paris, started making plans to retire there for a time. We became acquainted with the American Church and the Bloom Where You’re Planted event, and ordered a book from an earlier event. We spent the next several weeks pouring over its wealth of information and resources as we began our plans for a March 2018 retirement/move.

Putting down roots can be a challenge when you’re living in a foreign culture, speaking a different language, and struggling to get used to a new city. Every expat has been through it, and that’s why the congregation at the American Church of Paris has been holding out a watering can of assistance to newcomers for over 50 years.

David and I are excited to work with ACP this year helping expats in Paris adapt to the intricacies of Paris life and culture via the Bloom Where You’re Planted Expat Seminar.

Want to thrive not just survive in Paris? Join us 5 October at this year’s Bloom Where You’re Planted event. You can learn more, and register, at bloomparis.org. See you there!

Bloom Where You’re Planted
Saturday, 5 October
by Sherry Finkelstein

Bloom where you’re planted; have a seed to sow;
Try to be a good friend; don’t just rely on those you know;
When you find yourself in trouble, the Lord will see you through;
Bloom where you are planted; let the good life come to you.

– Folksinger Piper Leigh
YAYA 2020

“Another World is Possible // Another World is Here”

For the 2020 season, ACP Youth and Young Adults will read portions of the Prophets along with different selections of art, tapping the genres of Magical Realism, dystopia, science fiction, and horror.

By centering the "already but not yet" kingdom of God next to the poetic imagination of the prophets bearing witness to a world as it really is, as it still can be, and as it will be one day, we will turn to our own world and ask: Is another world possible? Is another world here?

Check out the ACP Library!

Not sure what to read? Here are a few ideas...

And the library’s got lots more! More adult books, books for young kids and youths too, plus DVDs and CDs! So come check it out -- basement level across from the elevator, Sundays before and after the 11th and 13th30 services. God bless!

Books on Christian Living:
- Living the Resurrection by H. Eugene Peterson
- The Wounded Healer by Henri J.M. Nouwen
- The Power of Mentoring by Martin Sanders
- You Can You Will by Joel Osteen
- The Dangerous Act of Loving Your Neighbor by Mark Labberton
- Check Your Heart by TL Valluy

Books on the Church:
- The Light and the Glory by Peter Marshall
- The Return of the Prodigal Son by Henri J.M. Nouwen

Books on Christian Issues:
- Far from Rome, Near to God by Richard Barrath
- What's so Great about Christianity by Dinesh D'Souza

Books on Healing and Recovery:
- I Choose to Forgive by Elaine B. Collard
- A Slave Set Free by Irene Howat
- Sabbath,Finding Rest, Renewal by Wayne Muller Wayne
- A Grace Disguised by Jerry Sittser

Books on Theology:
- The Case for Christ by Lee Strobel
- The Case for Faith by Lee Strobel
- Christ in the Passover by Moiseh Rosern

Devotionals:
- Developing Intimacy with God by Alex B. Aronis
- Too Busy Not to Pray by Bell Hybels
- True Prayer by Kenneth Leach
- Put Your Footsteps Where Your Faith Is by TL Valluy

Further Suggestions:
- Till We Have Faces by C. S. Lewis (Christian fiction)
- Wishful Thinking by Frederick Buechner (examines spiritual language)
- The Road to Daybreak by Henri J.M. Nouwen’s diary
- God’s Smuggler by Brother Andrew (autobiography)

Did you know you can follow the American Church in Paris on social media?

@AmChurchParis  /AmericanChurchParis
Evangelicalism or Red Letter Christianity?

A Thurber Lecture by Dr. Tony Campolo reviewed by Alison Benney

"I tell my friends that I’m nervous every time I get up to speak; Mom would say every time you get up to speak, God gets nervous."

Provocative and outspoken, Dr. Tony Campolo makes a lot of people nervous when he comes to town. His talk at the ACP in June on “American Evangelicalism in the Age of Trump” may have had some church members biting their nails. But he doesn’t just provoke; he follows up with instruction, inspiration, humor, and good sense.

American sociologist, pastor, author, public speaker, and former spiritual advisor to US President Bill Clinton, Dr. Campolo has a lot to say. When he spoke at the ACP in 2016, on welcoming the LGBT community into the church, he emphasized that Christianity is based on Jesus and his Word in the New Testament, the so-called “red letter passages” in the Bible, and the message of love. He defined evangelicalism as originally based on the authority of Scripture, the Apostles' Creed, salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ, that one can have a personal relationship with Jesus by being born again, and that when we come to faith in Jesus our lives are changed so that we care about the people God cares about!

He cited historical Lane Seminary, which produced preachers who argued that one could not support slavery as a Christian. In the 1920s, three-time presidential candidate William Jennings Bryant believed that believers could not read the Sermon on the Mount and come out of it anything but a pacifist, and so resigned as secretary of state when World War One broke out.

Campolo also claimed that the women’s movement in New York in the late 1800s was sparked by the Freeman Methodists, who promoted the biblical argument that “All are one in Christ Jesus.” Evangelicalism has since lost its liberal connotations, he said, and has been co-opted by the conservative rightwing, now identified with Trump and white evangelicals as anti-LGBT, anti-feminist, and anti-abortion. Campolo cited the slogan, “Make America Great Again,” arguing that this appeals only to that conservative cohort, because it harks back to 50 years ago, before the civil rights movement, “when white people had control of the country.”

“I don’t have a problem with the [border] wall,” Campolo said. “What I do have a problem with is that many Latin American people still face big problems that the US has created... We destroyed democratically elected leaders... People are leaving not just for a better job, but because of violence of the drug cartels. When Trump labels immigrants as rapists, murderers, drug pushers, it leads to prejudices that are quite frightening.” He continued, “The bad idea about the wall is posting 35,000 national guards to keep people out of the country, rather than hiring more people to actually process immigrants and refugees.”

He stated that there is more freedom today to be racist, citing Trump’s query about Haiti and African immigrants: “Why do we want these people from all these sh**hole countries here? We should have more people from places like Norway.”

In order to get away from the negative connotations of evangelicalism and return to the real fundamentals of the Christian message, Campolo teamed up with Sojourners’ Jim Wallis to create the Red Letter Christianity movement. They believe Christians should be paying attention to Jesus’ words and example by promoting biblical values such as peace, building strong families, the elimination of poverty, and other important social justice issues.

How do we move forward? The key, Campolo said, is genuine dialogue. He explained that in discussions with his wife Peggy, “I always start with these words: ‘Here’s my position. I could be wrong.’ And I expect the same thing.” Unless both parties agree that they could be wrong, that “I’m open to what you have to say,” he explained, “you end up preaching at each other” instead of engaging in dialogue.

Listen to the full discussion on the ACP website: www.acparis.org/prayer-learning-54533/thurber-lecture-archives
Eleven years ago, I left San Francisco to relocate to Paris. People often ask me if I would go back and if not, why. Here, in no particular order, are 20 reasons why I love my life in Paris.

1. **Le Metro**: I haven’t driven in 11 years and I don’t miss it. With the metro, you can cross town quickly and never worry about parking. If I avoid peak commute times, I can usually get a seat on a *strapotin*. There are occasional strikes, but not all trains are taken out of service anymore.

2. **Cafés**: What a simple pleasure to go to a café. Everyone is free to sit and watch the world go by, to drink an *espresso* and read *Le Monde*, to discuss and debate with your neighbor, to flirt and engage with those around you. One is never alone in a café and yet one can be reclusive, lost in thought.

3. **Museums**: From the Louvre to the d’Orsay to the Cluny to the Jacquemart André, and numerous others, I can never get tired of Paris’ amazing wealth of art and cultural heritage.

4. **Public Gardens**: Whenever I need a moment to escape the urban environment and enjoy a moment in greenspace, there are many public gardens and small squares throughout town. I’m lucky to live between the Esplanade des Invalides and the Champs de Mars, but I also like to go to the Jardin du Luxembourg and the Parc Monceau.

5. **Flâner**: Aside from Montmartre, Paris is relatively flat with sweeping boulevards, cobblestone streets, and pedestrian-only zones, all of which make it easy for me to *flaner*, quite literally, to walk around with no set destination in mind.

6. **Reading**: With great authors, literary awards, and bookstores, the French appreciate reading and so do I; it’s great to see people with a book or newspaper everywhere - in the metro, in cafes, in the public gardens, etc.

7. **Art of conversation**: The French love to talk, and it’s fun to listen. I enjoy being part of debates that are often argued for the sake of the banter.

8. **Charm**: Although we are in the post #MeToo era, men and women still interact with each other with a sense of charm and flirtation. It is flattering and harmless, and just brings a smile to my face. I love to see couples in their 70s and 80s who still hold hands and flirt with each other.

9. **Fragrance**: I work in the industry and must say the French have elevated fragrance into a work of art. It begins with the cultivation of ingredients and moves to the craftsmanship of bottles and package design, ending with the pleasure of receiving a compliment on the scent you’re wearing.
The top 20 reasons why I love Paris

10. Bises: The double-cheek kiss greeting is a nice little formality bringing a sense of intimacy among friends, kind of the same way a toast does before drinking.

11. Cheese: Comté, Roquefort, Morbier, Reblochon... I haven’t met a cheese I didn’t like. And of course crusty baguettes are de rigeur.

12. Wine: To accompany the cheese, bien sûr. In Paris one is never far from a petit bar à vin or a soirée de degustation to learn, compare, and taste.

13. Summer and winter nights: Summer evenings in Paris stay light until 22h, meaning that after work, there are still a few hours of daylight to enjoy. This changes drastically in the winter when the sun goes down mid-afternoon, but the city’s illuminations make up for it, especially during the Christmas season.

14. Architecture: With the city’s 19th century Haussmanian buildings, Gothic cathedrals, Baroque facades, Renaissance courtyards, and Art Nouveau metro stations, just walking down the street can be a visual delight.

15. Châteaux and hôtels particuliers: Within and around Paris, I can explore historic castles, as well as private mansions such as the Musée Nissim de Camondo in Paris.

16. Assurance Maladie or “Sécu”: With French social security, I keep in good health physically and financially, as an average of 50% of doctor visits and most medical prescriptions are covered.

17. Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité, Laïcité: The official motto of France is similar to the US version. I feel a true sense of fraternity/solidarity among citizens, manifested by the substantial social charges we all pay into and from which we all benefit.

18. Petits commerçants: Thanks to the many small businesses in every neighborhood, friendly merchants sometimes throw in my bag an extra piece of fruit or deli item, and once, a free bottle of Champagne at Christmas.

19. Location: Travel from Paris is so easy. In 2 or 3 hours, for instance, I can be shopping in a Moroccan souk, skiing in the Alps, or riding a gondola in Venice.

20. Mentality: Although I may never fully understand them, the French have a guilt-free way of looking at life that is easy to adopt. Eat a piece of chocolate, have a glass of wine: enjoy the pleasures of life.

Former San Francisco resident Karen Marin moved to Paris in 2008 for work as part of the LVMH luxury group. She is a fragrance and beauty industry insider and writer, launching her first children’s book (about her cat), Cleopatra Moves to Paris, in 2020.
Take a step back into 1815 Paris. The post-Napoleonic era leading up to the revolution of 1848 is probably one of France’s most turbulent times politically, although culturally, writers, artists, composers and craftsmen flourished amid the chaos. The Petit Palais has dedicated a major exhibit to these years with Paris Romantique, an immersive show that allows us to flaner, or roam the city’s quartiers and hangouts, to get a sense of daily life while providing insight into the events that caused the unrest during this “romantic” period.

Created as a promenade through the capital, we move from the Palais des Tuileries, to the Palais Royal before crossing the river to the Bohemian Latin Quarter. Our journey continues with a stop in the artsy Nouvelles Athènes district before ending on the fun-loving Grands Boulevards. This massive exhibit has pulled together over 600 pieces of art, sculpture, fashion, furniture, and objets d’art, and has been made possible by generous loans from the Musée Carnavalet, the Palais Galliera and the Musée des Arts Décoratifs.

Take a step back in time in the stunning recreation of the Palais Royal covered arcades which allows us to wander from boutique to boutique and to peer into shop windows offering fans, hats, walking sticks, shoes, waistcoats and more. Garments from the period are beautifully showcased in large vitrines to give a glimpse of the fashion of the day both for men and women.

Equally impressive is the mise en scene of the Salon au Louvre, the annual government sponsored juried exhibition of new paintings and sculpture. Typically, paintings were densely displayed from floor to ceiling with almost no space in between. The Salon was an essential launch pad where famous painters such as Delacroix and Gericault debuted their work such as the former’s Christ in the Olive Garden, prominently positioned in the center of the main wall.

Literature also flourished during this era. Honoré de Balzac penned a rich series on French society known as La Comédie Humaine,

George Sand was truly a pioneer in feminist literature and Victor Hugo wrote Notre Dame de Paris. The popular novel created a surge of interest in the cathedral, which led to its restoration after years of neglect. Original editions are on display along with engravings and illustrations. In fact, an entire room is dedicated to Notre Dame which has been a source of inspiration for artists, musicians and even opera librettists. A fantastic gold clock replica of the cathedral is a must-see piece. (Note, the exhibit was planned long before the tragic fire in April of this year.)

The rest of the exhibit takes us through the quartiers known for leisure and entertainment. Students and struggling artists enjoyed balls, costume parties and carnivals in the Quartier Latin, while across town the bourgeois favored the theaters, music halls and cafes of the Grands Boulevards. Paintings, engravings, letters, and music scores animate each room. The key composers and actors of the day come to life in a series of marble busts, but the pièce de résistance is the Pleyel piano, Frédéric Chopin’s favorite model, surrounded by portraits of his contemporaries composer Franz Liszt, artist Ary Scheffer and writer George Sand, who had been his lover.

An entire room is dedicated to the complicated historical context which focuses on 4 major moments: The Restauration post-Napoleon, the revolution of 1830, the July Monarchy and the revolution of 1848. In addition to paintings, posters and sarcastic caricatures, interactive terminals help piece together the events and the key players of the time.

If this promenade in the past has piqued your interest further, head across town to the Musée de la Vie Romantique for a complementary exhibit focused on the literary and high society salons of the time. Located in the Nouvelle Athènes district of the 9th arrondissement, this charming museum was once the home of author George Sand and painter Ary Scheffer.

Romance in a time of chaos
by Karen Marin

George Sand

Petit Palais
Paris Romantique, 1815 – 1848
Through 15 September, ave Winston-Churchill, 75008

Musée de la vie romantique
Paris Romantique, 1815 – 1848 Les salons littéraires
Through 15 September, 16 Rue Chaptal, 75009
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Events and Monthly Meetings and Concerts</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>August</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Adult Fellowship</strong>&lt;br&gt;Singles &amp; pairs, join our fellowship every first Friday of the month in a lounge café setting, sharing testimonies, talking about the highs &amp; lows of your life w/brothers &amp; sisters in Christ.</td>
<td>Date to be determined</td>
<td>Time TBD: email contact for details</td>
<td>Daphne 30plusfellowship @acparis.org</td>
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<td><strong>Friday Mission Lunch (volunteers needed)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Every Friday a hot, nutritious meal is prepared for the homeless and needy. ACP is responsible for the meal on the second Friday of each month, but we are grateful for help with cooking, serving, and cleaning up every Friday.</td>
<td>Friday 9 August</td>
<td>10h-14h</td>
<td>The American Cathedral</td>
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<td><strong>Assumption of Mary Day / Fête de l’Assomption</strong>&lt;br&gt;Church building closed for public holiday.</td>
<td>Thursday 15 August</td>
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<td><strong>Movie Discussion Group</strong>&lt;br&gt;Movie selection:&lt;br&gt;Midsommar, Can You Ever Forgive Me?/Les Faussaires de Manhattan, Once Upon a Time… in Hollywood, Penguin Highway/Le Mystère des pingouins&lt;br&gt;See any or all at your leisure; join the group for discussion.</td>
<td>Thursday 22 August</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td>Room G2 or the Courtyard</td>
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<td><strong>ACP Vacation Bible School - ReNew</strong>&lt;br&gt;In this environmentally-focused VBS, children ages 3-10 will be inspired to grow in faith, have fun, and change the world as they practice stewardship of creation!&lt;br&gt;More information and registration at acparis.org/vbs</td>
<td>Week Monday 26-Thursday 29 August</td>
<td>9h-12h</td>
<td>childrensworship @acparis.org</td>
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<tr>
<th>September highlights</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ACP Rentrée Café</strong>&lt;br&gt;Come hear live music by Still Point and friends in ACP's Courtyard.&lt;br&gt;Dinner and drinks available for purchase. Free entry.</td>
<td>Friday 6 Sept</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td>The Courtyard</td>
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<td><strong>Soundtrack for a Painting - Freiman Stoltzfus</strong>&lt;br&gt;our artist in residence, will create a painting while surrounded by 11 ACP musicians performing works by Wagner, Chopin, and others. A reception will follow. Admission is free with a free-will offering.</td>
<td>Saturday 7 Sept</td>
<td>20h</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
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<td><strong>Ministry Fair - ACP Council committees and other groups will showcase their projects and activities to welcome new members and participants to join in the fun of being a part of the greater ACP community.</strong></td>
<td>Sunday 15 Sept</td>
<td>Following 11h &amp; 13h30 services</td>
<td>communitylife @acparis.org</td>
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<td><strong>Thurber Conversation - Brian McLaren</strong>&lt;br&gt;Brian is an author, speaker, activist, public theologian, and passionate advocate for “a new kind of Christianity” – just, generous, and working with people of all faiths for the common good. More at brianmclaren.net</td>
<td>Tuesday 17 Sept</td>
<td>19h meal; 19h45 program</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
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<td><strong>Alpha Course launch party - The Alpha Course is an opportunity to explore the meaning of life, ask questions and learn more about the basics of the Christian faith in a relaxed, informal and friendly environment. This 10-week course is free and open to everyone, and kicks off with a launch party.</strong></td>
<td>Thursday 19 Sept</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
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ACP Spire, July/August 2019
Join the adventure

Free Launch Party
19 September 2019
at 19h30

Alpha.org
#TryAlpha
alpha@acparis.org

www.acparis.org