The Spire
The Beacon on the Seine

June 2012
Thoughts from
Rev. Dr. Scott Herr
Senior Pastor

Dear Friends and Members of the ACP,

I bring you warm (and humid!) greetings from Florida where I have enjoyed the annual meetings of the American Foreign Christian Union (AFCU). The AFCU is made up of alumni from the ACP and our sister churches in Berlin and Vienna. It was humbling to meet again with these committed friends who support our ministry and mission with their prayers and financial support. They also provide accountability for my leadership as well as the use of annual stewardship gifts we receive through the AFCU and the capital campaign funds associated with Faith Into Action. Next year we will host the AFCU annual meetings and celebrate the successful completion of the Faith Into Action campaign. Although it was fun to be in the U.S.A. and to enjoy the great hospitality and fellowship with our AFCU friends, as I write this in the Orlando airport, I am eager to get home to Paris. I’m looking forward to worshipping together in the coming weeks. Pentecost Sunday is followed by the celebration of Trinity Sunday. We are honored to have Enuma Okoro preaching on Trinity Sunday and celebrating communion with us at all three services. The weekend will begin with two retreats, one a women’s retreat led by Enuma and another contemplative retreat at the Benedictine Monastery in Fleury, where St. Benedict’s bones are kept. I think of the wonderful diversity of people as I look around the airport, but I am always amazed at the miracle of how the Spirit brings similar diversity into unified worship at the ACP!

One of the important manifestations of the Holy Spirit is how those first disciples spoke in different languages, and how those who were gathered from different countries were able to hear the good news in their own languages. It was the Spirit who gave birth to the early church, translating the good news of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus into the linguistic and cultural paradigms of people from around the known world. The Spirit is still at work, bringing a mysterious union out of the diversity (and sometimes hostility!) of all God’s children. Just think: On Trinity Sunday, Enuma will be speaking from her experience as a Nigerian American “reluctant pilgrim” to us women and men from dozens of different nationalities and denominational backgrounds. We come from and recognize the value of different traditions. We worship in traditional and contemporary forms of praise on Trinity Sunday, even while some of us are gathered in a Roman Catholic monastery experiencing the gift of silence and more contemplative forms of prayer and praise. Like the communal nature of God’s being, we who are many, are one in Christ. We who are bound in the love of Jesus are also sent to give ourselves like he gave himself for us.

We are truly a Pentecostal (or Spirit-filled) community. The language of Spirit-filled worship means different things to different people, of course. For some it involves glossolalia, or “speaking in tongues.” For others it involves a dramatic sense of emotional and psychological freedom from the power of guilt and shame, of sin and death. As a pastor I am more interested in the transformation that the Holy Spirit brings to our daily lives. Terry Fulham once said, “For Christians, the question is not, ‘Do you have the Holy Spirit?’ but rather, ‘How much of you does the Holy Spirit have?’” Perhaps we might measure the fullness of the Spirit in our lives by “the more excellent way” described in I Corinthians 13? Or by the evidence of the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5? Or by the different gifts described in Romans 12 or I Corinthians 12 or Ephesians 4? Perhaps we should consider how we are living out what the Lord requires in Micah 6:8? Or by Jesus’ summary of the law (loving God, our neighbors and enemies)?

As we move forward together through the season of Pentecost, consider different expressions of the Holy Spirit. You may be surprised to see the Spirit’s work through our new artist in residence, Laura Moore, who will be joining us for a number of weeks beginning 15 June. Or the compassion and love that overflows during the Friday Mission lunch service.

Whether in quiet and private ways, or in more expressive and public ways, I pray the Holy Spirit will fill more of us all with the faith, hope and love of God,

In Christ,

Scott
Trinity Sunday... initiates another full month of special worship services. On 3 June, we will have the honor of hearing Enuma Okoro, theologian in residence, preach. The Lord’s Supper will be served in all three worship services, and we will reflect on God revealed in three persons. Read what Jesus said in Matthew 28:18-20. Notice Jesus says: In the NAME, not names, of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Listen carefully to the benediction on Sunday and you will hear the same: In the NAME of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit ... The Trinity is not a theological invention. It comes from Jesus himself, developed through Scripture.

During the 13h30 worship service, on 10 June, we will recognize and congratulate high school seniors graduating this spring. It will also be the last day for this year for the choirs (both bell and voice). It has been an honor and delight listening to these talented musicians under the leadership of Fred Gramann. Their skills have enhanced our worship of the Triune God. May this summer break be a time for them to fully enjoy worship as participants.

Father’s Day is 17 June. We will honor all fathers, grandfathers and great-grandfathers. Invite your husband, father, grandfather, if they are in France, to attend worship with you. It is also the last Sunday of the Youth Program. Some of the high school age youth will be leaving for Gabon, Africa at the end of the month.

Guest choirs will be singing in the 11h00 worship service 17 June and 24 June, which is also the last Sunday of the year for the Children’s and Youth Worship. A big thank you to all the volunteer teachers who made worshiping and learning about Jesus so much fun. Their lives have reflected the love of Jesus of which the teachers taught.

Additionally, June ends this ACP Council’s term and the start of the newly elected or re-elected members’ service as this vital group of leaders, elected by church members, in supervising all ministries of this church. It has been a delight serving on the Council, ex-officio as a staff person, even for just five months. I have enjoyed working alongside Lori Kolodziejczak, vice-chair of the Christian Education Committee, who has functioned as chair since Sharon Hermanson left, and with Camilla Macfarlane, chair of Community Life. Both will continue on Council in 2012-13. It has been a joy working with Kristie Worrel, chair of Mission Outreach, who will complete her term in June. It has been a privilege serving with François Pierre, chair of the Associate Pastor Search Committee, and with the dedicated members of this committee. I am grateful for all the Saturday mornings and recent weekends given in finding the person whom they believe God is calling as the next Associate Pastor.

May the Holy Spirit continue filling, empowering and leading us throughout June, and may we gain a fresh understanding and appreciation of God who is revealed in Three Persons.

In the Name and Power of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

Glen Thorp

P.S. The French Tennis Open has started. When I arrived with my arm in a sling, my goal was to be able to hit an overhead shot with a tennis racket by that tournament. I’m almost there!
Sunday, 17 June is celebrated as Father’s Day in the United States and France. I would like to share a bit of my life with you this month, especially as it relates to my father. Many of you had the opportunity to meet him, as he and my mother spent 12 days here at ACP visiting Lauretta and me.

As I reflect back and process my upbringing and the impact my dad had on me, perhaps you will be encouraged to do the same. Perhaps your father has passed away, but you can take some time to remember back. Perhaps he is still with you and this Father’s Day might be a bit different for having taken some time to look back with a new and fresh perspective. Perhaps you never knew your father, but have come to a loving understanding and relationship with your heavenly father.

I don't know your story, but I hope that mine can speak to all sons (and daughters) out there. It is not an extraordinary story. But that’s the point. It is a very common story, perhaps much like yours, but it is my story, which I embrace and now share.

My father, Gary Haugh, was raised in Lexington, Massachusetts (birth place of the American Revolution). His ancestry and parents were Norwegian, making him of course Norwegian. Besides skiing, Norwegians are known for a bit of stoicism, hard work, conservative lifestyle and beliefs, and a love for boats.

Gifted with a brilliant mind, he enveloped himself into philosophy, from the ancients to the contemporaries of his time (who turned out to be the founders of postmodern thought). I am sure like most of us, during his early high school years, his curiosity got the best of him at times and he wandered from the faith tradition he was raised in. But Jesus had a plan and my father followed it by his late teens and early twenties. He went to the University of Maine for undergrad and then attended Trinity Evangelical Divinity Seminary for his masters. Called toward a deeper pursuit of truth and knowledge and with a desire to serve students, he volunteered as a youth leader at Grace Chapel in Lexington where he met and fell in love with my mom. They got married and moved out to Indiana where he attended the University of Notre Dame (Go Irish!), working towards his PhD in Philosophy and Christian thought.

Now here is where the story turns. Guess who suddenly came on the scene? Yours Truly. The first big decision my father had to make, and for which I will always be grateful and inspired by, was a choice between his personal and professional future or his young family and new son. He chose the latter. He choose our future and not his own.

Forgoing to finish his studies, my dad and mom moved back home to Massachusetts to have me. And later, we moved to New Hampshire. All the while, my dad worked two jobs to provide for our family. I never thanked my Dad back then because I was young and selfish and never understood the tremendous sacrifice he made for his family. And yet despite putting in all those hours (and I am sure stressing over finances), my sister and I never once had a need.

Church and ministry was always a priority and so was spending time with his two children. My dad never missed one of my baseball games, and we made sure to take family vacations. I have learned that is not about what you do or where you go, but about how you make the most of every opportunity.
One more note to share. While we were still in Massachusetts, we switched churches. At this new church, there was no youth group. They could not afford a youth pastor and so my dad volunteered to lead the youth group. There were probably 3-4 guys in total, but my dad gave up one evening a week to come to the church. There was no budget I am sure, but on the way to church we would stop by the grocery store to pick up some chips and soda out of his own pocket.

I really don't remember any particular lesson, but I do remember my dad being there and that I made friends and learned about God's love and plan for my life. That stuck with me over the years and though I strayed from the faith for some time, I was well rooted and established and eventually came back to the youth group and to Jesus. My dad was no youth ministry expert and I am sure it was a challenge to take his higher level advanced thinking about the faith and bring it down to a level 8-14 year old boys could grasp. But my dad was present to us and he was always present to me. His presence made God's presence seem real and tangible. God used my father in bigger ways than even he could have imagined. Twenty+ years later his son (me) is a youth pastor serving in Paris.

I am also blessed because my father is still with me and hopefully will be for years. Our relationship has grown and developed into a true friendship. He was my best man in my wedding four years go. When I went through a very difficult personal and spiritual time a number of years back, my dad was there for me. He was there to listen, to cry, and to pray. When I was ordained as a pastor, my father was there to support and celebrate. And when the Red Sox finally won the World Series, my father was the first person I called.

For Father's Day, tools are a common gift. Most guys like tools (regardless if they even know how to use them!). A few years back my dad gave me a great little book called *10 Things I Want My Son to Know: Getting Him Ready for Life*, by Steve Chapman. There is a great poem inside that I wanted to share as it relates to the "tools" of fatherhood.

"Tools for the Trade"

If you are a father, you are a builder
And your children will become what you've made
Please do your best, and please don't forget
God gave you the tools for the trade
He gave you eyes to see where your child might go wrong
And feet to lead them safely through
Hands to hold their hands
And lips to say, "I love you"
He gave you arms to hold them when they are afraid
Time to wait until they're calm
Ears to hear between their lines
Tears to cry when they're gone
And your knees are for playing
And they're also for praying
That God will watch over the child
And in those times you can't say it
But they still need to hear it
You can say, "I love you" with your smile
If you are a father, you are a builder
And your children will become what you've made
Please don't forget that you can do your best
Members and Friends of ACP,

Grace and peace to you during this time of Pentecost - the Birthday of the Church, and a time of celebration.

One of the most wonderful characteristics of our Church is the rich blend of spiritual and cultural backgrounds within our community. In many ways, our Church Council is a living example of this diversity. It is fitting then that we met as a congregation on Pentecost Sunday to elect our Council leaders for next year.

The June Council meeting, scheduled for the 19th, marks the end of our ACP Council year, and our newly elected Council will begin its term at the conclusion of the meeting. I am thankful to have been able to serve as Moderator this past year, it has been one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life.

At the same time, I am excited for Rad Laney and Pam Bohl as they assume the duties of Moderator and Vice Moderator. They will be supported by a wonderful team, and I am confident that we will continue to grow as a church family under their faithful leadership.

As with every transition, there will be many new opportunities and openings for individuals to contribute to our ministry activities. I encourage you to take advantage of the season and to explore how the Holy Spirit is at work within you.

In Christ,
Mark Primmer
ACP Moderator
Introducing our Associate Pastor Candidate

Michelle Wahila

Come hear and meet Michelle Wahila, 17 June
Michelle will be preaching on this Sunday at the 9h00, 11h00 and 13h30 services

Come to the Congregational Meeting 24 June,
for approval of AP Search Committee’s Recommendation
at 12h30 in the Theatre between the 11h00 and 13h30 services

Michelle Wahila was born and raised in Endicott, New York, near Binghamton. She was graduated with honors from Grove City College in 2002 and received her Master’s of Divinity from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in May 2005. She was awarded the Sylvester S. Marvin fellowship, honoring the Senior with the highest standard of achievement in all departments of Seminary curriculum, as voted by the faculty. Michelle was ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA) in November 2005. She is a member of the Pittsburgh Presbytery.

Michelle has served as the Associate Pastor of Third Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, PA, since 2005, and as their Director of Christian Education (2003 – 2005). Her ministry responsibilities included Christian Education, congregational life, young adult ministry, and serving as the pastor to the Presbyterian Women. She helped the congregation develop a hands-on mission program that sought to engage congregational participants in mission locally, nationally and internationally. She has led the congregation in unique intergenerational Lenten programming, which most recently took the shape of an art installation, “Labyrinth: Stations of the Spiritual Life.” Leading worship, providing pastoral care, overseeing the Board of Deacons, and working closely with her colleagues in ministry were essential aspects of Michelle’s ministry at Third Church.

Michelle was elected to the Board of Directors of Haiti Fund, Inc. in 2007 and also served as the corporate secretary. Currently, she serves on the Board of Directors of the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and is involved in both the education and student life committees.

Michelle previously served the First Presbyterian Church, Allentown, PA as the Interim Director of Youth Ministry. She also served the congregations of Union Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church in her hometown of Endicott, NY.

Michelle is married to Kevin, who works as an electrical engineer. They are the proud parents of two boys, Connor, 3, and Marcello, 9 months. Michelle enjoys long distance running and gardening, while Kevin’s hobbies include cycling and cooking. Together the family enjoys spending time outdoors, visiting the zoo, traveling and sharing meals together.
## Our New Slate of Council Representatives for 2012-2013

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>Moderator</td>
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<td>Vice Moderator</td>
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<td>Treasurer/Finance Stewardship Chair</td>
<td>Stanley Marcello Lisbonis</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Christian Education Chair</td>
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<td>Vice-Chair</td>
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<td>Development and Property Chair</td>
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<td>Worship &amp; Music Chair</td>
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<td>Mission Outreach Chair</td>
<td>Carolyn Bouazouni</td>
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<td>Mission Outreach Vice-Chair</td>
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<td>Chad DuBose</td>
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- **Radford Laney**: Moderator
- **Pam Bohl**: Vice Moderator
- **Stanley Marcello Lisbonis**: Treasurer/Finance Stewardship Chair
- **Pierre Lisbonis**: Human Resources Chair
- **Bettina Chehab**: Secretary
- **Paul Grayson**: Assistant Secretary
- **Anne Speicher**: Christian Education Chair
- **Lori Kolodziejczak**: Christian Education Vice-Chair
- **Alison Benney**: Communications Chair
- **John Newman**: Communications Co-Chair
- **Camilla Macfarlane**: Community Life Chair
- **Nathaniel Akujuobi**: Community Life Vice-Chair
- **William Johnston**: Development and Property Chair
- **Eric Sadoux**: Development and Property
- **Megan Staley**: Finance & Stewardship
- **Pascal Berger**: Human Resources Vice-Chair
- **Carolyn Bouazouni**: Mission Outreach Chair
- **Ann Mildred Gontard**: Mission Outreach Vice-Chair
- **Anna Zweede**: Worship & Music Chair
- **Chad DuBose**: Worship & Music Vice-Chair
Community Life
Camilla Macfarlane and Nathaniel Akujuobi

The ACP Lay Care Giving Team

This new team of Lay Care Givers was commissioned 13 May and is led by Pascale Deforge and Yoshiko Okubo, along with the direction of Pastor Glen Thorp. The people that have been called to this special ministry have been interviewed and trained, so when they come along side people in times of transition, confusion, pain, fear, loneliness and celebration, they will know that they go in the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.

As the Lay Care Giver travels along side of the person in transition, they are God’s arms, ears and voice demonstrating that the person is not alone. They are with him/her, and so is God. Keep in your prayers that the Holy Spirit gives the Lay Care-Givers compassion and wisdom for this special ministry, for which they have been called.

The Lay Care Giving Team

Leaders: Associate Pastor, Pascale Deforge, Yoshiko Okubo
Care Givers: Nathanael Akujuobi, Pam Bohl, Thelma Fuchs, Daniel Grout, Marie Grout, Judith Huart, MaryClaire King, Kerry Lieury, Camilla Macfarlane, Francois Pierre, and Nisryn Rassouq

If you would like to know more about this team, please contact Pascale Deforge or Yoshiko Okubo at laycaregivers@acparis.org

Coming up!! A 4th of July Party!

Wednesday, 4 July will be an All—Church picnic, with fun and games!
Please contact Camilla Macfarlane at communitlylife@acparis.org if you would like to be part of this planning committee!

We would like to thank all the people and Fellowships at ACP that contribute their time and talents. It goes a long way in making ACP a thriving community!
Christian Education
Lori Kolodziejczak

June Thurber Thursday Lectures
Dinners will be served for a 5 € donation at 18h30 and the talks will begin at 19h30. All are welcome to attend!

Enuma Okoro - 7 June
The Call to Prayer: How, Why and for What We Pray

Peter Bannister - 14 June
The return of Spirit?
Christian theology and contemporary consciousness research
Drawing on the ongoing series of faith-science dialogues sponsored by the Templeton Foundation at the ACP, Peter Bannister will be outlining some surprising ways in which contemporary scientific research - particularly in the area of consciousness studies - is challenging materialist reductionism and presenting exciting new opportunities for Christian theological reflection to enter into constructive dialogue with science around the concept of Spirit, human and Divine.

Laura Moore - 21 June
Artist in Residence
Laura Moore will be with us for about a month, doing a piece of art for the church, as well as a labyrinth prayer walk for missions. More to be announced on this event, which will be our last Thurber Thursday event schedule until the fall!

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Children's Worship
Vacation Bible School Needs You!
Do you love to organize troops? Make crafts? Sing songs? Play music? Laugh with kids? Then we need your talents for this summer's "Earth-friendly" themed bible camp, taking place 27-31 August. If you feel called to fulfill a much-needed coordinator or other volunteer role, please contact Lori Kolodziejczak for more information.

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Library News!
Open every Sunday from 10h15 - 15h30
Books, CDs, DVDs and more, for all ages!
There is a three-week borrowing period for most materials and one time renewals (except for DVDs).
Come visit and meet our friendly and helpful staff!
Suggested membership donation: 5 € per year
Overdue fines: only 1 € per week
Property and Development
Daniel Grout and Bill Johnston

Friday Mission Lunch
We have set up two cupboards in the garage to allow the Friday Mission Lunch to store their goods next to the dumbwaiter.

Windows in Classroom Doors
We are waiting for estimates to add windows, similar to the one in the associate pastor door, in all the classroom doors, to fit with the new security policy of the church.

Attic
The attic has been completely cleared of all goods, and we are looking at all proposals for the work to be done this summer.

EMERGING/ FUTURE PROJECTS
Spire
A visit has been organized for a company to study the different steps in the future renovation of the spire. A second meeting will be necessary to evaluate all the work, including the water pipes along the sanctuary building. New ladders will be installed in the tower and the communion room to comply with the security regulations and allow the future workers to get to the top of tower.

Sound System
We have received the final offer to adapt our sanctuary sound system. We will be discussing this issue in much detail with the executive committee.

Nominating Committee
Thelma Fuchs and Christopher Wobo

Announcing Our New Associate Pastor Candidate
Michelle Wahila
Please see further information on her introduction on 17 June!

Our new Nominating Committee 2012-2013
Chair   Ursula Perrier
Vice-Chair Jonathan Wheeler
Members
Marie Grout  Victor Mreana
Tom Johnson  Nancy Mungai
Marie-Laure Lauverjat
**Communications**  
*John Newman and Alison Benney*

**Activity Update**  
Jody Smith, the ACP Communications Coordinator, left in early April and her work has been taken over by John Newman on the website and calendar maintenance and Felicia Henderson on the eTapestry database.

**Social Media**  
Pastor Dan is pushing this ministry forward, with great results. As of 6 April: we had 57 members in our "closed" ACP Youth Facebook group, 122 members in our ACP Young Adult Facebook group, 29 Followers on Twitter with 82 official "tweets" since launch. Facebook stats: Total Likes: 191 Friends of Fans: 81,413 People Talking About This: 20 Weekly Total Reach: 1,024!

**Website**  
Videos of the Lenten Lecture series with Keith Ward have been posted online, at [http://www.acparis.org/lentenlectures2012](http://www.acparis.org/lentenlectures2012)

**ACP Today Radio**  
Shows are posted on the website, including an interview by Peter Bannister with Cynthia Bourgeault.

**ACP Brochures**  
A template for standard ACP brochures as been made along with an instruction sheet for committees who would like to create their own, with help from Amy Johnson. ACP groups should prepare their materials and send it to the Communications Committee, who will proof and forward it to her to finish.

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**Mission Outreach**  
*Kristie Worrel and Anne Mildred*

**Upcoming Mission Trips**

**July 8-22** Pastor Dan and a team of ten, from the Youth Group (15-18 yrs.) will be traveling to Gabon to do mission work there with the organization *Envision*.

**July-August** *Habitat for Humanity* will be leading a second team back to Cluj, Romania to continue work on the home being built there for a family in need.
Parents, how do we prioritize the needs of our children? Shelter, food? Food, shelter, care? What about education? Most people in the developed world are blessed to be able to provide these basic needs, though sometimes sacrifices must be made in other areas. Not so in Uganda.

Uganda has free and compulsory primary education for all children. The buildings are mostly there, offering protection from the equatorial sun, if not always from the buckets of rain. Teachers have been trained and, like in many other places, they are an idealistic, dedicated lot. Low pay, late paychecks and responsibility for an average of 70 children per class don’t seem to deter the best of them.

But in order to send a child to a government school, parents must pay for a school uniform and for the two bowls of porridge served each day. They must buy shoes and socks for their child, as well as notebooks, pencils and pens, a broom and, sometimes, toilet paper. For many who struggle to provide food and shelter, this expense is considered beyond their means. Moreover, all can point to an example of a “successful” person who did not attend school. So, with parents facing these expenses and examples, a drive down any rural road will reveal numerous scarcely clad kids playing or working outdoors, even when school is in session.

At Rafiki Village, free education means free. Uniforms, school supplies, books and two nutritious daily meals are free for our day students. We were recently able to open five new places for day students in our 7th grade class. Our Education Director made this known to three people in the community on a Thursday afternoon, asking that candidates be at our front gate at 8h00 on Saturday morning. Fifteen would-be seventh graders with a parent or guardian lined up at the gate before seven. Others were regretfully turned away. Students and guardians were interviewed in English and Luganda to determine their academic level, willingness to learn and practice Christianity, and financial need. Then came the joy of choosing five children, and the heartbreak of refusing ten others.

Our five new seventh graders are struggling hard to catch up with the class. On their first day, there was an unfortunate miscount for lunch and one place was missing at a table. We saw one of our resident girls graciously step back to leave her place for the new girl.

We are praying for them all.
Beeman in Bujumbura with World Relief Burundi

In February, Michael Beeman moved to Bujumbura, Burundi as a volunteer with World Relief Burundi. During the previous two years, Michael was a member of ACP Young Adults. Michael is spending six months with World Relief, a Christian organization working with the local church to empower the most vulnerable. In Burundi, World Relief empowers church leaders, supports the health system, and rebuilds the lives of refugees. Michael shares here how the global church is transforming lives of the most vulnerable—not to mention how it is teaching him a thing or two.

The Source of the Nile by Michael Beeman

Grace and peace from Bujumbura! Thank you for your continued prayers for the World Relief office and my experience in Burundi. The solutions to the challenges in Burundi often remain elusive, but with God’s guidance, our hope is to piece together what is needed to serve best.

As my final month in Burundi begins, I can reflect more on Bujumbura vis-à-vis other regional cities. I recently had the pleasure of visiting Kigali in Rwanda and parts of Uganda, including Kampala (my attempt to connect with Patti Lafage proved unsuccessful). Did you know that the Nile has three disputed sources? In Jinja, Uganda, Lake Victoria impresses tourists with its grandeur. Inside the southwestern Nyungwe Forest of Rwanda, a 2006 expedition proclaimed a muddy pool as the most distant source. And then in Burundi, the Bururi Province lays claim to the southern-most source of the Nile at the headwaters of the Ruvyironza River, some 6,500 kilometers from the Mediterranean Sea.

Myself, I am biased towards Burundi’s subtle source, yet struck by the differences the sources reflect. Lake Victoria and Jinja model the burgeoning tourism industry of a country that increasingly attracts private investment. The Nyungwe Forest reflects the natural beauty of Rwanda, a country tightly regulated and popularly supported by international donors (Nyungwe Forest received significant funding from USAID). However, in Bururi Province, the source’s modest attraction—a small-scale pyramid and a gray, plastic faucet—sees few passers-by and little investment, a reflection of the slow rate the country seems to be improving.

For the travelling Jack Kerouac or Hemingway in all of us, Burundi possesses a unique appeal. Burundi’s coastline between mountain and lake captures the awe of any onlooker. The capital city’s colorful, art-deco buildings scream of character and charm, despite the grime of war and colonialism. Even its contemporary politics attracts wanderers’ musings of foreign power-brokers. But that is just it: it’s politics.

For the potential private donor, Burundi must be lagging in more complex ways, typical of politics. The UK’s Department for International Aid closes its doors in Burundi this June, and private donations from churches diminish little by little. It is easy to be disappointed. This, however, would only do injustice to the current improvements and potential. Yes, times are hard across the world; President François Hollande has some profound questions to answer in the near future. Yet, I wonder where Mr. Hollande and the world would be without connections to towns like Makamba, Kibuye or Bujumbura. Jesus says, “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” (Matt. 25:40) The potential for mutual benefit individually and internationally, is significant.

Just as Rwanda is rising and Uganda is growing, please pray with me for an equal spurt of growth in Burundi that would touch as many people in Burundi as do the waters of the Nile on its journey to the Mediterranean.
One of the most relentlessly cheerful people in our ACP community is this human dynamo from the Midwest. She changes everything and everyone around her with her love, energy, and faith, and her name (appropriately enough!) is Destiny.

Destiny Ryales was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois and Gary, Indiana. She came to Paris the first time in 2006 to run in the Paris Marathon ... and fell in love! After careful consideration, she decided to move to Paris six months later, and the City of Light has been excellent to her.

She found the American Church in Paris, and started to build her faith in leaps and bounds. She participated in activities with the youth group and young adults with Ginger Strickland, and the Habitat for Humanity team with Daniel Grout. Destiny adds that her new family at ACP made her feel very comfortable in such a city far away from home for two wonderful years. In 2008, she returned to Chicago after suffering from an intense case of pneumonia.

But in 2010, she was blessed to be able to return to Paris and her ACP family. At this point, she was able to continue with Habitat for Humanity and also join the Spire Ringers handbell choir, volunteer as a storyteller during the 13h30 Sunday children’s worship time, co-lead (but in the end did not take) the young adults missionary trip to Cameroon, and finally participate in two missionary trips to Ghana to visit Francis Cobbinah at The Living Truth Foundation.

This year she has partnered with Dawn Haughton to create a gospel musical fundraiser, “Soulz”, for The Living Truth Foundation. All the proceeds will be used to purchasing building material for the halfway homes Francis wishes to create for the released prisoners who have completed his 12-month Disciple Bible Study. The musical, which was premiered in the Theater on 2 June, was successful in raising funds but if you weren’t able to attend, please consider giving a donation of toiletries, clothing or monetary to Destiny. She will be moving to Ghana this August to assist Francis onsite and to create her own not-for-profit computer technology center for elementary and junior high school students.
YOGA FOR HUMANITY

Thurber Room
19:00-20:00
1 June 13 July
15 June 20 July
6 July 27 July

Church Gym
19:30-20:30
8 June
22 June
29 June

For all classes, please bring a yoga mat and a water bottle.
A suggested donation of 10 Euros at the door is greatly appreciated.
All proceeds go toward assisting the Habitat for Humanity Team
for their trip to Poland from 4-12 August 2012.

For more information please contact the class facilitator,
Lisa Laney RYT, at 06 49 37 30 59 or
lisa.laney@puressenceyoga.com

“ACP Today, the American Church in Paris”

Have you tuned into ACP Today, the American Church in Paris’ radio show yet? The shows are broadcast the first and third Mondays of each month at 20h45. The 45-minute program is an exciting and inspiring mix of music, interviews, sermon highlights and discussion on hot topics.

Tune to 100.7 FM on the radio dial, Radio Fréquence Protestante, and let friends know who may be housebound, or who would simply like more devotional time on a Monday evening, for ACP Today, Faith Talk from Paris! Past shows are available on the ACP website, too!

May’s shows include interviews by: Peter Bannister with Cynthia Bourgeault, Genie Godula with Enuma Okoro, and Tom Macfarlane with Grace and Virginia of the Filipino Fellowship. And Charles Mitchelmore discussing the ACP’s spire.

If you have any questions or comments, be sure to contact us at acptoday@acparis.org.
Prayer Chain Team

Do you have a prayer request for our Prayer Team? If so, please forward your prayer, by E-mail to Kerry Lieury at prayerrequests@acparis.org.

Your prayer request will remain strictly private and confidential.

Prayer is powerful. We are here for you.

James 5:13-16 (NIV)

13 Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. 14 Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. 16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Pastor Scott’s Recommended Reading List!

Are you looking for a good read this summer? How about a few of these?

Donald Miller’s A Million Miles in a Thousand Years
Scot McKnight’s The King Jesus Gospel
Richard Stearns’s The Hole in Our Gospel
Keith Ward’s More Than Matter? What Human Really Are
Gary Haugen’s Just Courage
Roland Barthes’s Mythologies
Peter Rollins’s Insurrection: To Believe is Human; To Doubt, Divine
Scott McKnight’s The Blue Parakeet: Rethinking How You Read the Bible

Editor’s Note: A Hole in Our Gospel changed my life. What a read it was!
# Youth and Young Adult Activities

*by Lisa Prevett*

## Young Adult Events (18-30yrs)

Come and join us **every Tuesday** for either Bible Study, or Pizza Night, as we share fellowship and conversation. For **Pizza Night** come at 18h00 to help cook and from 19h00 for dinner and fellowship.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 3</td>
<td>15h00</td>
<td>Sunday Social! (meet at ACP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 5</td>
<td>18h00-21h00</td>
<td>Bible Study on the Letters of John (<em>Catacombs</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 11</td>
<td>19h00-21h00</td>
<td>Pub Theology on “Christian Unity (O’Brien’s pub, Rue St. Dominique)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 12</td>
<td>18h00-21h00</td>
<td>Pizza night (<em>Thurber Room</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 19</td>
<td>19h30-21h00</td>
<td>Bible Study (<em>Catacombs</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 24</td>
<td>15h00</td>
<td>Sunday Social! (meet at ACP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26</td>
<td>18h00-21h00</td>
<td>End of Year Celebration! (TBC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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## Youth Events (13-18yrs)

**Youth Group** meets on Sundays from 15h00-17h30 for fun, fellowship and bible study in the *Catacombs*. Please feel free to bring friends along – they are always welcome at ACP events!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 3</td>
<td>15h00-17h30</td>
<td>Discussion “Transitions” (<em>Catacombs</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17h30</td>
<td>Mission Team Meeting (<em>Catacombs</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 9</td>
<td>9h00-17h00</td>
<td>Youth Mission Book Sale in G2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 10</td>
<td>15h00-17h30</td>
<td>Youth Group’s “Senior Sunday” * (<em>Catacombs</em>)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>17h30-22h00</td>
<td>Senior Class Dinner</td>
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* *our eight graduating Seniors will be acknowledge during the worship services*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 17</td>
<td>15h00-17h00</td>
<td>End of Year Celebration! (<em>Catacombs</em>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17h00</td>
<td>Youth Leader Appreciation Celebration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 24</td>
<td>17h00-18h00</td>
<td>‘The Harvard Din and Tonics’ performance. <em>ACP Sanctuary</em></td>
</tr>
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</table>

## Youth Worship (11-13yrs)

We meet each Sunday this month during the 11h00 worship service in the *Youth Catacombs*. Follow the cross during the service to gather in the theater.

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Contact Rev. Dan Haugh (youthpastor@acparis.org) for more information about Youth and Young Adult events. You can also follow us on Twitter (www.twitter.com/danhaugh) or connect on Facebook (www.facebook.com/haugh.dan)
The Atelier Concert Series

Presents

Sunday, 3 June 17h00
Lubbock Chamber Ensemble

From Eight Pieces for Clarinet, Viola, and Piano (1910)  Max Bruch
Prelude, Allegro, and Pastorale (1941)  Rebecca Clarke
Trio for Clarinet, Violin and Piano (1932)  Aram Khachaturian

Sunday, 10 June 17h00

Jane Leibel, soprano
Maureen Volk, piano

Songs of Francis Poulenc and
Contemporary Canadian Songs
Francis Poulenc  Airs Chantés
Clifford Crawley  Seven Stevie Smith Songs
Free entrance and free-will offering for all Atelier Series Concerts

Sunday, June 17 at 17h00
Gregory Thompson, piano

J.S. Bach  
Chaconne in D minor

Beethoven  
Sonata in E-flat, op. 81a

Chopin  
Barcarolle Op.60 / Nocturne in F major Op. 15, no. 1
  Ballade in G minor Op.23

Albeniz  
Iberia

Pianist, Gregory Thompson, is Associate Professor of Music and Faculty Accompanist at Central State University in Wilberforce, OH. He received the Master of Music in Piano Performance from the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD, and the Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC. Dr. Thompson has held professorships at Morris College, Benedict College, Claflin University, and Johnson C. Smith University, and has performed as a solo and collaborative artist in various venues in the United States, Europe, and Asia, including, Carnegie Hall in New York, The Steinway Gallerie, Schloss Leopoldskron, and The Marmolle Hall in Salzburg Austria.

Sunday, 24 June 17h00
The Harvard “Din and Tonics”

The Harvard Din & Tonics are Harvard University’s signature all-male a cappella singing group, known around the world for their rich tradition of musical and performance excellence. With a repertoire centered on the American jazz standards of the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s, these Harvard gentlemen, who perform in white tie, tails, and lime green socks, have an enviable reputation for their impeccable musicality, snappy choreography, and hilarious antics.

Free entrance and free-will offering for all Atelier Series Concerts
ACP Bible Studies and Other Discussion Groups

ACP SUNDAY SERMON BIBLE STUDY: Sunday morning after the 9h00 service in G2. Contact Kristie Worrel for further information at missionoutreach@acparis.org

ACP TUESDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY will be having two special sessions led by Associate Pastor, Glen Thorp. On Tuesday, 29 May and 5 June 10h30-12h30, on the topic of Discovering your Spiritual Gifts. This is a two part session and all are welcome to attend. Additionally, we will be holding our end of the year brunch on Tuesday, June 19th and we will not be meeting over the summer holidays. For more information, contact our coordinators: Jennifer Jourlait or Diedre Grizzle.

ACP BIBLE STUDY: Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense by N. T. Wright. Connecting to God through worship, prayer, scripture and the church, leads to life that is full and abundant. Contact MaryClaire King further information on these studies.

ACP MEN’S GROUP: Come for coffee, conversation, prayer and fellowship. Any men interested in further information, address and door codes, or in being added to our e-mail list, should contact Ed Hyslip.

Independent Christian Prayer Groups and Bible Study Activities

MOMS IN TOUCH PRAYER GROUP: Would you like to join with other moms as we lift up our cares and concerns for our children and their schools to our loving Father? Experience the joy of replacing anxiety with peace and hope, when we pray scripture together. Moms in Touch groups are in 120 countries and now English language groups are forming in Paris. Contact Caroline at MomsInTouchParis@gmail.com.

BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP (BSF INTERNATIONAL) What a great way to discover the gift of God’s Word through BSF’s interdenominational and international Bible studies! This Paris class brings together 50 or so women for in-depth Bible study every Monday evening from 19h00 to 20h50.

NEW GROUP? If you are interested in starting a group, please see the Associate Pastor to get it started! There are always opportunities to get people together to live, laugh and share our Christian values, and at ACP, we would like to help that happen!
ACP Groups and Additional Fun Activities

**WRITERS GROUP** meets the second Saturday of the month from 14h00 – 17h00 in room G2. Contact Rosalyn McKeown for more information.

**MULTICULTURAL COUPLES POTLUCK EVENING:** You are warmly invited to join us. This evening is guaranteed to be filled with fun and laughter. Bring a dish to share on 8 June at 20h00 in the Thurber Room. For more info, contact Anja Wyss.

**RUNNING TEAM:** If you are interested in being part of the ACP running team? We will be running La Parisienne in September. Those interested in running this race should register at the La Parisienne website. For those who don’t have the ACP running shirt, more will be available before the race! Please contact Kim at woac_president@yahoo.com.

**THE KNITTING GROUP** welcomes newcomers and experts, and others in between. Some of us are knitting for Mission Outreach, and some for ourselves and our families. This month, some of us will be making an afghan together – anyone can join in! We can guide you to Paris knit shops, patterns, online resources, local knitting events and more. Drop in and bring a friend! Monday at 17h00. Contact Antoinette or Elizabeth Rand.

**MOVIE DISCUSSION GROUP:** See any or all listed movies in the cinema at your convenience, then join the group for discussion on Thursday, 21 June in the American Church basement at 19h30. The movie group’s choices for June are:

- *De rouille et d’os* by Jacques Audiard,
- *Les Femmes du Bus 678* by Mohamed Diab,
- *7 días en La Habana (7 jours à Havane)* by 7 international directors
- *Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (Des Saumons dans le desert)* by Lasse Hallström.

Volunteering and Outreach

**CHILDREN’S WORSHIP:** Highly sought after leadership positions available for both 11h00 and 13h30 services. Join one of the most expanding, dynamic groups of ACP. There are many opportunities to serve according to your comfort level and talent. Just send me a line to get more details: Jeanette Laugier at childrensworship@acp.org.

**GREETING AND USHERING:** We are seeking new members for the Contemporary Service. Can you contribute, once a month for example? If you are interested in knowing more, please contact Anna Zweede at musicandworship@acparis.org

**FRIDAY MISSION LUNCH AT ACP:** The Mission Lunch Program provides a hot, nutritious and free lunch, every Friday to those in need. Volunteers are needed every week for cooking, serving and cleaning-up. Contact Kristie at missionoutreach@paris.org

**FOYER DE GRENELLE** has an urgent need for babysitters Mondays and Thursdays, 1400h—16h00. Please Contact Anne Mildred at missionoutreach@acparis.org

**HOSPITALITY TEAM** needs help for Thurber Thursdays. Please contact Camilla Macfarlane at communitylife@acparis.org if you can help! Special blessings for clean up people!
BOOK SALE

9 June
9h - 17h
9:00am to 5:00pm

English and French Used & New Books!

All proceeds benefit the youth humanitarian project in Gabon, Africa this summer.

The American Church in Paris
L’église Américaine de Paris
65 quai d’Orsay 75007 Paris
Metro Invalides

June 9, 2012
9 juin 2012

You don't want to miss this!
African Fellowship’s Fundraising Luncheon

Sunday 6 May, the African Fellowship of the American Church, built on the values of unity, fellowship and love, organized a charity lunch, where the benefits would be used to support its members, and the fellowship, in general.

To begin, The African Fellowship Choir immediately set the tone with "Stand up, Stand up for Jesus", as well as other worship songs. After singing and praising, there was an excellent opportunity to discover the extraordinary melting pot that constitutes the African Fellowship. While we sometimes think that we have an extended knowledge of Africa and its people, Cassandra reminded us rightly that we still have much to learn. She gave a presentation on Sierra Leone, where we learned about the historical importance of Freetown, and the symbol of its struggle towards its independence. She also showed us pictures of the Great River and of some ruins in Zimbabwe. Ghana was presented by Debbie, and she told of its expanding expertise in the construction of...coffins!

After the presentations, we were treated to a last song of the choir and then lunch was served. It was a true feast of colors and tastes, as various and diverse as the multitude of countries represented by this dynamic group of brothers and sisters. In those dishes was the possibility to discover and appreciate the cultures and people we don’t always get a chance to know. We also got to meet and thank the extraordinary cooks who spend hours preparing that amazing lunch! It was quite wonderful in every way!

If you would ever like to get involved with the African Fellowship of the American Church in Paris, please contact Elizabeth Eposi. All are welcome!
Mother’s Day Pancake Breakfast!

We had a great team from the Men’s Ministries and few other helpers as well from our Hospitality Team. Thanks An, Ed, Daniel, Raphaelle, Chris and Stan! Those pancakes were GREAT!

We also had many wonderful women that deserved some pampering!

Pancakes with syrup and fruit, sausages, juice and coffee. And of course, a rose for all our lovely ladies!

Later that day, The Filipino Fellowship put on a special lunch for the visiting Filipino Choir that performed at the Atelier Concert Series.
On 19 May, the Youth and Young Adults put on a Talent Show as a fundraiser for their upcoming missions trips.

Here are some highlights!

The cooking team, led by Christy de Looper, made some fabulous honey mustard chicken over rice, served a nice salad and had fromage blanc with strawberries for dessert!

Rev. Dan Haugh said a blessing and introduced the Angel Cheerleaders and our MC’s of the night, Christian de Looper and Danny Herr.

Tad Brown had many flutes to show us, and Matthew Herr, accompanied by Camilla Macfarlane, played some lively Bach Minuets.

Additionally, there was lots of fun music by individual singers and bands. Still Point played and there were even some ninja turtles and power rangers! Everyone had a great time! However, it was mentioned, more than once, that there was something missing…… the cornerstone of previous Talent Shows ….. The Herrs’ magic tricks! We can only hope that they will be able to perform next year!
Were you present for the incredible Pentecost Sunday Service?
What a spiritual feast!

The language choir was simply stunning. Congregants lined the sanctuary and read Acts 2 in their mother tongues simultaneously.

Additionally, the Adult Choir, the Spire and Bronze Ringers played in a musical language that also received many well deserved Amen’s!
Youth Conference in Wittenberg, Germany with AICEME!

All high school youth ages 14-19 are invited for a weekend of fellowship and worship led by AICEME Youth Pastors on 1-4 November. Registration deadline will be 1 Oct, 2012. More information is available and will be announced, but feel free to contact Rev. Dan Haugh at youthpastor@acparis.org for more information NOW!

~ Concerts and ACP Events ~

Outdoor **ACP Café** events will be held in the courtyard on 13 July and 17 August.

**Sunday, 8 July at 17h00**
A concert by the Trombone Choir from the University of Texas at Austin
with Fred Gramann, organist
Dr. Nathaniel Brickens, director

**Sunday, 22 July at 17h00**
A special concert by "Carillon", a spectacular handbell choir from the University of Southern Mississippi
Dr. Larry Smith, director
The American Church in Paris is a member congregation of the Association of International Churches in Europe and the Middle East. If you are traveling and looking for a place to worship, please consult the AICEME website for our sister congregations: http://aiceme.net/.