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Photo by
Pamela Spurdon

Why our bass section is so good...

The Bronze Age, p14-15
Lent, the “holy Spring” of the Church, is one of my favorite times of the year, especially as the days grow longer in La Ville-Lumière. I think everyone would agree: We need more light!

*Fluctuat nec mergitur* is the motto of Paris and the inscription on the city’s coat of arms. It is translated, “tossed, but not sunk” and is a good summary of the mood of the city after the *Charlie Hebdo* and Jewish grocery terrorist attacks in January. The brutal killing of 17 citizens opened up important issues that require reflection and response in our fair city. Resistance to social integration among minority groups, economic injustice, religious bigotry, and rising jihadism are some of the factors giving way to a growing sense of fear and alienation.

The immediate and defiant response of millions marching in solidarity around the slogan “Je suis Charlie” has given way to a more sober admission that the problems will not be solved by political posturing or nationalistic braggadocio. In fact, the big lie of France is that there is “liberté, égalité, fraternité.” Indeed, politicians and pundits alike are arguing over solutions, but many don’t even agree what the problems are and so there aren’t going to be easy fixes. I doubted at first, but am moving more in agreement with the conclusion that the attacks were “France’s 9/11.” Paris has changed, and it feels not like a “sail” change, but a “sea” change.

All this is to say that the ministry and the mission of the ACP is all the more critical, and as a community we need to ask the hard questions about what it means for us to be a “Beacon on the Seine” in these stormy days. Because of the Japanese Embassy’s travel advisory warning Japanese of the dangers of the city, our wedding ministry is down and this directly impacts one of our key revenue streams. Montessori School and Michelle Lennen School parents have requested that a door buzzer system be installed so that the campus is essentially locked-down during school hours. While this seems prudent for a variety of reasons in the current culture of fear, it is sad that we have had to move away from our open-door policy. Whether this is a permanent change only time will tell.

Thoughts from
The Rev. Dr. Scott Herr
Senior Pastor

Dear Members and Friends of the ACP,

Please plan to join us for the **combined service at 11h30 on Sunday, 22 March**, followed by our **Annual Congregational Meeting** to receive 2014 annual reports and approve the 2015 budget. The Search Committee for the Associate Pastor of Youth and Young Adult Ministries will also give an update!

The original practice of “giving up” something for Lent in monastic communities was so that Christians could be more generous to the larger community. Our goal is to “bless the city,” and this Lent we are reflecting on what it means for us “to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.” I encourage you to use the **Lenten devotional** as a way to daily reflect on how you can be following Jesus all the way to the cross and Easter New Life...

God calls us to be a community that provides safe harbor for those going through the storms of life, to proclaim in word and deed the good news of God’s love, to embody the Kingdom of God, and in even a small way, to change the world for God’s glory. May we “give up” anything that keeps us from fulfilling our calling to pursue the new life that God desires for us and for our community. Though we may face stormy waters, remember two things: You can make a difference (so, “All hands on deck”), and *God is with us*!

And as always: grace, peace, and more light to you...

In Christ,

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*Thoughts from The Rev. Dr. Scott Herr*
Missed out?
If you can’t make it to Thurber Thursday, you can still enjoy our amazing speakers and discussions. The video is available on our website at http://acparis.org/thurber-thursdays-archives.

Abraham Lincoln 2015; Wisdom for today
Ronald White

Ronald C. White, Jr., is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, and author of the bestselling *A. Lincoln: A Biography*. The book was honored as a best book of 2009 by the *Washington Post*, *Christian Science Monitor*, and others. His Lincoln biography won the coveted Christopher Award in 2010, which salutes books “that affirm the highest values of the human spirit.” He is presently writing a comprehensive biography of Ulysses S. Grant — *American Ulysses* — which will be published in the spring of 2015 by Random House.

He has lectured at the White House and been interviewed on the PBS News Hour. He is a Fellow at the Huntington Library, Visiting Professor of History at UCLA, and a Senior Fellow of The Trinity Forum. He lives with his wife, Cynthia, in La Cañada, California.

What does Micah 6:8 look like through the eyes of a Christian...who happens to be gay?"

James Alison

James Alison is a Catholic theologian, priest and author. He has studied, lived and worked in Mexico, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, and the US, as well as his native England. A systematic theologian by training, James has developed “Jesus the Forgiving Victim,” a program of induction into the Christian Faith for adults, following on from the insight into desire associated with René Girard. He has taught the course, either as a whole or in portions, to small groups around the world over the last 14 years, and its form and content has been shaped by those experiences.

Having lived with the Dominican Order between 1981 and 1995, James works as an itinerant preacher, lecturer and retreat giver. He is currently a Fellow, and the chair of the Education Committee, of Imitatio. When not on the road, James lives in São Paulo, Brazil.
Dear Friends,

Health, wholeness, and blessing. Over the past month I have contemplated these words on numerous occasions. What does it mean to be healthy? Whole? How does blessing come in the midst of being “less than” healthy?

Let’s begin with blessing. In January, I was blessed by excellent medical care, a loving extended family that graciously hosted me and cared for me during my recovery, colleagues in ministry who helped to lighten my load, and three boys who kept the home front running in my absence. Undergoing a difficult surgery gave me an enormous amount of thinking time. It’s no surprise that these and many other blessings floated in and out of my thoughts as I was immobilized. Having such time to reflect generated deep gratitude in my heart. I wouldn’t wish such confinement on anyone, but it’s remarkable how life-giving this time was in regard to not just recognizing blessings, but soaking in the wealth of love contained within them. My heart grew fuller just thinking about the blessings that made my surgery/recovery time possible.

Health. In some ways, health is a relative term. At different times and stages of life we experience health differently. Health can be defined as the state of being free from illness or injury, but even that seems somewhat relative. Because I had been living with my particular injury for several years and was able to manage fairly well, I felt healthy. Yet, because I lived with this particularly injury for so long (instead of repairing it!), my surgery was more complex. I wasn’t able to enjoy so many of the above blessings fully, and I was ultimately putting them at risk because of fear – the fear of moving forward in order to acquire healing.

This is where wholeness comes into play. I think of the hemorrhaging woman in Mark’s gospel. She hadn’t been healthy for twelve years! No doctor could heal her. Yet, she believed that if she could get close enough to Jesus to touch his cloak that she would be healed. Seeking out Jesus’ cloak certainly doesn’t align with conventional wisdom about what can make someone healthy.

This woman was “less than” healthy, but I don’t think the woman wanted to be healthy; I think the woman wanted to be whole. She had been the doctor route; she spent all the money she had; she had suffered greatly. She wanted to be freed from her years of suffering and move forward. That meant that physically, mentally, and spiritually she needed Jesus to heal her. She wasn’t afraid to fight through the crowds in order to reach Jesus and touch his cloak. And when she did, immediately she knew that she had been freed.

The reality is that we are all “less than.” In moving forward, through all those crowded “less than” places, we have the potential to be drawn into wholeness. It doesn’t mean that we will acquire perfect health, perfect attitudes, or perfect spirituality. Quite the contrary, it means that we are freed from being held captive by the imperfections in any (or all!) of these areas in order that we might be made whole in Christ.

Perhaps the greatest blessing that I received over the past month was a glimpse of this reality. I most certainly did not have perfect health and most days felt very much “less than,” and yet, there was wholeness – found in the wealth of blessings surrounding me. It was by way of those blessings (all those simple reminders of love) that I could feel the power of Jesus healing those places throughout me, physical and not so physical, that ached for repair.” I could barely stand up straight, but I was able to give and receive so much love. This was the highlight of my month, and my prayer for you this month.

Bénédictions,
Michelle

And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. Mark 5:25-29
Bible readings for March

March 1  Second Sunday in Lent
Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:23-31
Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9

March 8  Third Sunday in Lent
Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 1:18-25
John 2:13-22

March 15  Fourth Sunday in Lent
Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Ephesians 2:1-10
John 3:14-21

March 22  Fifth Sunday in Lent
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16
Hebrews 5:5-10
John 12:20-33

March 29  Passion Sunday or Palm Sunday
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11

Communion class for children
Sunday 15 March, 12h15-14h, Library

Would you like your child to participate in communion, but worry that they don’t fully understand this holy rite? Pastor Michelle will lend context and understanding, as well as practical instruction, to children about the Eucharist.

Light snacks will be provided and parents are invited to accompany their children.
Please RSVP to Allison Wheeler at childrensworship@acparis.org

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? - Micah 6:8
As we continue our Lenten journey together, I encourage us to reflect on the idea of what stands in our way in experiencing God anew this season. For some, Lent simply becomes a time to give up a favorite snack or drink, somehow confirming personal endurance or strength. Yet, Lent is to remind us that we cannot do it on our own power, but need to rely daily on God.

Perhaps it is not chocolate or wine (both very popular and indeed difficult to go without!) that we need to think seriously about. Perhaps busyness, worry, stress, or even our personal agenda is distracting us from experiencing freedom and new life this spring.

I remember a time one month ago when I was with my boys, Jack and Blake. It was one of those magical moments when they were laughing and playing and simply enjoying life. Rather than being captivated by this moment, I wanted to capture it and so naturally I took out my cell phone and attempted to take pictures and videos. Of course, my phone was not very “smart” then and did not work. Meanwhile, I realized I was missing the moment with my boys: so preoccupied with technology and maintaining a memory, that I was unable to create a memory.

Sometime, I confess, I am too busy taken up with life to step back and record such moments. Even if I am physically present, my mind is full of chores, duties, worries, or other preoccupations. I feel this impacts my time with my boys; and I fear this also has a profound impact on our relationship with God.

Could it be that God in fact delights in our presence…our full and attentive presence? But often we get too easily distracted by life’s worries. Even good things such as food, drink, and technology can become hindrances to entering fully and freely into God’s presence. This Lent, let us each reflect on what we can say “no” to and leave behind, so that we may be open to receiving the joy of God’s company.

One final springtime summary. As I continue my reflections on what I will miss most here in Paris, I hear the birds chirping outside my office. Growing up in the northeastern United States, I remember that spring rarely showed her face until late April or May, whereas here in Paris, the month of March manifests miraculous new beginnings as the weariness of winter warms away.

I have always appreciated and anticipated the early arrival of spring this month. The green grass, bulbs of flowers beginning to blossom, and the once barren trees beckoning forth their leaves. This serves as a hopeful reminder that during Lent, the deaths we may experience during winter, serve as fertile soil for new life to burst forth. Together, let us let go and behold the beauty of it all!

In Christ,
Dan Haugh

Mark your calendars: 11h30 Sunday 22 March, ACP congregational meeting
9h00 service + 11h service + 13h30 service = ONE BIG CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH SERVICE
You’re giving up what?
By Alison Benney

So you think giving up chocolate for 40 days is hard? As fasting traditions go, Christians have it pretty easy. Let’s take a look at the practices of other faiths.

Mormons, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, are encouraged to fast—as in abstention from eating at all—on the first Sunday of each month. The money saved by not purchasing and preparing two consecutive meals is donated to the church as a fast offering, which is then used to help people in need.

Buddhist monks and nuns do a partial fast every single day, commonly avoiding any food after the noon meal, as a disciplined regimen to aid in meditation and good health. It makes sense: the Middle Path warns against extremes, of indulgence on the one hand and self-mortification on the other.

Fasting is the fourth of the Five Pillars of Islam and it is especially observed during the holy month of Ramadan, the month in which the Quran was revealed. It lasts from fajr (dawn), until maghrib (sunset). During this time, Muslims are prohibited from eating or drinking anything, including water, or engaging in sexual activity. They are also encouraged to temper negative emotions, like anger or addiction. By fasting, a Muslim draws closer to God (Allah) through abandoning bodily pleasures.

There are a number of annual fasting days for traditional Jews, during which they abstain from all food and drink from dawn until dark. The six more important include the Fast of Gedaliah, the day after Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year; Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the year, the Day of Atonement; Asarah B’Tevet, in memory of five events, including the day that Moses broke the tablets when he saw the Jewish people worshipping the Golden Calf; and Tisha B’Av, a date in mid-summer that is numerically prone to tragedy in Jewish history.

Then, of course, there are the first two days of Passover, which are strict no-work-allowed days and the entire seven or eight days of Passover during which the consumption, keeping, and owning of chametz, or leavening, is forbidden.

Why do Christians fast during Lent? Pastor Scott addressed this in his sermon on 22 February, asking whether our annual Lenten practices shouldn’t rather be the day-to-day norm for Christian life. Isaiah chapter 58:6-7 indicates that an acceptable fast is not merely abstinence from food or water, but a decision to fully obey God’s commands to care for the poor and oppressed. Martin Luther believed that a Christian may choose to fast individually as a spiritual exercise to discipline his own flesh, but that the time and manner of fasting should be left up to the individual. For Eastern Orthodox Christians, the purpose of fasting is not to suffer, but to guard against gluttony and impure thoughts, deeds and words. Fasting without increased prayer and almsgiving is considered useless or even spiritually harmful.

And that, of course, is the point. Pope Francis suggested in February that for this Lenten season, instead of giving up candy or alcohol for 40 days, we fast from indifference towards others. He said, “When we fast from this indifference, we can begin to feast on love.” Yum.

OpenBible.com used Twitter to track some of the main things that people are giving up for their Lenten fasts. Out of almost 51,000 tweets during the week of 15 February, there were 2,343 chocolate-related tweets, 2,020 twitter-related tweets, followed by 1,789 abdications of social networking in general. School came in fourth, and alcohol rounded out the top 5.
Celebrating Holy Week and Easter at ACP

**Palm/Passion Sunday, 29 March**
Worship Services at 9h00, 11h00 and 13h30

**Holy Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday**
**30 March-1 April**
Holden Evening Prayer Services at 19h00. The Holden Evening Prayer is a lovely setting of vespers, following the traditional form while using contemporary and inclusive language.

**Maundy Thursday, 2 April**
Worship Service with communion at 20h00 in the Sanctuary.

**Good Friday, 3 April**
Tenebrae "shadows" Worship Service at 20h00. During the service you will hear portions of the Passion narrative from the Gospels as we move towards darkness and silence.

**Easter Sunday, 5 April**
Sunrise Service at 7h15 on the quai d’Orsay in front of the ACP
Easter Fellowship Breakfast at 8h00 in the Thurber Room
Traditional Worship Services at 9h00 and 11h00
Contemporary Celebration of the Resurrection at 13h30
What goes up must come down, and so go the seasons of light and dark. It’s pretty clear in Paris when we start approaching the vernal equinox on 20 March – there’s increasingly more daylight, both in the morning and the evening.

Equinox is Latin for aequus nox, meaning equal nights, and occurs when the plane of the earth’s equator passes the center of the sun. It’s also the beginning of spring. On the flipside of the year the fall equinox arrives around 22 September, kicking off the first day of fall and the decrease of sunlight in our days.

What did this mean to ancient people? The beginning of spring, with its promise of crops, would have meant more than astronomical workings. But wise men, and women, were consulted about the future of their fields and pastures.

Perhaps the best known observatory of the alignment of the sun to a western plinth is seen at Stonehenge in Salisbury, England, dating to 1600 B.C. Here the configuration of the rising sun corresponds with stones directed in a circle. It is possible that this provided information about planting. But would the people have dragged massive stones to the “ring” simply for the hint of a better harvest? In the past 15 years, a theory has been broached that Stonehenge acted as a place of healing, with sufferers brought to the center of the ring at solstice, to be healed as if in an ancient Lourdes.

Looking farther back, certain Egyptian pyramids faced to the east with the morning sun at equinox directly illuminating a finite corridor into the chamber of the pharaoh. The hieroglyphics of the Maya in central America also give importance to the movements of the sun. The dials, or “mandala” indicate solar and lunar positioning that held holy significance. The same could be said for the Incas of Peru and the later Aztecs of Mexico. All looked to the sun and its declinations.

Opposite the two equinox are the solstices midway through. The summer solstice marks the longest day, on 21 July, and the winter solstice the longest night (and shortest day), on 21 December. This occurs just before Christmas, the long night of darkness just before the birth of Jesus, who brought light into the world.

The natural balance of opposites, hot and cold, pain and pleasure, rain and sun, reflect the miracle of the world right from the Beginning, when Genesis describes the splitting of dark and light. Without these opposites the world would be pretty dull. Is that why they’re called seasons?

ACP’s Lenten Calendar

ACP’s Lenten Calendar aims to help families and individuals be more spiritually connected with God and with one another during this holy season. It provides daily scripture and devotionals, as well as other projects, that center on our congregational theme verse for the year, Micah 6:8. He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Find the Lenten Calendar at acparis.org/lentencalendar
Illuminating Holy Week
By Alison Benney

Have you ever noticed that our beautiful stained glass windows follow a Christian timeline? Starting with the theme of the patriarchs, then the prophets, the story winds around the sanctuary, finishing appropriately with the mission window at the back of the church.

The Passion window, just to the right of the organ, portrays 12 events from Holy Week, with angels above them which you will occasionally see on the front of your Sunday bulletin.

Here are some bits and pieces, taken from Fred Gramann’s collection of images that he wisely snapped when scaffolding was up 10 years ago.

Palm Sunday, the Triumphal Entry - This Holy Week event appears in all four gospel accounts. There are limits to how much one stained glass window can show, of course, so our window only shows one donkey. And if you look closely, you’ll see that the palm branches are quite stylized.

Washing the disciples’ feet - While this act is a straightforward image to portray, depicting water in stained glass was not easily done - that is, until Tiffany revolutionized the art of stained glass.

In the Garden of Gethsemane - This image of the disciples sleeping while Jesus prays is beautifully rendered.

Ecce Homo, Behold the Man Have you ever seen Caravaggio’s painting of this scene? If so, you will understand why this is such a well-known moment in the Passion story and my personal favorite, in which we are required to pause, consider the paradox that is Pilate’s, and judge who Christ is for ourselves.

Bearing the cross - Difficult to depict, but skillfully achieved in this window: Jesus is in the forefront, carrying the cross, but if you look closely you see Simon of Cyrene behind him, sharing his burden. This is one window that you can examine without binoculars, as there is a replica of it in the Narthex, created by a member of the congregation many years ago (make sure the backlight is switched on!).

The beauty and craftsmanship of the Passion window, as well as the Works of Christ window opposite, differ from the others, as each window is divided into 12 specific scenes. Next time you come to church, bring some good opera glasses and arrive early or stay late for a closer look.

Thanks to Fred Gramann for his excellent archive of photos.
A word from your ACP Council

Greetings to the members and friends of ACP!

We are truly blessed to be a part of this talented, diverse and loving worship community. I am continually reminded of these blessings; and the Valentine’s Day wedding blessing for Anjlo Ajmal and his wife Lubna was a beautiful example of just what it means to be a part of this wonderful family of believers.

So many caring individuals contributed their gifts to create a lovely and meaningful ceremony. Pastor Scott’s message to bless their marriage included an inspiring description of the origin of the word patience; the kind of long-suffering patience that Anjlo and Lubna have shown for over four years in order to finally be together here in Paris. It was a touching reminder to all of the meaning of the patience of love in 1 Corinthians 13:4. The heartfelt gifts of music and gospel readings by those who love Anjlo and Lubna added further beauty to the ceremony.

A delightful reception was hosted by Anjlo’s friends from the ACP Disciples Bible study, including a cake made by Denise Dampierre and decorated with origami birds made by Yoshiko Okubo-Miquel. Other Disciples enthusiastically prepared the reception feast and decorated the theatre. The Punjabi Church where Anjlo is a minister provided music typical of Anjlo and Lubna’s homeland, which led to lots of lively dancing among the crowd. It was heart-warming to participate in such a representative cross-section of our congregation and friends from the Punjabi Church, sharing this moment of love and support together.

Further, it made me reflect on the even greater love of God to send his son Jesus to die for our sins. For me, this reflection set the stage for Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the season of Lent and our celebration of the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday.

On behalf of the ACP Council, I wish you all a Lenten season filled with glorious examples of God’s love leading up to the wondrous hope that the resurrection brings.

Blessings in Christ,
Pam Bohl, Council Moderator

Anjlo and Lubna

Photos generously donated by photographer Krystal Kenney, more here http://romanticportraitsparis.pixieset.com/ndlubna/
If variety is the spice of life, Rafiki has spiced my life richly. After three years of service as administrator and teacher in the schools at Rafiki Village Uganda, new assignments and challenges are now keeping me busy.

The Rafiki Institute of Classical Education (RICE) began in several of the Rafiki Foundation’s ten African children’s villages in September 2013. RICE further realizes the 1985 vision of Rafiki’s founder, Rosemary Jensen, to help Africans “improve their standard of living and to know God.” Its Christian Classical curriculum today reaches about 1,500 children, both resident orphans and community day scholars, in our own schools, in 10 villages. Taking Rosemary’s vision to the next level, Rafiki is now training national teachers to teach differently from the way they were taught.

What is Christian Classical education? Rafiki affirms that God stands at the very center of all things, so each subject is taught from a biblical worldview. Classical education itself emphasizes learning from the classics, both ancient and modern, in art, music and literature, and honoring the wisdom of the past. In addition, we aim to nurture the body, mind and soul. So children learn to learn and to think, and to hopefully acquire the desire and tools for lifelong learning.

Currently, RICE in Uganda is a 3-semester program through which graduates qualify to teach preprimary through kindergarten. Thirteen new Christian Classical teachers have successfully completed the program, four of whom now serve in our own preprimary school. These teachers will eventually also be able to start their own private pre-schools, potentially reaching tens of thousands more children.

What is my role? I came on board to teach art and music alongside the RICE Uganda dean. In the music class, we listen to recorded vocal music, including traditional hymns plus classical, opera, and contemporary pieces that broaden the students’ horizons. For many of them, these types of music are entirely new. We learn the basics of written music with the objective of being able to sight-sing, and our choir gives a concert to perform our newly-developed skills for friends in the community. Forty-two voices lifted in three-part harmony on stage in the new RICE auditorium is indeed a joyful noise to the Lord.

The art class began in January, using the Teaching Company’s renowned Great Course: “How to Look At and Understand Great Art.” We study the fundamentals of line, shape, color, pattern, and composition, as well as art history.

In addition to eight weekly hours of teaching in the teacher training institute, I continue with the Widows’ Program, through which we provide opportunities for poor women to learn crafts, and help them sell their products on the Internet. We have had the great pleasure of rebuilding four locally-made weaving looms to teach weaving. Victoria, a professional weaver, is training ladies (and one man) from our local partner churches to make products for the Widows’ Program. We plan to add other crafts, such as sewing or rug making in the near future. Weekly Bible study enriches the program.

As exciting and challenging as these new assignments are, I still continue to teach sixth grade language arts, computer classes and to act as Bursar. Developing the training component of the Widows’ Program, teaching music and art to RICE students, teaching English and computer skills in the schools, and enjoying time with the children – a variety of ways to serve, indeed.

Many thanks to all of you whom God has moved to support our work here at Rafiki Uganda. May God bless each of you. I look forward to seeing all of you in September.
You’ve probably heard the ACP Bronze Ringers participating in Sunday worship or at the annual Candlelight Christmas Concerts. Have you ever asked yourself what it takes to be a member of the ACP Bronze Ringers? What characteristics gain one entrance into this extraordinary league of church musicians?

Shall we start with a sense of humor? Definitely, for one thing they do as they work hard is to laugh a great deal, both at their mistakes as well as in relief when they master difficult passages. The photos accompanying this article certainly attest to that humor. They were taken at a recent rehearsal to create a get-well card for Anne Kimball, a long-time member who is recovering from back surgery. Members were not told do something funny, they just did! Tethe began by holding a bell over his head, and the rest followed suit.
Beyond humor and creativity it takes a great deal of experience, dedication and disciplined rehearsal. Ringing handbells is a unique form of ensemble music. Imagine a pianist sitting at their instrument, controlling all the melodic lines, the dynamics, the tempo, the feeling. Now replace that single person by a dozen people at the same keyboard, each playing two to four keys and asking them to create the same effect together. That’s in fact what ringers try to achieve (except on bells) and it’s as challenging as it sounds! It is the ultimate ensemble exercise. Each ringer depends on their neighbors for the notes above and below their own, and all must have the same sense of where the piece needs to go musically.

The ACP Bronze Ringers also require a keen sense of hand-to-eye coordination. They read off a full score with all the notes of the piece, tracking their own notes among them and fitting them musically within the whole. Any one handbell position played on its own makes little if any sense. It reminds one of “name that tune” with very little to go on! Only in context with the whole ensemble is there completion, a piece of music.

Lest anyone reading this article be forever frightened of trying handbells, know that it is a process, one which I am glad to guide people through. It is, in fact, a wonderful way for even those with no musical training to have a musical experience. Step one is simply learning to move your arm so that the bell rings. We are blessed to have three adult handbell choirs at different levels. Most people will start as beginners, and some will work their way right to the top and stand with the Bronze Ringers.

I should warn any who want to try handbell ringing that it is habit forming! The fun of making music with a group is exciting and fulfilling, and offering that music in praise of God is a special way of worshipping and in turn helping others to worship. For the ACP Bronze Ringers it is the most joyful of noises.
Sweet Philharmonie

The spectacular new "Philharmonie" musical complex has opened in the Parc de La Villette. Jean Nouvel’s bold design features a 2400-seat concert hall and a swooping exterior covered with some 200,000 aluminum birds. The rooftop, open to the public, offers stunning 360° views of Paris and beyond.

The center’s first major exhibition is the suitably theatrical "David Bowie is...", featuring fashion, photos, film and, oh yes, music.

3 March-31 May
www.philharmoniedeparis.fr
Going Green

Paris’s Sacré Coeur basilica will be illuminated in bright emerald green on St Patrick’s Day (17 March), part of the worldwide “Global Greening” led by Ireland’s tourism authority. If you are inspired to partake of some Irish high spirits (beyond those served up in the city’s many Irish pubs), check out the quick-jigging “Celtic Legends” on stage at the Olympia over the weekend.

19-22 March, olympiahall.com

Cute as a button

“Déboutonner la mode” features a fascinating collection of 3,000 buttons spanning four centuries and a dizzying range of styles. Alongside lavish creations by top designers and jewelers are buttons painted by French master Fragonard or sculpted by the likes of Jean Arp and Alberto Giacometti, plus winsome little clown faces used to fasten ladies’ garters in the 1950s.


By the book

The French are serious about their books, and Paris’s annual Salon du Livre is a teeming maelstrom of buyers, sellers, authors, critics and wannabes. This year’s theme is Brazil, with Kraków and Warsaw as guest cities and some 50 countries represented, which gives an idea of how multifarious and ultimately overwhelming the whole thing is. Come early and wear sensible shoes.


What’s up in Paris

February event listings

By Karen Albrecht

All that glitters

“In the time of Klimt” at the Pinacotheque traces the early 20th century Art Nouveau movement known as the Secession, and includes 15 major works by its most famous figure, Gustav Klimt. Along with languorous ladies dripping in Klimt’s signature gold leaf, his arresting 1902 “Beethoven Frieze” is also on display for the first time in France.

Until 21 June, www.pinacotheque.com

What a glorious feeling...

The Théatre du Châtelet has created a new stage version of “Singin’ in the rain”, based on the iconic 1952 film. The story of a silent film star’s bumpy transition to the age of talkies is a pretext for a bevy of catchy, instantly recognizable show tunes. The Châtelet version features the Paris Chamber Orchestra, and an impressive battery of special effects including: what else? An on-stage rainstorm. In English with French subtitles.

12-26 March, plus 50 more dates from 27 November, http://chatelet-theatre.com

Go ape

The new show “Tracking the great apes” at the Muséum national d’histoire naturelle features a mock tropical forest offering a glimpse into the daily life of gorillas, chimps and orangutans. Visitors can imagine traipsing around the treetops, bedding down in a leafy nest, and even using tools to rustle up some dinner.

Habitat for Humanity
Fundraiser concert
8pm, Friday 27 March
Entrance €30 (includes after-concert cocktail party)

The Rotary Club Paris Champs Elysées is sponsoring for the 7th consecutive year one of the longstanding missions of the ACP, the Habitat for Humanity program which involves sending a group of volunteers to build a house for a needy family, this year to Bulgaria (18-26 June). Since its inception, HFH has built over 1 million homes, which house more than 5 million people, with the help of 2 million volunteers.

Come join us for an evening of music and inspiration, and help us raise funds for Habitat for Humanity.

Agapanthe baroque choir led by conductor Isabelle Retailleau will present works by Purcell, Williams, Wilbye, Weelkes, Gibbons, Britten, Tippet and others

Internationally known pianist Nathalia Romanenko will perform excerpts from her new program Kaleidoscope including works by De Falla, Hemi, Tchaikovski, Mussorsky

Held at the American Church in Paris
65, Quai d’Orsay – 75007 PARIS – metro Alma Marceau or Invalides

For further information and the purchase of tickets, please visit www.concerthabitat.com

The DVD “Celebrate 200” produced by French Connection Films is a visual and aural reliving of a unique worship service that marked two centuries of public English-speaking worship in the city of Paris.

Amidst the grandeur of the Madeleine Church, clergy and congregants from many denominations came together in unity to give thanks for God’s faithfulness to the church, not only in the past, but even more importantly into the future.

Included is the special message by Mark Labberton, President of Fuller Theological Seminary; music by the Anniversary Choir and ACP Bronze Ringers; and organ music heard on both the choir organ, played by Peter Bannister, and the great organ, played by Michel Geoffroy.

The DVD can be purchased for 10 euros during the coffee fellowship on Sundays, or at the church reception desk.
St. Paul needs a hand

We know that St. Paul lost his head as a Christian martyr, and now it seems he’s lost his hand as a carved image. Can you guess what he was holding? If you know of a sculptor who can repair his broken wrist, please email Spire@acparis.org.

Sunday Concert Series

Originating in Left Bank studios in 1895, the Atelier Concert Series became part of the cultural activities at the American Church in Paris during the early 1930s. These concerts provide a performance opportunity in Paris for talented musicians of all nationalities.

A different program is offered each Sunday evening at 17h00, September through November and January through June. There is no admission fee, but a free-will offering is taken at the door to support the series. For the schedule of upcoming concerts, see http://acparis.org

Dimanche 1 Mars à 17h – Sunday 1 March at 17h

Ludwig van BEETHOVEN
Sonate pour violoncelle et piano No. 5 en ré majeur, Op. 102, No. 2
Zoltan KODALY
Sonatine pour violoncelle et piano
Camillo SCHUMANN
Sonate pour violoncelle et piano No. 2 en do mineur, op. 99

The concert includes the Paris premiere of a recently discovered Schumann sonata whose symphonic breadth and lyricism promise to make it one of the cello-piano repertoire’s major works.
Cherchez la femme internationale
By Marcie Mortensson

In honor of International Women’s Day on 8 March, we highlight some of the places where expat Parisiennes gather to share common interests, activities and support.

American Women’s Group
www.awgparis.org
Membership is open to all English-speaking women of any nationality. “Our purpose is to foster and encourage social, education and cultural activities among English speaking women in France and to assist in furthering Franco-American relations.”

AAWE (American women living long-term in France)
http://aaweparis.org
AAWE used to stand for Association of American Wives of Europeans, but they’ve got beyond that. Now this group strives to strengthen understanding among peoples of America, France and Europe. Mostly American women, living permanently in Europe, who enjoy bicultural lives.

British Commonwealth Women’s Association
All British and Commonwealth expat women who are looking for a touch of home in Paris. Activities include art, book groups, bridge, Club Soir networking, crafts, French lessons and conversation, golf, Pilates, tennis, visits, yoga and many more!

Message - Mothers Support Group
www.messageparis.org/public_website
With well over 1000 members, MESSAGE aims to provide a social and support network to expectant women, new mothers, fathers and families with children of all ages living in and around Paris, through a wide variety of local activities, including fun events, practical help and useful information.

Women’s International Club of Paris
www.pariswic.org
Le WIC de Paris is an Anglophone, multinational club open to all women familiar with living in an international environment. It offers a wide range of activities, including a monthly meeting with a guest speaker followed by lunch.

American Catholic Women’s Organization in Paris (ACWO)
http://acwoinparis.blogspot.com
A volunteer group providing diverse programs of religious, social, cultural, education, community and service-oriented activities for its members. Open to women of all nationalities and all faiths.

If you are a woman anywhere from 20-40 years old and have spent your life traveling and seeking out adventures, then this is a group for you! We are a collective group of women, from all corners of the world who have two major things in common: adventure seekers and admirers of Paris!

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)
http://www.darfrance.org
The activities of the DAR in France are coordinated through the Rochambeau Chapter, a member association of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), Washington, D.C. With more than 170,000 members and three thousand chapters in the United States, and in thirteen countries around the globe, the NSDAR is one of the largest and oldest (since 1890) women's associations in the world.

Gorgeously Health in Paris
www.meetup.com/Gorgeously-Healthy-in-Paris-Expats-Social
Gorgeously healthy in Paris is a meet up group for all English speaking women in Paris who want to tap in to the power of social networks to get healthy, lose fat, increase energy and make friends with other like-minded women.

Women Entrepreneurs Network Paris
www.meetup.com/Women-Entrepreneurs-Network-Paris
Women Entrepreneurs Network (WEN) is a global network of internationally minded, dynamic Women Entrepreneurs, who want to network and support open-minded professional women. Members come together to share knowledge, best practices, contacts, and benefit from strategic partnerships.

Girl Scouts
www.girlscoutsinparis.com
Girls Scouts of the USA supports American girls living abroad through their USA Girl Scouts Overseas program.

Community group

The Beauty Myth

Women’s Gathering, Sunday 8 March, 12h30-13h30 in the Library, 2nd floor. Ladies, please join us as Associate Pastor Michelle Wahlia speaks about “The Beauty Myth.” All women are welcome for a time of fellowship and discussion. Childcare is available.
"Mr. Lincoln, that was a sacred effort." So spoke Frederick Douglass on 4 March, 1865, praising Abraham Lincoln’s second inaugural address as a speech that sounded “more like a sermon than a state paper.”

Sacred indeed. Biographer Ronald White, our Thurber Thursday speaker on 12 March, calls this speech Lincoln’s Sermon on the Mount. Only four paragraphs long, it was a surprisingly brief but profound reflection on the meaning of the Civil War and on reunification.

“With malice toward none, with charity for all,” the newly re-elected president sought to unite the American people by interpreting the conflict as a divine judgment on both sides of the war.

“Both {sides} read the same Bible and pray to the same God, and each invokes His aid against the other... The prayers of both could not be answered. That of neither has been answered fully. The Almighty has His own purposes.”

He defined the meaning of the Civil War and talked about the task of Reconstruction with humility and compassion. By identifying slavery as the cause of war, the speech stands as testament to the transformative power of the Civil War — a war begun to defend the Union that became a war to end slavery. This is considered one of Lincoln’s finest speeches and is inscribed on one side of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. The Gettysburg address is inscribed on the other side.

Yet at the time, responding to remarks about the speech, Lincoln said, “I believe it is not immediately popular. Men are not flattered by being shown that there has been a difference of purpose between the Almighty and them.”

This year is the 150th anniversary of that speech, and the Library of Congress will be displaying the original 4-page manuscript for four days, from 4–7 March in the Great Hall of the Library, in Washington. On 7 March, a number of speakers at the Lincoln Memorial will discuss not only its significance in American history, but also examine its continuing relevancy a century and a half later.

The American Church in Paris will pay tribute as well, with Ronald White’s presentation at the Thurber Thursday session on 12 March: 18h30 dinner, 19h30 presentation. All are welcome.
ACP Café
Friday 13 March
19h30 in the Theater

Come enjoy live music and a catered dinner. Still Point will play new music and covers by U2, Coldplay and more. Free entry, snacks, drinks, with dinner catered by Kent’s Party Solutions. Everyone is welcome!

Sunday Concert Series

« DUO VOCALISE »
Karina DESBORDES soprano
Svetlana MEERMANN piano
Dimanche 29 Mars 2015 à 17h

« PRINTEMPS RUSSE »
Mélodies et pièces pour piano de P. Tchaïkovski, N. Rimski-Korsakov, C. Cui, N. Medtner, A. Liadov, S. Rachmaninov

There is no admission fee, but a free-will offering is taken at the door to support the series. For the schedule of upcoming concerts, see http://acparis.org

Would you like to propose articles, write, proofread, do layout or take photos? Contact Alison Benney at Spire@acparis.org Note: Deadline for the April Spire is Sunday 15 March.
Serve the city, save the world
21-28 March, Paris
By Jurie Ane Feleo

Serve The City is a global movement of volunteers showing kindness in practical ways to people in need, as inspired by Jesus, and open to all. The vision of Serve the City is transformation, to be catalysts in the transformation of lives, neighborhoods, and cities through people volunteering to serve others.

Its creed is simple yet startling: Many people doing small things together can make a big difference. We know them by their needs. What if we knew them by name?

With ACP support, I attended Serve the City’s yearly conference in Brussels. I returned with so much hope and inspiration that I jumped right in and formed the STC core team, now with 9 members.

Our first big Volunteer Week launches 21-28 March, and we are partnering with different city organizations, such as the ACP homeless ministry, DePaul France organization, AUP Cares, the Foyer de Grenelle, and with other worship places, including the Temple du Marais and Hillsong Church.

During that week, our goal is to have as many people as possible serve the homeless, the handicapped, elders, children and others in need. But this is a long-term project, and we hope to seed more projects by spreading the word. In every city there are people who need a hand, and while many of us ache to create a happier world, it often seems an overwhelming task. Serve the City provides a way to engage in our city and, a step at a time, help make it a better place to live for everybody.

Interested? Come to our launch party on 21 March at ACP, in the Library. All are welcome. For more information and to sign up as a volunteer, see our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/servethecityparis?ref=aymt_homepage_panel

Saving time
By Jane Grey

Get ready to turn your clocks back in March. Daylight savings time doesn't come into effect in Europe until Sunday, 29 March, but the US springs forward on Sunday, 8 March.

Note that no daylight will actually be saved. According to legend, a Native American Indian, upon hearing about Daylight Saving Time, said, and I paraphrase, “Only a white man would cut the bottom off a blanket and sew it to the top, and think he had a longer blanket.”

A guide to Daylight Saving Time around the world: http://www.webexhibits.org/daylightsaving/g.html

Jane Grey is a metaphysical theologian. For more spring tips and “hope in Paris,” see Jane’s website www.hopeinparis.com
We are pleased to introduce our new Director of Children’s and Youth Music Ministries, Sara Barton. Born in Geneva, Switzerland, Sara was raised in Miami, Florida. Her first experience in music was playing the xylophone for a school play at age 5, and piano lessons soon followed. She studied both piano and later the organ, and became organist at a local church at age 15. Sara earned a BA from St. Catharine’s College, Cambridge where she studied English Literature and served as Organ Scholar.

She then returned to Miami and served as organist and handbell director first at Christ the King Lutheran Church (1999-2006), and later at Coral Gables Congregational Church (2006-2008).

Meet Sara Barton
Director of children’s and youth music ministries

In Miami she obtained a Master of Music from Florida International University, while also serving as an adjunct professor. Sara has been a music teacher for many years, and currently teaches at École Jeannine Manuel Ecole Active Bilingue Jeannine Manuel for students at collège level. Sara has lived in France since 2008, and resides in Villejuif with her family.

The SOTTO VOCE Choirs, under the direction of Scott Prouty, will give a special concert presenting selections from Bizet to Trenet. Admission is free with a free-will offering taken.

SOTTO VOCE
20h, Saturday 28 March
ACP Sanctuary
What we are looking for is what is looking. ~St. Francis of Assisi

Prayer Chain Team
Do you have a prayer request for our Prayer Team?
If so, please forward your prayer by e-mail 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.

Multicultural Couples Group
20h, Friday 25 March, in the ACP Thurber Room

Calling all multicultural couples: You are warmly invited to bring a dish to share and join the fun. There is always great fellowship and fascinating cross-cultural discussion.

For more information contact Monica Bassett or Anja Wyss at multicultural@acparis.org

What’s going on? Tune in: ACP Today

Have you tuned in to ACP Today, the American Church in Paris’ radio show yet? Join us on Mondays at 20h45 - this month on 2 and 16 March. The 45-minute program is an exciting and inspiring mix of music, interviews, sermon highlights, and discussion on hot topics.

We’re at 100.7 FM, Radio Fréquence Protestante, and we broadcast especially for friends who may be housebound or who would simply like more devotional time on a Monday evening. Don’t like the radio? Listen online at http://frequenceprotestante.com or tune in at your leisure via the ACP website.

What better way to keep in touch with the ACP family and learn about the latest ACP news? All our shows are downloaded within 48 hours to our website, at www.acparis.org/acptoday. Faith Talk from Paris - plug us in during your morning commutes.

If you have any questions, comments, ideas or would like to contribute to the show, be sure to contact us at acptoday@acparis.org.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Type</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert</strong></td>
<td>Sunday 1 Mar</td>
<td>17h00</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Free admission, with free-will offering</td>
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<td>Jonathan Bloom, cello; David Berdery, piano. Works by Beethoven, Kodaly, Schumann.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ACP Today: Faith Talk in Paris radio show</strong></td>
<td>Monday 2 Mar</td>
<td>20h45 - 21h30</td>
<td>100.7 FM, Radio Fréquence Protestante</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tune in for inspiring music, interviews, sermon highlights.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sandwich Ministry</strong></td>
<td>Friday 6 Mar</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td></td>
<td>Janie Ane Feleo <a href="mailto:homelesssandwich@acparis.org">homelesssandwich@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Breakfast preparation: Friday 19h30 at ACP Breakfast distribution: Saturday 08h00, meet at ACP</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Women's Gathering</strong></td>
<td>Sunday 8 Mar</td>
<td>12h30</td>
<td>ACP Library</td>
<td>Kim Herr <a href="mailto:women@acparis.org">women@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pastor Michelle Wahila speaks on “The Beauty Myth” Childcare available; lecture not appropriate for children</td>
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<td>Polina Shiryaeva, soprano; Grigori Abramian, piano. «Rejoice Greatly» Les Airs D’opéras Célèbres.</td>
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<td><strong>Thurber Thursday - Ronald C. White, Jr.</strong></td>
<td>Thursday 12 Mar</td>
<td>18h30; 19h30</td>
<td></td>
<td>Michelle Wahila <a href="mailto:associatepastor@acparis.org">associatepastor@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Abraham Lincoln 2015; Wisdom for Today</td>
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<td>Dinner;Lecture Thurber Room</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ACP MOPS (mothers of children ages newborn-6)</strong></td>
<td>Friday 13 Mar</td>
<td>10h00-12h00</td>
<td>Catacombs</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mops@acparis.org">mops@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday Mission Lunch (volunteers needed)</strong></td>
<td>Friday 13 Mar</td>
<td>10h00-14h00</td>
<td>The American Cathedral</td>
<td>Kristie Worrel <a href="mailto:fridaymissionlunch@acparis.org">fridaymissionlunch@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Each week a hot, nutritious meal is prepared for the homeless &amp; needy. ACP is responsible for the second Friday of each month, and grateful for help with cooking, serving, &amp; cleaning up. Please contact Kristie Worrel.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ACP Café</strong></td>
<td>Friday 13 Mar</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td>Theater</td>
<td>Natalie Raynal <a href="mailto:cmusic@acparis.org">cmusic@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Multicultural Couples Potluck Dinner</strong></td>
<td>Friday 13 Mar</td>
<td>20h00</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
<td>Monica Bassett &amp; Anja Wyss, <a href="mailto:multicultural@acparis.org">multicultural@acparis.org</a></td>
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<td>Fellowship &amp; discussion on topics such as raising bicultural/bilingual children &amp; cultural differences. Bring a dish to share.</td>
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<td><strong>Women’s Tea / Follow-up to retreat</strong></td>
<td>Saturday 14 Mar</td>
<td>12h00 - 14h00</td>
<td></td>
<td>RSVP to <a href="mailto:omen.acparis@gmail.com">omen.acparis@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>We’ll practice Lectio Divina, devotional prayer.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Writers’ Group</strong></td>
<td>Saturday 14 Mar</td>
<td>14h30 - 16h30</td>
<td>Room G2</td>
<td>Tendayi Chirawu <a href="mailto:writers@acparis.org">writers@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children’s Communion Class</strong></td>
<td>Sunday 15 Mar</td>
<td>12h15-14h00</td>
<td>ACP Library</td>
<td>RSVP to Allison Wheeler <a href="mailto:childrensworship@acparis.org">childrensworship@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Would you like your child to participate in communion? Pastor Michelle will lend context and understanding, and practical instruction, to children concerning the Eucharist. Parents are invited to accompany their children.</td>
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<td>Free admission, with free-will offering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trio Ardente - Marika Lombardi, oboe; Albin Lebossé, horn; Dora Cantella, piano. Works by Bach, Mozart, Reinecke.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ACP Today: Faith Talk in Paris radio show</strong></td>
<td>Monday 16 Mar</td>
<td>20h45 - 21h30</td>
<td>100.7 FM, Radio Fréquence Protestante</td>
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<td>Tune in for inspiring music, interviews, sermon highlights.</td>
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## Special Events and Monthly Meetings and Concerts

(please check www.acparis.org for updates)

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<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thurber Thursday - James Alison</strong></td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>18h30; 19h30</td>
<td>Dinner; Lecture Thuber Room</td>
<td>Michelle Wahila associatepastor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What does Micah 6:8 look like through the eyes of a Christian...who happens to be gay?</td>
<td>19 Mar</td>
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<td>@acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Movie Discussion Group</strong></td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td>Room G2</td>
<td>Rebecca Brite <a href="mailto:movies@acparis.org">movies@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movie selection are all Oscar nominees: American Sniper, Birdman, Citizenfour and Selma. See any or all at your leisure and join the group for discussion.</td>
<td>19 Mar</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vente de La Cause</strong></td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>15h00-19h00</td>
<td>10h00-17h00</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lacause.org">www.lacause.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual fund-raising sale of La Cause, Protestant Foundation in Paris. Concert, tombola, antiques, toys, collectible post cards, food, books, and more.</td>
<td>20 Mar</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sandwich Ministry</strong></td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td>13h30</td>
<td>Jurie Ane Feleo homelesssandwich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandwich preparation: Friday 19h30 at ACP</td>
<td>20 Mar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>@acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandwich distribution: Saturday 13h30, meet at ACP</td>
<td>21 Mar</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Combined Traditional/Contemporary Worship Service and Annual Congregational Meeting</strong></td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>10h30 coffee/ croissants</td>
<td>11h30 worship 12h45 meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22 Mar</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert</strong> - Free admission, with free-will offering**</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>17h00</td>
<td>18h00</td>
<td>Fred Gramann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L'Ensemble Vocal Philippe Caillard. Works by Mozart, Mendelssohn, Franck, Gounod.</td>
<td>22 Mar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser Concert</strong></td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>20h00</td>
<td>20h00</td>
<td>Tickets at coffee hour, reception, and concerthabitat.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>«AGAPANTHE» baroque chamber choir and ACP’s internationally known pianist, Nathalia Romanenko</td>
<td>27 Mar</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Concert</strong> - Free admission, with free-will offering**</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>20h00</td>
<td>20h00</td>
<td>Fred Gramann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOTTO VOCE Choirs, directed by Scott Alan Prouty Selections from Bizet to Trenet.</td>
<td>28 Mar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Holy Week: Palm/Passion Sunday services</strong></td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>9h00, 11h00 &amp; 13h30</td>
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<td></td>
<td>29 Mar</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert</strong> - Free admission, with free-will offering**</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>17h00</td>
<td>18h00</td>
<td>Fred Gramann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>«Duo Vocalise» --- Karina Desbordes, soprano; Swetlana Meermann, piano. Works by Tchaikovski, Rimski-Korsakov, Cui, Medtner, Liadov, Rachmaninov</td>
<td>29 Mar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Holy Week Services</strong></td>
<td>Monday -</td>
<td>Mon, Tues, Wed</td>
<td>19h00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Holden Evening Prayer Service: Mon, Tues, Wed</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Good Friday Service</td>
<td>20h00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maundy Thursday Service</td>
<td>30 Mar - 3 Apr</td>
<td>Mon, Tues, Wed</td>
<td>Mon, Tues, Wed</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Good Friday Service</td>
<td></td>
<td>Thurs, Fri</td>
<td>19h00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Holy Week: Easter Sunday</strong></td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>7h15</td>
<td>8h00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunrise Service on the quai d’Orsay</td>
<td>5 April</td>
<td>9h00, 11h00</td>
<td>13h30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Easter Fellowship Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Traditional Celebration of the Resurrection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contemporary Celebration of the Resurrection</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For more information on weekly Bible Studies and meetings, including BSF International, Moms in Prayer International, and Youth and Young Adult events, please go to “What’s on at ACP” at www.acparis.org.
On Sunday 22 March
Remember to do the math!

9H00 service + 11H00 service + 13H30 service =

One Big Congregational Service at 11H30

10h30 Coffee and Croissants
11H30 Combined Worship Service
   Music by Still Point, The Adult & Youth Choirs,
   The Celebration Ringers
12h45 Congregational Meeting