The Spire
The Beacon on the Seine
March 2013

The American Church in Paris
www.acparis.org  63 quai d’Orsay, 75007 Paris, France
Dear Members and Friends of the ACP,

The resignation of Pope Benedict XVI on 11 February is unprecedented in the life of the Roman Catholic Church, at least since Pope Gregory XII resigned in 1415. It is interesting to me that Pope Benedict made the announcement on the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes, the World Day of the Sick. At 85 years old, no one can blame him for confessing, “my strengths, due to an advanced age, are no longer suited to an adequate exercise” of papal duties.1 And so we pray for our brothers and sisters, noting that Roman Catholics represent just a little over half of the world’s Christian population.2

In a time when many institutional or political leaders are grabbing for more power, it was moving to me to see the humility of Pope Benedict in giving up power. He will dedicate the rest of his life “withdrawing into prayer.” There have been significant expressions of shock and grief throughout the church, but at the same time everyone realizes this is a time for the church to look forward to new life. I’m sure the Pope’s timing of his resignation was to give the church the season of Lent to prepare in a very real way for new life in Christ. The Vatican says it is possible that the process for selecting a new pope could be accelerated so as to have the announcement made in time for Holy Week.

Either way, I applaud the Pope for his courageous decision which I believe exemplifies true humility and the way of Jesus, the way of emptying oneself in order to be filled with the Spirit of Christ, of relinquishing our own power in order to experience the power of Christ, to yield oneself to any variety of mini-deaths that lead unto resurrection new life. I know that this Pope has had his critics, and indeed he has had the unenviable task of leading through one of the greatest scandals of the church’s history, the crisis of child abuse and many instances of cover up and hiding. It is time for the church to continue to address this issue and offer compassion and care to the many victims that continue to come forward, and to give power to those who seek justice for wrongs committed by church leaders. The Pope’s resignation is also, however, an opportunity for the church to renew its focus on healing and strengthening for the primary mission of proclamation of the gospel in word and deed to the world.

Perhaps even we Protestants can continue to learn from our “mother church” leader’s example? As we continue to prepare for Easter celebrations at the end of this month (Sunday, 31 March), what are the ways that we might need to lay down power? What are the ways that we need to give power to others? How might we be called to step aside from our own agenda and tradition so that the Holy Spirit can bring new life into the world through us and if need be, without us? As we move toward Holy Week and the way of the cross which our Savior traveled, what are the ways in which we might be obedient to his command to pick up our cross and follow? Paradoxically, death is the way to new life.

In these last days of Lent, I pray that the Holy Spirit will allow us all to reflect more deeply on the way of Jesus, the way of the cross; not so that we are overcome with the grief over our own brokenness and sin, but so that we might realize again the new life that has been given to us purely by God’s grace through what Christ has done for us that we could not do for ourselves.

In Christ,

[Signature]

Dear Friends,

Lent is a time of reflection, which gives us the opportunity to grow closer to God. It is traditionally a time of prayer, fasting and giving. Lent is a time when we focus on our spiritual lives, and it can also be a time to “refocus” the entirety of our lives. Perhaps this Lent you hope to spend more time with family or friends, give more of yourself to the community of faith or just slow down in order to make more time with God.

The possibilities for refocusing are myriad but whatever we choose to concentrate on this Lent, I pray that we can all begin to see the world anew, through refreshed spiritual eyes and hearts. As we learn to honor the season of Lent and begin to make choices about what is truly important in our lives, we open ourselves to the fresh possibilities of God. As we prioritize the things, people and activities that are most important to us, we also gain the ability to focus more fully on them.

Focus is so very important to our lives. The author of the letter to the Hebrews wrote this:

2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

May these beautiful words from the twelfth chapter of the letter to the Hebrews help us to focus this Lent and always.

Bénédictions,

Michelle

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**Women's Ministry Monthly Gathering**

This month we are meeting on Sunday, 24 March from 12h30 to 13h30 in the ACP 2nd Floor Library.

Dr. Elizabeth Milovidov, Esq. will talk about Facebook security for parents and their children. As a lawyer and mom, Elizabeth is concerned about privacy issues, bullying tactics and threats that social media present, but as a technophile, she is also equally aware of the enormous benefits of Facebook.

Contact Kim Herr at woac_president@yahoo.com for more information.
You have probably heard the familiar saying, “Hope springs eternal.” Often it is associated with the belief that people will continue to hope even though they have evidence that things cannot possibly turn out the way they want. In the midst of a hopeless situation, the irony is that sometimes only hope can get you through. This phrase is taken from Alexander Pope’s poem, *Essay on Man*:

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Hope springs eternal in the human breast;
Man never Is, but always To be blest:
The soul, uneasy and confin’d from home,
Rests and expatiates in a life to come.
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I rather like those first three words and I find that phrase particularly inspiring during this time of year. As you know, Paris in the winter can be dark and cloudy. This winter in particular seemed rather long and dark. For many these seasons reflect the inner condition of the heart. Often we go through winter seasons of our soul and spirit, where darkness and isolation become the norm. But alas, there is hope because springtime lies around the corner.

**Hope.**
Hope can be defined as to desire with expectation of obtainment. Hope and faith, although distinct, are interconnected. Faith is a commitment to a belief and originates in our minds. Hope, on the other hand, comes from our heart and expresses deep longings. To hope is to be human and to be real and honest with ourselves and God. The question remains as to what we hope for. Do we place our hope in the temporary, fleeting, or finite? Or are those longings?

**Springs.**
This month we continue our Lenten journey towards the cross and Easter. As you may know, the English word lent derives from the Germanic root for Spring. To be honest, I feel like a new person when springtime arrives. The birds begin chirping again, flowers are budding and the days lengthen. This proves analogous with our spiritual lives as well. This season in the Church calendar reminds us that we too were once in darkness but have now seen a light. We emerge from the shadowy graves of winter and actively spring forth into renewed vitality and life. Springtime reminds us that when there is light there also exists life. As Christians, we are reminded that Christ is the light of world and that he came to give us new life.

**Eternal.**
The reason why Christians have hope is because it is based on God’s redemptive work that lasts for eternity. We are offered but a momentary glimpse into what awaits us in Heaven. The Easter season foreshadows the resurrected life that we all take part in. Though I do not enjoy the long winter season, I realize that going through it prepares me to appreciate spring all the more when it arrives.
Perhaps you are coming through a winter season of your soul. May the hope of new life spring your heart forward in this season and may the light of Christ’s love grow longer and brighter in the days ahead.

Psalm 62:5

Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him.

In Christ,
Dan Haugh

ACP Today: Faith Talk From Paris

Have you tuned into ACP Today, the American Church in Paris’ radio show yet? Join us on Monday 4 and 18 March 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, ACP Today, Faith Talk from Paris! And please invite others to listen—friends who may be housebound or who would simply like more devotional time on a Monday evening. Missed a show? Don’t worry, you can catch up online at www.acparis.org/acptoday

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

Bloom where You’re Planted

Would you like to be part of the Planning Team for the 2013 Bloom Where You're Planted orientation program being held on Saturday 5 October? Please join us on Sunday 14 April from 12h30 - 13h30 in the ACP Library to learn more about the program and how you can be involved. We have a number of committees such as Speakers, Organizations, Registration, Food, Publicity, Children’s Program, Decorating, etc. where we could use your skills and talents. It is a great way to offer hospitality and a warm welcome to those who are just arriving in Paris. If you have any questions, contact Kim at woac_president@yahoo.com. Hope to see you on 14 April.
Holy Week

Join us as we follow Jesus from Palm Sunday to Good Friday and celebrate His resurrection on Easter Sunday

Palm/Passion Sunday
4 March - 09h00, 11h00 and 13h30 Worship Services
Childcare and Children's Worship available during the 11h00 and 13h30 services.

Holy Monday
25 March – 19h00
Holden Evening Prayer Service

Holy Tuesday
26 March – 19h00
Holden Evening Prayer Service

Holy Wednesday
27 March – 19h00
Holden Evening Prayer Service

Maundy Thursday
28 March – 20h00
Worship Service

Good Friday
29 March – 20h00
Worship Service (led by Young Adults)

Easter Sunday
31 March

Please remember to move clocks forward by 1 hour to Summer Time (Daylight Savings Time) at 02h00.

• Sunrise Service at 07h00 on the quai d’Orsay in front of the ACP.
  • Easter Breakfast in the Thurber Room at 08h00.
  • Worship Services at 09h00, 11h00 and 13h30.
    • 09h00 and 11h00: Traditional Celebration of the Resurrection.
    • 13h30: Contemporary Celebration of the Resurrection.

Children will be worshiping with their parents to witness this amazing service.
Activity packets will be handed out to younger children
From Your Council ~ What’s Going On!

Thoughts from Your
Moderator and Vice Moderator
Radford Laney and Pamela Bohl

Our church began the Lenten season with a solemn but beautifully uplifting Ash Wednesday service. It was a quiet time to reflect on our mortality and frailty but also to consider the amazing hope that the resurrection brings to each and every person who has but a mustard seed of faith. The Holy Communion and imposition of ashes further enriched the feeling of closeness with God and with our Christian brothers and sisters near and far on that evening.

Having a peek at the sun over the past few days and enjoying our lengthening hours of daylight also brings a feeling of hope as we move toward the vernal equinox, when around the world there will be about 12 hours of daylight. This equality of daylight hours around the world at Easter is a compelling reminder that Jesus died for everyone across the globe and that through his death and resurrection we can all have eternal life.

Please have a look at the remaining Bible study groups, Thurber Thursdays and Holy Week services and share in the hope and promise of the Lenten season at ACP. We are blessed to have a wonderful pastoral team and many great volunteers leading these activities and services. Make particular note on the Holy Week calendar that DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME begins in France during the night before Easter Sunday. Don’t forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday night. We want you to arrive on time for your preferred Easter Sunday service, be that the 7h00 sunrise service on the quai, the 9h00 or 11h00 traditional services or the 13h30 contemporary service.

And just one ACP business item in closing: Remember the Congregational Meeting between the 11h00 and 13h30 services on Sunday, 17 March. All members are asked to attend or to provide a signed proxy form for your vote before the meeting.

In Christ,
Radford Laney and Pam Bohl
WANTED: Design Team for Spire Makeover!

We are putting together a team to help us come up with a new look for our Church magazine and we need your help! So, if you have a gift for graphics, design, publishing, art or communications in general and you feel called to serve in this way, then we would love to hear from you. Come and join us at the meeting on Sunday, 10 March from 12h20-13h20 in G2.

For more information please contact John Newman and Alison Benney at communications@acparis.org or Lisa, your Spire editor, at spire@acparis.org

Children’s Worship

The season of Lent is upon us and the Children’s Worship team is having a few fun activities planned for our little ones and your family.

The Children’s Worship team has made Lenten devotionals for your families to take home, so make sure to get a copy.

All the children will be able to participate in giving back to the community. We will be having jars in each of the rooms to put any spare change that they may want to donate. All donations will be given to the Foyer de Grenelle. As a Children’s Worship team, we believed that it was important we help our little ones have the opportunity in giving back to the community and God.

There will be no Children’s Worship on 3 - 17 March, so anyone that is interested in helping out during the break, please contact Jeanette at childrensworship@acparis.org

Children’s Worship Stories for March

When Children’s Worship resumes on 24 March, these are the worship stories that we will be looking at and we hope that these scriptures can be discussed further with your families:

3-8 year olds  The Mystery of Easter

This lesson gives an introduction to the relationship of Lent to the Mystery of Easter as well as how Lent overflows into the season of Easter.

9-10 year olds  Jesus Comes Back to Life (John 19:38–20:18)

During this season of Lent, we pray and hope that your family can come together and reflect on the amazing sacrifice that Jesus has made for all of us!
Worship and Music
Anna Zweede and Chad DuBose

The Weekly Atelier Concert Series

17h00, free admission (with free-will offering)

3 March  Violin Recital
Atsuko Sahara (violin) and Makiko Suzumura (piano)

10 March  Oboe Recital
Marika Lombardi (oboe) and Debra Takakjian (piano)

17 March  Tenor Recital
Christopher Preston Thompson, (tenor and early harp)
and Debra Takakjian (piano)

24 March  Piano Recital
Gisèle and Chantal Andranian (piano, 4 hands)

For more information on the concert programmes, please visit our website

Look out for these additional concerts in March

2 March  2 Flutes and Piano Concert
17h00 - ACP Sanctuary
Mika Takeuji & Nobuko Kawabata (flutes)
and Kaori Hiyama (piano)

17 March  The Sakerettes
Guest choir at the 11h00 service

The Sakerettes are alumni of Saker Baptist College, Limbe, Cameroon, residing in the United Kingdom. Empowered with the philosophy of working with one mind, they aim to foster and promote a spirit of love, unity, sisterhood and better social integration amongst their alumni in the UK. This evolving and ever growing association is a sustainable philanthropic organization of Christian womanhood with groups all over the world. They are distinguished by their love for singing, dynamic force for the cause of God, and righteousness in the home, church and everywhere! Saker Baptist College was not only home to natives of Cameroon but to indigenes of Nigeria, Kenya, South Africa, Ghana, Namibia, America and United Kingdom. As a result, they are a unique Sisterhood with associations across the world, offering every Sakerette the opportunity to belong to a group of women who share common interests and beliefs, develop lasting friendships and advance the welfare and prestige of Saker Baptist College.
Christian Education
Anne Speicher and Lori Kolodziejczak

A Call to Live—Small Group Studies
To further the aim of widespread participation in Christian education, small groups are being organized throughout the city, on different days and times at individual homes or at the church. The groups combine Bible study, community, and everyday application. To join a group, please contact the leaders directly.

Wednesday Evening Supper Club, led by Camilla Macfarlane, meets at an Indian Vegetarian Restaurant near UNESCO with discussion about Mark Labberton’s book The Dangerous Act of Worship over dinner. communitylife@acparis.org

Wednesday Evening Home Study (in the 15th) led by Kimberley Hunt will be studying the Gospel of John.

Couples Study, meets twice a month in Versailles with Angela and Dominique Grelet

Saturday Morning Brunch Circle led by Felicia Henderson.

Sunday Afternoon Tea Study, twice a month, led by Pamela and Jim Leavy

Small Prayer Group, led by Ariel Brown, meets on Sundays from 15h30 to 17h00 in the Library and will be studying First John using materials provided by Community Bible Study International.

Women’s Ministries Study, led by Kim Herr, meets at ACP on Thursdays at 19h30.

Would you consider being a Group Leader?
If you would like to be a group leader, please contact Anne at christianeducation@acparis.org or Pastor Wahila at associatepastor@acparis.org

All group leaders will be given a short training by Pastor Wahila.

ACP Filipino Fellowship Bible study on Sundays at 14h00 in the Thurber Room. Contact Virginia Jacinto for more details.

AFACP Bible Study meets on Sundays in G7 at 12h45 (Please note, there is no Bible study on the first Sunday of the month)

ACP Tuesday Morning Women’s Bible Study will be starting a new video series, 40 Days of Purpose by Rick Warren. The study runs from 10h30-12h30 every Tuesday morning, except during school holidays, in the catacombs of the church building. Childcare is available for a minimal fee. For more information please contact Jennifer Jourlait.
March Thurber Thursday Lectures

Thurber Thursdays is an adult community gathering and growth time that is open to all. We share a meal at 18h30 and the evening program begins at 19h30. On 21 March Dr. Susan Perry will be talking about Grassroots Human Rights Organizations in Paris.

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.

Annual Spring Retreat For Adults: 7-9 June

ACP’s annual Spring Retreat for adults will take place the weekend of 7-9 June 2013. We will be returning to the Abbaye-Fleury, an historic Benedictine monastery on the banks of the Loire about two hours from Paris. The theme of the meeting will be "Centering Prayer at the Wellspring” to be led by Rev. Dr. Cynthia Bourgeault. Rev. Bourgeault is a contemplative herself, an Episcopalian priest, a former student and colleague of Father Thomas Keating, and an internationally known author and retreat leader. As further preparation it is recommended to read Centering Prayer and Inner Awakening by Rev. Bourgeault. Our program will begin with supper Friday evening, and end after lunch on Sunday. It will include discussion, meditation and prayer time, perhaps a question period with a monk, and some free time to relax. A very special opportunity we have is the option for each of us to attend any or all of the six daily offices with the monks. This is an environment conducive to a silent retreat for any who wish. The cost will be 100 € per person (exclusive of transportation), with an early registration fee of 85€ if payment is received prior to 15 April.

PLACES ARE LIMITED TO 24. If you wish to go on this retreat, please let Sue Orsoni know as soon as possible to make a formal reservation. If you have any questions, please contact Sue, as above.

Young Professionals

Are you between 25 and 39 years old? Experiencing the corporate world in Paris and surrounding areas? Then come share your experiences with us on Wednesdays in the Catacombs from 19h30 to 21h30.

In March we will continue with Mark Labberton’s book The Dangerous Act of Worship.

For more information, please go to the ACP website www.acparis.org/yp or join our Facebook group ACP Young Professionals.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Elodie.
Is it working 10 to 12 hour days clearing “bush” with a machete for no pay, only the privilege of taking firewood home, in mammoth bundles on your head, when you have finished each day?

Is it having to wait, in great pain, for six months to find enough money for surgery on a “cystic mass filling the abdominal cavity...”? Once out, the tumor weighed six kilos (12.5 pounds). Lab results will cost more, when they are ready.

Is it buying charcoal three of four chunks at a time and only cooking food a few times a week?

Is it giving up school after successfully passing the seventh grade leaving exams because the money you can earn at various odd jobs will help feed the numerous younger siblings and cousins of the household?

Is it selling the raw coffee beans from your two or three coffee plants by the handful before they are even dried? Dried coffee beans sell for three times more but the money is needed now.

Is it working 14-hour days at your fruit and vegetable stand in the open-air market, where you also cook, sleep, and raise your children?

“Poor” is having no options.

So, what is “rich”?

Is it delighting your little daughter with a raggedy polyester satin “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs” Halloween costume that has made its way from a Salvation Army collection bin to a neighborhood market stall? She knows nothing about Snow White but she will wear it to church.

Is it happily placing a pole of sugar cane worth about 20 centimes on the altar on the “Thanksgiving Sunday” at church?

Is it owning a bicycle? Owning a bike means you can load up eight or 10-gallon Jerri cans when you go to the well for water. Wells are usually downhill, right? But the bicycle needs to be pushed back up the hill, often by two or three young children, on the return trip.

Owning a bike means you can peddle to the market town, invest in a load of pineapple or just about anything and sell that merchandise to your close neighbors for a small profit. Owning a bike means you can carry 10 meter-square roofing sheets or 3 meter-long drain pipes to the slow-moving construction site of your future self-built dream house. It means your teen-aged son can make the 7-mile trip to Rafiki School as a day student in time for breakfast at 7h00.

“Rich” is having hope for the future. It is the assurance of God’s love and grace.

Rafiki’s education, childcare, Bible study, teacher training and women’s programs aim to equip our children and adult partners with knowledge and skills to improve their potential as godly contributors to their country’s development. The good news is that, with God’s constant presence, it is working.
Following our Destiny

by Destiny E. Ryales

www.excellencectc.org

Wow, can you believe it has been six months...?

I always appreciate and respect time. I’m happy to be punctual and have continuously enjoyed birthdays, anniversaries and milestones as much as possible. Well, I have made it to my first official milestone here...six months. I have lived here since August – and what a sweet, adventurous, slow set of months! I would not change a thing!

The Afrangua community have heard wonderful comments about our classes and have requested us to start giving them classes too. We knew it was going to be a goal for 2013 but closer toward the end of year. That way I could take the time to learn their dialect and teach them personally. However, the adults have a different agenda and we have hosted three weeks of computer technology classes as of today!

There are two sets of classes each week, one in Fante and one in English. Abraham is teaching the Fante class and his class has been the most faithful. Twelve eager adults ready to learn as much as possible about computers! My class has about six adults and I truly believe only half of them understand my African-American, south side of Chicago accent. Needless to say, I have mastered talking slowly but changing my accent into a Ghanaian or British one is not an easy trick. Both of the classes are fun and I am truly thankful to God for the students' desire to learn.

Around the same period, our students started to ask for additional computer practice time at the center. I usually try my best to have them ask in English but they are enormously shy. After a couple of minutes, I usually say yes and they queue up to enter the classroom. So from 15h00 to 19h00 every weekday, unless I am out of the village, I welcome 18 children into the room for an hour of free computer time.

In the beginning, I would allow them to either practice their typing skills with Rapid Typing or create a drawing with Paint. Numerous children wanted to just explore within the computer. I created student users so they couldn't change any important settings or configurations. Slowly the children are desiring new software to explore, and last weekend I searched online for children’s learning games. CNet listed various software but most of them were not free. However, God pointed me to the right place and I was able to download for free software specifically for children, including a jigsaw puzzle, a coloring book, mathematics practice, English grammar and ABC lessons. The after-school fun has just been upgraded from computer free time to computerized learning lessons. Yay!!!

This is quite an exciting step...from daytime computer technology lessons, to an after-school computer program and then adult technology classes...What does God have planned for us next????
From our 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.*

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.”

If you would like someone to pray WITH you after services, there will be a Prayer Team member available. Meet under the chandelier in the sanctuary.

From the Lay Caregiver Ministry Team...

Even the snowy weather couldn't keep seekers away from Caroline Corda-Razat's prayer workshop on 20 January. The workshop was a great success and our hearts were warmed as we were brought closer to Christ and to each other by practicing some new methods of praising God, confessing to Him and offering thanksgiving and intercession; all which gave us insights to strengthen our prayer life. This workshop was sponsored by the Lay Care Givers and open to the congregation. Keep an eye out for other congregational events in the future.

The ACP Lay Caregiver Ministry Team

LCG’ers are dedicated to demonstrating the love of Christ to the ACP community by making hospital visits, rejoicing with those who are celebrating, and calling or visiting those who are going through a loss or transition or in need of a listening ear or a prayerful presence.

We are also working to set up a prayer time following each of the worship services to pray with people in the congregation.

We follow training to be equipped to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community. We are always looking for more members and are happy to receive requests for visits or calls.

All of our requests are confidential. If you know of anyone who could use a visit or call from us, or would like to become a member of our team, please contact Pastor Michelle or Yoshiko Okubo laycaregivers@acparis.org
Fundraiser
CONCERT

“Habitat for Humanity”

April 12, 2013 at 8 PM

Entrance: 25 € (includes after concert cocktail party)

Come and join us for an evening of music & inspiration
and help us raise funds for "Habitat for Humanity"

Led by conductor Michael Boone, the Sinfonietta Paris Orchestra will perform
Johann Stamitz "Symphonie in A major" (ca.1746),
Igor Stravinsky Concerto in D for string orchestra (1946)
and Josef Suk Serenade for string orchestra, Op.6
Piano Soloist- Nathalia Romanenko (1er Prix de conservatoire de Paris) will perform
“Sheherazade” by Rimsky Korsakov.

More info and tickets for sale:
www.concerthabitat.com

Find out more about the Habitat for Humanity team in the April magazine!
## Young Adult Activities in March

### Young Adult Events (18-30yrs)

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 5</td>
<td>19h30-21h00</td>
<td>Bible Study</td>
<td>Catacombs</td>
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<td><em>Luke 8</em></td>
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<td>Prayer Room open from 18h30</td>
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<td>Tuesday 12</td>
<td>18h00-21h00</td>
<td>Pizza Night*</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
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<td>Monday 18</td>
<td>20h00-22h00</td>
<td>Pub Theology</td>
<td>The Frog and Princess Pub</td>
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<td>Tuesday 19</td>
<td>19h30-21h00</td>
<td>Bible Study</td>
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<td><em>Luke 9</em></td>
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<td>Prayer Room open from 18h30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26</td>
<td>19h30-21h00</td>
<td>Holy Week Worship</td>
<td>Catacombs</td>
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*For Pizza Night come at 18h00 to help cook and from 19h30 for dinner and fellowship*

You can also join us on Thursdays for **Thurber Thursday** with a meal (suggested donation 5€) at 18h30 and a presentation from 19h30 in the Thurber Room. Check Christian Education for speaker list and come early to help cook or set up!

Volunteers are greatly appreciated!

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For more information about who we are and what we do at **ACP Young Adults**, please visit our group page on the church website:

http://www.acparis.org/acp-groups/young-adult-ministry

We invite you to connect with us online for community and updates on all young adult activities and gatherings:

http://www.facebook.com/groups/ACPyoungadults/

You can also follow us on Twitter (www.twitter.com/danhaugh)
Youth Activities 
in March

Youth Events (13-18yrs)
Please feel free to bring friends along – they are always welcome at ACP events!

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 3</td>
<td>15h00-17h30</td>
<td>Youth Group “Lycée”</td>
<td>Catacombs</td>
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<td>15h00-17h30</td>
<td>Youth Group “Collège”</td>
<td>Gym &amp; G2</td>
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<td>Sunday 10</td>
<td>15h00-17h30</td>
<td>Youth Group “Lycée”</td>
<td>Catacombs</td>
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<td>15h00-17h30</td>
<td>Youth Group “Collège”</td>
<td>Gym &amp; G2</td>
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<td>Sunday 17</td>
<td>15h00-17h30</td>
<td>Youth Group “Lycée”</td>
<td>Catacombs</td>
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<td>Social Sunday (check the Facebook page for more details!)</td>
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<td>15h00-17h30</td>
<td>Youth Group “Collège”</td>
<td>Gym &amp; G2</td>
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<td>Saturday 23</td>
<td>TBC</td>
<td>“Collège” Paintball evening</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 24</td>
<td>15h00-17h30</td>
<td>Youth Group “Lycée”</td>
<td>Catacombs</td>
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Please note, there is no Youth Group on Easter Sunday, 31 March.

Confirmation classes restart after the school holidays on 6 April.

For more information about who we are and what we do at ACP Youth, please visit our group page on the church website: http://www.acparis.org/acp-groups/youth-ministry, or contact Rev. Dan Haugh at youthpastor@acparis.org.

For students to stay connected with our online community please join our Facebook group: http://www.facebook.com/groups/acpyouthgroup/
Opportunities to Serve the Community

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP: Children's Worship Needs You!
Volunteers are asked to commit to serving approximately two Sundays every 6-8 weeks. For more information, please contact Jeanette at childrensworship@acparis.org.

GREETING AND USHERING: We are seeking new members for this group. If you are interested in participating during the services, please contact Anna Zweede at worshipandmusic@acparis.org.

THURBER THURSDAY: Like to cook? Bake? We need people for making cakes/cookies and delicious desserts in advance of our dinners on Thursday evenings, as well as helping with dinner preparations on Thursdays. Our cooking crew starts at 16h00 and set up crew sets the tables starting at 17h30. Please contact Camilla Macfarlane at communitylife@acparis.org if you would like to become part of this fun team! Clean up crew eats for free and earns special blessings!

FRIDAY MISSION LUNCH at the American Church in Paris. Each Friday from 10h00 – 14h00, a hot, nutritious meal is prepared for the homeless and needy. Volunteers are needed each week for cooking, serving, and cleaning up. If you are interested and available, please contact Kristie Worrel.

WELCOME TABLE ATTENDANTS and COFFEE HOUR GREETERS: Be a MEETER GREETER! We are looking for happy, cheerful people to help at the Welcome Table after every service, as well as roaming coffee hour greeters. This is a ministry that we can ALL share in, and if you can share 20 minutes of your time, once a month to participate in welcoming guests, you are sure to find more joy than you can give. A smile and a handshake is all that is needed! Teams are being formed so that each team serves one Sunday per month at each service. Please contact Camilla Macfarlane at communitylife@acparis.org if you can be counted on to spread some joy and welcome a newcomer!

SANDWICH MINISTRY will take place on 16 March at 13h30, when we distribute sandwiches to hand out to the hungry and homeless. You can also come and help make them on 15 March at 19h30. Contact Jurie Ane or Dan Haugh at youthpastor@acparis.org if you would like to get involved.

For other volunteering opportunities, check with Mission Outreach at missionoutreach@acparis.org, Community Life at communitylife@acparis.org, or Dan Haugh with Youth and Young Adult Ministries at youthpastor@acparis.org.
ACP Groups and Additional Activities

ACP WRITER’S GROUP meets on the second Saturday of the month at 14h00 – 17h00 in room G2. Contact Laura Kerber for more information.

MULTICULTURAL COUPLES GROUP meets Saturday, 23 March. 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.

THE KNITTING GROUP meets on Monday at 16h00 in room G2 adjacent to Pastor Dan’s office. It’s a nice, bright space and opens to the courtyard when the weather permits. While we are primarily a knitting group, we have several new members who crochet, cross stitch and embroider. We knit for ourselves and/or church missions. We welcome all to our fun and diverse group. Please contact Nancy VerWest for more information.

THE QUILTING GROUP meets on Tuesday afternoon at members houses. We welcome quilters of all levels. Some of us work on our own projects while other of us learn new techniques. For more information please contact Nancy Verwest.

MOVIE DISCUSSION GROUP: The movie group’s choices for March are Gli equilibristi (Les Equilibristes) by Ivano De Matteo, Zaytoun by Eran Riklis, No by Pablo Larrain and The Sessions by Ben Lewin. See any or all in the cinema at your convenience, then join the group for discussion on Thursday, 21 March at 19h30 in basement room G2.

AFACP will be having a fund raising lunch on 7 April at 13h00 in the Thurber Room. All are welcome.

Independent Christian Prayer Groups and Bible Study Activities

MOMS IN PRAYER INTERNATIONAL has come to Paris! Are you concerned about your kids? 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 together. Contact Caroline at MomsInPrayerParis@gmail.com for information and join us Tuesday mornings at 9h30 in G2. See also MomsInPrayer.org.

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. Contact Thelma Fuchs for more information.

MINDFUL MEDITATION: This group, being offered on Saturdays from 12h00 to 13h15 in G2, is for those who already have a meditation practice, as well as for those who are interested in beginning a practice. Mindfulness meditation is a way of learning to pay attention to our life as it unfolds moment by moment. It is open to church members as well as to the larger community. Norma Jean Deak, a clinical social worker, has taught Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction for 14 years. Contact Norma Jean with any questions.
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/.

### Clergy and Staff of the American Church in Paris

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ministers</td>
<td>The Entire Congregation</td>
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### Council of the American Church in Paris

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<thead>
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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
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