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On the cover: French schooner La Boudeuse docked below the ACP

You may have seen this three-masted ship floating on the Seine just in front of the church at the Port du Gros-Caillou. She arrived on 9 September for a 4-month stay, under the auspices of the humanitarian non-profit called ACTED, and will be participating in a number of events leading up to the COP21 conference on climate change in early December. A book about the ship and her extraordinary captain, Patrice Franceschi, is scheduled for publication (in French) in mid-October. We’ll have lots more to tell you about all this in the November Spire, since one of our members, Diane Ficarelli, is familiar with La Boudeuse from past experiences and is eager to share them with you!
Warm greetings to you in this month when we celebrate the 50th anniversary of when the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke here at the American Church in Paris on Sunday, 24 October, 1965. We will be welcoming Dr. Clayborne Carson, professor of history at Stanford University, and director of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Research and Education Institute, to speak here along with the Rev. Dr. Luke Powery, the Dean of Duke University Chapel, on Thursday, 22 October, for a very special Thurber Thursday. Dr. Carson has also been invited to speak at the American Library of Paris, the American School of Paris, the American University of Paris, the University of Paris VIII as well as other academic venues in Lyon, Rennes and Marseille.

We are thankful that in these difficult days with heightened tensions around race and ethnic discrimination here in Europe and the racial violence and #BlackLivesMatter debates in the United States, that we as a church are able to welcome these two prominent scholars to share their wisdom and inspiration for the future with so diverse an audience.

The Rev. Dr. Luke Powery also will be preaching at the ACP on Sunday, 25 October. Dr. Powery, before being called to serve as the Dean at Duke University Chapel, was the Associate Pastor of the International Protestant Church in Zürich and after earning his PhD., taught homiletics at Princeton Theological Seminary. We are thankful that he and his wife Gail have agreed to come as our guests for this special anniversary weekend.

Please note that there will be a special evening concert at 20h00 on Saturday, 24 October, commemorating Dr. King’s visit with some discussion of the significance of his Nobel Peace Prize, and then a one hour program of music, comprised of concert Negro Spirituals – both solo songs and duets.

Dr. King sent a thank you letter to Rev. and Mrs. Sargent, the pastor of the ACP when Dr. King visited Paris in 1965. In that letter, Dr. King wrote this:

*Words are inadequate for me to express my appreciation to you for all of the courtesies which you extended to us during our recent visit to Paris. There is a word in Catholic theology called “supererogation” which means in substance, “more than justice required.” I can assure you all of your expressions of hospitality were acts of supererogation. We will long remember the wonderful fellowship we had together.*

As we are also in a season of welcoming newcomers and new members, my prayer is that all of our guests, from esteemed colleagues and professors like Dr. and Mrs. Carson, and the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Powery, to those more anonymous visitors just passing through, of whatever nationality, race, linguistic group, economic, education, denomination or other social orientation, would always sense the grace of God’s welcome in our midst, and long remember the fellowship we had together. May we remember, celebrate and faithfully pursue the blessing of diverse community together,

In Christ,

[Signature]
Thurber Thursdays

18h30: Dinner in the Thurber room
19h30-21h00: Presentation, then Q&A
All are welcome.
If dining, please bring a donation to offset costs.

Thurber Thursdays 1, 8, 15 October
with Nicky Gumble

"A Life Worth Living" is a 9-session video course by Nicky Gumble which explores the New Life in Christ as presented by Paul in Philippians. This course is ideal for those who are starting out as Christians or those wanting to review the basics of the Christian life.
The video presentation is followed by discussion in small groups. All adults welcome.

Small groups, big opportunity!
by Ashleigh Searle

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. - Hebrews 10:24-25

Are you interested in joining together with other brothers and sisters in Christ for mid-week Bible study and fellowship? Are you new to Paris and looking to meet other members of the American Church in Paris community? Why not join a small group?
The American Church in Paris is launching a season of Christ-centered small groups this fall aimed at bringing us together, growing our community and living out our faith in Jesus Christ.

Being part of a small group leads to growth by creating more opportunities to come to know God, to practice the teachings of Jesus, and to grow spiritually. It is also a chance to foster new relationships and encourage each other on our faith walk. It is a time of teaching, sharing, listening and prayer.

On the ACP website you can indicate your interest in being part of a small group by using the online questionnaire. Sign-up cards will be distributed at all services throughout the month of September. You can also sign up at the welcome table during Sunday coffee hour. You will be placed in a small group that corresponds to your availability and location. Your group leader will contact you with the details.

Each group will have 8-10 participants and will likely meet twice a month. Groups will be composed of men and women of all ages. The groups will begin to meet the first week of October. The aim is to have as many people as possible join and participate in these new small groups. As groups grow, new groups will form to welcome new members throughout the year.

At least one of the small groups will have a family focus and will allow for intergenerational fellowship and learning. Parents and their children ages 8-15 will want to join this family-friendly small group.

So far 10 ACP families have volunteered to host and lead small groups meetings in their homes or at the American Church in Paris. Leaders will be using material from RightNow Media as a teaching resource in addition to Scripture. If you are interested in hosting a group or serving as a group leader, please contact the Rev. Dr. Jeff Powell, at interimassociatepastor@acparis.org.
Dear friends,

I recently read an article that reminded me that when Jesus welcomed the little children unto him, he didn’t welcome them simply to age appropriate activities while they waited to become full members in the Kingdom of God. He welcomed the children right then. He announced to his disciples that not only were the children welcome into the Kingdom in that moment, but that the Kingdom belonged to them.

What implications might this principle have for the community of faith? And the ways that we welcome children into the church and value their participation?

First and foremost, it is a reminder that all ages and abilities can be used to enhance and enrich God’s Kingdom. Every child can visit the elderly, give some allowance to missions, give food to the hungry or share with another. Like the widow’s coins, every small act of self-giving is significant to Christ. The kindness of children is no less meaningful than the kindness of their adult counterparts.

Children aren’t lesser members of the church, waiting for a time when they can be really useful. If we welcome them as merely a long-term investment – if we appreciate them only for their potential, we miss the message of Jesus. Our Lord welcomed all ages into his loving presence without hesitation.

Once of the best ways that we can relate the love of Christ to our community’s youngest disciples is by welcoming them into worship. In a large community like ACP that means we sometimes hear crying, giggling and shuffling around simultaneously during our worship services! But as we welcome children into the place where God has promised to meet his people, we allow them the space to meet Jesus with the communion of saints.

As a worshipping community we make promises to every child who is baptized in God’s church. We promise to love and nurture them in the way of Jesus; we encourage them and help them grow in faith as their aunts, uncles, grandparents and brothers and sisters in Christ. All of what we experience together in the community of faith is a crucial part of that promise – Children’s Worship, Mission projects, Family fellowship, and most especially worship.

Kids are whispery and wiggly, but indispensable to Christ’s body (1 Corinthians 12:22). They rustle bulletins and get distracted and sing off key (hey, I sing off key on a good day!). But Jesus reminds us that they are also beloved and important to Him.

The next time you hear lots of commotion beside you (and maybe you also see tired or embarrassed parents trying to corral the herd), I encourage you to look into little eyes and see Jesus. Remember that they also meet Jesus in you. Offer something simple for the little ones (and their stressed-out parents): “It’s good to worship with you today.” Those simple words will be enough to ease hearts and to fill them.

All are welcome here. All are welcome to meet Jesus here. All are welcome to participate in his life-giving mission. All are welcome here, without exception.

Benedictions,

Michelle
What we are looking for is what is looking. ~St. Francis of Assisi

Friday Mission Lunch Food Drive

Would you like to help the Friday Mission Lunch Program replenish some of its basic food items that are used each and every week? Your Help, helps us to help others!

A food drive will be held at the ACP for the end of October, and we are asking for a very short and specific list of food items:

- Rice
- Penne pasta and spaghetti pasta
- Vegetable oil
- Coffee (bags of ground coffee)
- Sugar cubes

There will be collection boxes in the Narthex on **Sunday, October 18th & 25th**. Your participation and contributions are much appreciated! Thank you!

Listening Skills Workshop

**9h-16h, Saturday, 10 October**

Have you ever wondered what you could do to communicate more effectively with members of your family, your colleagues at work, your friends at church and just about anyone out there in our busy world?

Join Rev. Dr. Jeff Powell for an **interactive workshop** on listening skills. There will be opportunities to “try out” your new skills with training partners and in small groups. 15€ fee for lunch and resources. All are welcome. Pastor Jeff has served as a national trainer in "Listening and Caring Skills" for the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Please register and pay for the workshop at the sign-up table in the theatre following the Sunday worship services or contact Pastor Jeff at interimassociatepastor@acparis.org to register or to find out more about the workshop.
Small groups and gastvrijheid

The Rev. Dr. Jeff Powell, Associate Pastor

Hospitality is such an essential gift that we can offer one another and especially newcomers to the Christian community. Small groups provide one of the best opportunities to give and receive hospitality. To help reflect upon the ministry of hospitality, I would like to share with you these words from Henri Nouwen's book, *Reaching Out*.

"The German word for hospitality is *Gastfreundhaft*, which means friendship for the guest. The Dutch use the word *gastvrijheid*, which means freedom for the guest. Although this might reflect that the Dutch people find freedom more important than friendship, it definitely shows that hospitality wants to offer friendship without binding the guest and freedom without leaving him alone.

Hospitality, therefore, means primarily the creation of a free space where the stranger can enter and become a friend instead of an enemy. Hospitality is not to change people, but to offer them a space where change can take place. It's not to bring men and women over to our side, but to offer freedom not disturbed by a dividing line. It is not to lead our neighbor into a corner where there are no options left, but to open a wide spectrum of options for choice and commitment. It is not an education intimidation with good books, good stores and good works, but the liberation of fearful hearts so that words can find root and bear ample fruit. It is not a method of making our God and our way into the criteria of happiness, but the opening of an opportunity to others to find their God in their way.

The paradox of hospitality is that it wants to create emptiness, not a fearful emptiness, but a friendly emptiness where strangers can enter and discover themselves created as free; free to sing their own songs, speak their own language, dance their own dances; free also to leave or follow their own vocations. Hospitality is not a subtle invitation to adopt the lifestyle of the host, but the gift of a chance for the guest to find his own."

I invite you to join a small group where you can be blessed by giving and receiving hospitality in a Christian community and by growing in your spiritual life. In October the ACP is launching a season of Christ-centered small groups aimed at bringing us together, growing our community and living out our faith in Jesus Christ. Small groups will be using a wide variety of biblical and theological resources including materials available from RightNow Media. Please contact me at interimassociatepastor@acparis.org if you would like to join a small group or would like to receive more information.

In Christ,
Jeff

The ACP is pleased to offer you the gift of free access to RightNow Media. It's like the Netflix of Bible study videos, providing online access to over 10,000 videos. There are offerings for all ages and interests, including stand-alone movies as well as Bible study series. Check the ACP website sidebar for your key to access hours of Christian study through comedy, drama, history, and yes, pedagogy.
Multicultural couples group: Friday 9 October, 20h00, Thurber Room
Join us for fellowship and cross-cultural discussion. Bring a dish to share. Contact multicultural@acparis.org.

Women’s gathering: Sunday 11 October, 12h30, Library
Please join us for a time of fellowship and a discussion about Nonviolent Communication led by our speaker, Ann Birot-Salsbury. Childcare will be available in room G1.

Movie discussion group: Thursday 15 October, 19h30, Room G2
See these films and join us to discuss: Pawn Sacrifice (Le Prodige), by Edward Zwick; Testament of Youth (Mémoires de jeunesse), by James Kent; Lamb, by Yared Zeleke; Sicario, by Denis Villeneuve. For info: movies@acparis.org

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

Mark your calendars

Ross Robson
6 November 1928 - 22 August 2015

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the death of Reverend Ross Robson.
Pastor Robson served as Pastoral Assistant at ACP in the second half of 2003, and went on to short-term pastoral posts in Strasbourg and Vienna, and then three terms in Bali. He was an eager and skilled pastor, confounded by French food when he first arrived, but quickly adapting and making the most of his time here. He will be dearly missed.
Ross was a graduate of San Francisco Theological Seminary and the University of Washington, having grown up in Seattle. He held long and distinguished tenures at First Presbyterian in Fargo, North Dakota, followed by First Pres. in Omaha, Nebraska, from which he retired. Both are what we call "tall-steeple" churches, prominent in the center of town. Among other achievements, he helped with a land purchase for a school in Mexico, in establishment of a water system in West Timor, and with a housing project in a small village in El Salvador.
His memorial service was held 27 September at a conference center in Minnesota close to where he and his wife Peg had a cottage, and not far from old friends in Fargo, his happiest church and the place where the kids grew up.
You know, I didn’t really believe people when they told me that Paris in August was calm. Compared to my little city in Michigan Paris seemed so busy. Most people I talked to warned me to wait for the Rentrée and then I would understand.

Well, you were all right. Holy cow.

It’s as if Paris wakes up overnight. Like the Rentrée signals an alarm and the city swings back into action. The cafés fill with people. Cafés I didn’t know existed until their doors flung open once more.

ACP is no exception to the rule. Beginning with the ministry fair groups, programs, people are all bustling with new life. You can sense the renewed excitement in the air, endless with possibility.

It’s the rhythm of the seasons that is most exciting to me. There is an ebb and flow to the year that I think God gives us to help us explore the vastness and uniqueness of our lives. With the beginning of a new ministry year we find ourselves anticipating what God might do in us and through us.

And so in this season we join groups and meet new people. Youth and young adults get together to play games, bond with one another, and learn more about what it means to follow Jesus. Everyone at church finds new places to belong and serve.

As winter approaches we’ll naturally move into a season where we turn inward and reflect on our lives and listen for the Holy Spirit, calling us to shed habits and grow disciplines where we become more in tune with God.

As the cold begins to thaw and we see flowers bloom and trees grow new leaves we remember that we are continually being reborn. Just as we observe new life in the physical world around us we find ourselves discovering new life again and again in Christ.

From this new life we move into summer. Warm weather. A time for play and enjoying the beauty of God’s creation. It’s a season that I believe God uses to remind us that we are human beings and not human doings. God calls us to live for God in our work but also in our play. In our enjoyment of the everyday. Because that’s where God is found. That’s why we take holidays. It’s why August is so empty in Paris. We find time to rest just as God rested after the busy work of the creation of the universe.

The beauty of seasons is that they give us the opportunity to experience all the things that make us human. Desires and hopes grow as we begin a new ministry year. Self-reflection and quietness give us time to listen to the Spirit in the winter. We are reborn and given new life over and over again in the spring just as the world around us finds new life. And we live in the example of the Creator who found time to stop, rest, and enjoy life for all that it is.

So whether you are a youth, young adult, parent, or grandparent, in whatever stage of life you find yourself there is something to discover in the seasons. We have the opportunity this fall to be hopeful and expectant of all that God can and will do through us. Be present in this season and all the seasons to come. Be grateful that God gives us a rhythm to life where we can focus on different aspects of our humanity.

I, for one, am excited to begin this familiar rhythm anew with dear friends at ACP.
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
In the Book of Ecclesiastes we find an interesting challenge set before us. “Send out your bread upon the waters, for after many days you will get it back.” (Ecclesiastes 11:1)

I found this verse coming to mind the other morning after Keiko, the church’s Wedding Coordinator, shared with me a conversation she had with a couple from Japan who were married in the sanctuary of The American Church in Paris on 13 January, 1989. In early September they were back visiting in Paris with their daughter, and one of the primary places they wanted her to see was the church where they were married.

In talking with this family, Keiko learned that this couple chose to have their wedding at The American Church in Paris so that they might avoid some of the pressure and chaos they would have had to deal with had their wedding been in Japan. Apparently marrying here was simpler. But there was more to their decision than that. This bride and groom wanted a wedding service where the focus was on the vows made between the two of them and God, rather than on all the other aspects of a wedding such as a big reception, hosting many guests, lots of gifts, the fancy clothes, etc.

This was the first time their daughter had heard the story of her parent’s marriage. After walking through the sanctuary the mother turned to her daughter and said, “This is where it all started.” In other words, after 26 years of being together and obviously still very much in love, this couple wanted to bring their daughter into the sanctuary where the two of them were joined together in holy matrimony.

I chose that phrase – “in holy matrimony” – intentionally. Let me tell you why. This couple are not Christian. In fact, I know nothing about their religious persuasion. It’s not all that important to me. But what I do know is that they consider the American Church in Paris to be holy ground. What I do know is that they understand the marital promises they made before God while standing in the sanctuary to be sacred.

Interestingly, the daughter recognized this reality and was quite touched upon hearing her parents’ story; so touched, in fact, that she said that she wanted to continue her parents’ tradition, following in the path they set by one day making her own marital commitment in the sanctuary at ACP. Like her father and her mother, she recognized holiness surrounding her and her parents as they stood in the sanctuary.

For decades now ACP has offered hospitality and holiness to couples from all around the world who wish to be married in the sanctuary. In other words, this church sends out bread upon the waters … casting bread, sowing seeds, sharing the gospel, placing countless couples in the hands of God and trusting that God can manage quite well from there. In the marriage blessing services, as well as in our pre-marital conversations, I speak of God’s love for them and of God’s call that we love one another as we are loved by God. And I believe that in due time God will see to it that love and holiness will guide and grip these newlyweds in ways that will bless them and bring them near to the heart of God.

Clearly ACP’s wedding ministry is a godly gift to the world.

Jay McKell
Visiting Pastor
A word from your ACP Council
By John Benson, ACP Council Vice-Moderator

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. – Colossians 3:16

Leaders from the ACP Council gathered on Saturday, 26 September, to enjoy a time of fellowship and sharing of ideas and priorities for the upcoming year in the life of ACP. The annual retreat, which was facilitated by Pastor Scott Herr and Council Moderator Mary Crass-Fenu, began with a time of prayer and worship, including reflections on Colossians 3:16, which is the “theme verse” for the 2015/2016 ACP Council term.

The majority of the morning session was devoted to studying and analyzing the ACP Mission Statement, and discussing what it truly means and requires to “provide a place” and “to engage in ministries and services” for the glory of God in Paris, and beyond. In the afternoon, the Council members broke up into smaller groups to consider how ACP should focus its energy and resources in the upcoming year on activities that truly honor and reflect the greater mission of ACP in the community. The two groups – one focusing upon the provision of “place” and the other focusing on the “ministries and services” – were tasked with identifying valuable, tangible and practical goals for the Council to set and achieve in the next 12 months. These goals, including a renewed focus upon enhancing the beauty of the ACP church house and continued emphasis on stewardship and fellowship, will become the framework for the upcoming ACP Council year.

The Council would like to encourage all members of the Congregation to continue to pray for the mission of ACP in Paris and abroad. Moreover, the Council welcomes any and all volunteers who may be interested in taking a more active role in the life of ACP by serving on one of the many committees represented and organized under the leadership of the Council. We welcome you to contact any one of the Council members at any time to share your ideas and thoughts on the future of ACP.

Finally, the Council Moderator Mary Crass-Fenu expressed sincere thanks for all those who took time to join the full-day retreat, noting, “I wanted to say a big thanks to Council members who joined the retreat. We had a wonderful day of sharing and thinking ahead. Very grateful for participation of pastors Jeff, Michelle and Scott. And sincere appreciation to Heather Walter for all preparations.”

The Associate Pastor Search Committee continues their work as of the summer, when the Council authorized them to conduct a search for a new full-time Associate Pastor, as Pastors Michelle Wahila and Jeff Powell will be completing their part-time pastoral work contracts at the end of this year.

The ACP Search Committee has received almost 120 applications and has been diligently reading resumes, statements of faith, and listening to sermon videos and checking references. The list of candidates has been narrowed to 9 finalists, and skype interviews are underway. The Committee hopes to invite two or three final candidates for personal interviews here in Paris and to make a recommendation to the Council sometime in November. The congregation will then be called upon to vote to extend the call to a final candidate before Christmas, in order to hopefully have a new Associate Pastor here in January.

Please pray for the ongoing work of the AP Search Committee: Daphne Elferrich, Christophe Galland, Jim Hobbs (Chair), Gib Kirkham, Henry Luzolo, Gigi Oyog (Secretary), Anne Speicher (Vice Chair), and Rev. Scott Herr (Pastoral Liaison). Please also feel free to send any comments or suggestions to the committee at associatepastorposition@acparis.org. Thank you!
What’s up in Paris

October event listings

By Karen Albrecht

What’s in a word?

Joris Lacoste’s innovative theatrical collective "Encyclopédie de la parole" describes itself as "an observatory of the human word." “Suite n° 2,” their composition for a quintet of voices, is at the Théâtre de Gennevilliers as part of Paris’s ambitious Festival d’Automne. A rich layering of words from 15 different languages explores the power of language to change the world, with words of threat, promise, peace, war, crisis, love and prayer. On 4 and 11 October, the performances will be surtitled in English.

1-11 October, www.festival-automne.com

Hilltop harvest

Montmartre is home to Paris’s last remaining vineyard, and that pocket-sized patch is the excuse for a tongue-in-cheek "Fête des Vendanges" celebrating the neighborhood’s reputation as a historic center of art, music and revelry. There is a boisterous parade, fireworks light up Sacré-Coeur, and the fruit of the grape flows freely. While you’re up there, check out the newly refurbished Musée de Montmartre, dedicated to the butte's artistic heritage and now complete with gardens recreating the ambience of the al fresco dancehall immortalized by Renoir.


Sunken treasure

The Institut du Monde Arabe is displaying spectacular Egyptian artifacts recovered underwater from the now-submerged temples of Thonis-Heracleion and Canopus. The dramatically curated show documents those subaquatic archaeological exploits, and explores the myth of the god Osiris, a central figure in the ancient Egyptians’ beliefs about life and the afterlife.

Until 31 January, www.exposition-osiris.com

The best things in life are free

The Paris mint, which reopened last year as an art and culture space, is hosting a recreation of the 1994 London art happening “Take Me (I’m Yours)”. Visitors are encouraged to touch, use, and take away objects from the show - the only chance non-millionaires may have to own a work by Gilbert & George, Philippe Parreno, Wolfgang Tillmans or other big names in contemporary art. There may be freebies galore, but admission will set you back 12 euros.


Chopin spree

The ancient church of Saint-Julien-le-Pauvre is a suitably romantic setting for the works of Chopin, that most Parisian of composers.

The genial Slovenian-Indonesian pianist and Chopin specialist Thomas Tobing has taken up classical ballet as a way of immersing himself even more fully in the 19th-century Parisian zeitgeist. The result is an exquisite yet powerful rendition of Chopin's nocturnes, études, waltzes, preludes and “fantaisies”, with the sound of the Steinway reverberating through the sanctuary’s magnificent Romanesque arches.

16 & 22 October, 5 & 24 November, 3 & 12 December, www.concertinparis.com

Snap, crackle and Pop (Art)

Andy Warhol painted his monumental "Shadows" in 1978-1979, and wryly referred to the 102-canvas series as "disco décor." The full set is on display in Europe for the first time at Paris’s modern art museum, along with the bright commercial knock-off "Brillo boxes," a multicolored silk-screened mash-up of self-portraits and a host of other iconic works by the undisputed "King of Pop Art" (1928-1987).


©The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Inc. / ADAGP
LES CHŒURS ET SOLISTES DE L’ÉGLISE AMÉRICAINÉE

Dimanche 11 octobre 2015 à 17h

LE CHŒUR DE L’ÉGLISE AMÉRICAINÉE
L’ENSEMBLE VOCAL « LUMINA »
L’ENSEMBLE DE CLOCHE « BRONZE RINGERS »

Peter Bannister, orgue   Caroline Drury, soprano
Laurana Mitchelmore, piano   Carol Mundinger, clarinette
Nathalia Romanenko, piano   Katherine Scheaffer, soprano
Debra Takakjian, piano   Nicole Taylor, soprano
Jennifer Young, soprano

à l’Église Américaine
65, quai d’Orsay - 75007 Paris

Métros : Invalides, Alma-Marceau
Entrée Libre (paf)   Free Admission (free-will offering)
Anjlo Ajmal, the ACP Director of Open Door Ministries, is a talented man. He is fluent in five languages, holds a Master’s degree in English literature, and has done postgraduate studies in linguistics. He is the pastor of the Punjabi church in Paris and the leader of an important ACP ministry, but how he arrived at this destiny is a study in the magnificent workings of the Lord.

He hails from the Bahar Colony, one of several districts that are home to the approximately 500,000 Christians in Lahore, Pakistan. His family has been Christian for so long that no one is exactly certain when the first conversion took place. Like many French Catholics of an older generation, his father attended mass in Latin as a child. Anjlo spent his childhood enjoying a loving family, close community, and solid education. But he also had a weakness. Like millions, he was struck at a young age by polio.

His quest to heal the mobility issues caused by the virus led him further than he may have imagined. Anjlo was 15 or 16 at the time and, until then, his religion was more rote and ritual than anything else. He attended Catholic schools and knew the sacraments, but despite living with other marginalized Christians, he and his family only attended church at Christmas. His journey for restored health led him to a Protestant pastor who preached total conversion — repentance, baptism, and embarking on a new life of true spiritual direction. This conversion was so convincing that Anjlo’s entire family was baptized and began to live out their faith with transformed energy.

As he grew in faith and education, Anjlo discerned a call. In addition to working as an English language and literature teacher, he was ordained in a Presbyterian congregation and began to work as a pastor. How dangerous is it to be a voice for Christ in Pakistan? So dangerous that the details cannot be printed. Anjlo and his wife, Lubna, still have family there, although most of them — like so many other Pakistani Christians — are refugees now in Malaysia, Thailand and Sri Lanka.

One of the primary tools for the persecution of Christians is the blasphemy law. The Pakistani Constitution outlaws blasphemy against any recognized religion, but the majority of the 1,300 people accused under this law since 1987 have been from non-Muslim minorities. (Only 14 cases of blasphemy were reported prior to 1986.) Such laws, common in countries seeking to install some version of Charia law, carry severe penalties, including life imprisonment and death. Merely protesting the law is dangerous. The former governor of Punjab and the Federal Minister of Minorities were both assassinated for voicing their opposition to the law.

When Anjlo found himself in Paris as a refugee, he was stripped of the community and family that had sustained him. He lived on the outskirts of Paris in poor conditions, did not speak the language, and was utterly alone. He could not even seek work. People who have applied for refugee status are not permitted to work while their files are under review. But just as God used Anjlo’s limp to bring him to Christ, He used Anjlo’s exile here to expand his call to serve. As pastor of the Punjabi church, Anjlo now serves the growing community of Pakistani Christian families who are refugees in France, and he works to ensure that our beautiful sanctuary is open for prayer and visits.

Anjlo says that the ACP, a place he calls the “very best part of his life,” played a big role in helping him transform exile into ministry. He came to ACP soon after arriving in France, seeking English language worship, and received much needed encouragement and guidance. He talks of sustaining words from Scott and Ginger, how the Grayson family welcomed him and others into their home for Christmas, how Jean Taquet assisted him with his refugee application and invited him into his home, and about the many, many other church members who comforted him while he waited for his wife Lubna to be able to join him. She arrived last February and now they are expecting! His experience with the ACP congregation and with countless kind administrators in France have taught him that everyone is distinguished in his or her own way of love.
Thursday 22 October
DR. CLAYBORNE CARSON,
the Martin Luther King, Jr. Centennial Professor of History at Stanford University will speak on "Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Continuing Freedom Struggle." 19h30 (18h30 for dinner)

You are invited to a celebration commemorating the 50th anniversary of when

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
preached at the American Church in Paris on 24 October 1965

Thursday 22 October
Saturday 24 October
Sunday 25 October

Saturday 24 October 20h
An evening of concert Negro Spirituals by three international award-winning artists
American Church in Paris

LaToya Lain’s rich mezzo-soprano voice has afforded her the opportunity to perform throughout the United States, Africa, Europe, and South America. One of her ministries is to promote and preserve the art of the Negro Spiritual, and to that end, she has performed and recorded with The Moses Hogan Chorale and is a touring member of The American Spiritual Ensemble. She is currently an Assistant Professor of Opera and Musical Theater at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

Internationally recognized for her “beautifully musical performances” (The London Times), lyric soprano Angela L. Owens has sung all over the world including the Dallas Opera, the West Australian Opera, the Opéra Comique in Paris and a New Year’s Eve gala concert conducted by Lorin Maazel and nationally televised on Live from Lincoln Center. She has sung the roles of Bess and Clara in Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess in over twenty opera houses and concert halls throughout the U.S., New Zealand, Egypt, Ireland, Whales and England.

Pianist Morgane Fauchois-Prado is chef de chant at the Paris Opera. Her coaching and accompanying also take her to the festivals of Salzburg and Aix-en-Provence, the Théâtre des Champs-Elysées, the Théâtre du Châtelet, the Opera-Comique, the operas of Lyon, Amsterdam, Antwerp, Tel Aviv, Riga and others. She works regularly with Natalie Dessay, and has recently accompanied world-class artists such as Renée Fleming, Beatrice Uria-Monzon, Bryn Terfel, Rolando Villazón and Paul Groves.
In October 1965, less than a year after Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. received the Nobel Peace prize, he preached at the American Church in Paris. We were fortunate, because he was here for only a two-day visit, invited by the French Protestant Federation (FPF) to speak about civil rights. It was his first public speaking engagement in France, and he was booked solid during his two-day visit.

On Sunday, 24 October, Dr. King took to the pulpit and preached to an overflow crowd of enthralled admirers at the ACP. That same evening, under the auspices of the FPF, he spoke to 5,000 Parisians at a public conference at the Maison de la Mutualité. His speech, “The Church in a World in Revolution,” was simultaneously interpreted into French. The opening statement appealed to France’s historic past. “It is a great privilege for me to address this assembly. It is in this country that Victor Hugo evoked ideas whose hour has come. It is in this country that J.J. Rousseau proclaimed the responsibility of governments to their subjects.”

The following day, French and foreign pastors and their wives got a private interview with Dr. King, where he explained that his commitment to non-violence grew out of the inspiration he received, first from his study of the New Testament as a Christian, and second from his study of the techniques and philosophy of Gandhi in India. This was responsible for his commitment to non-violence. When asked if he thought it a bit idealistic, he responded that it was the most practically sound method to deal with racial injustice.

Dr. King also had time to record an interview for the TV program “Présence Protestante” that was televised two weeks later. The FPF collected and donated 6,125 francs to the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of which Dr. King was the president. He returned to France in April 1966, this time speaking to a huge crowd of 4,000 people in Lyon.

With racism coming again to the forefront in American politics, Dr. King’s political struggle in the light of the gospel applies today. May we be inspired by it, receive it and incarnate it.

More information, including a transcript of his speech in French, can be found at the site of the Fédération protestante de France: http://martin-luther-king.protestants.org/index.php?id=31466

Dr. King’s welcome in Paris  By Amit Pieter

On Sunday morning, 24 October 1965, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. preached at the American Church in Paris on the topic of the New Jerusalem, and in the evening spoke to a crowd of 5,000 at the Maison de la Mutualité of Paris. When Dr. King arrived in France, support for his civil rights struggle was profound. King’s career drew admiration from the French, as racial tolerance here has, at least since the 19th century, been deeper and broader than in the US.

A year later, in 1966, Dr. King returned to France, both to Lyon, and to support a mega-demonstration against racism at the Palais des Sports, Paris. It featured singer Harry Belafonte and was attended by Simone Signoret, Yves Montand and Jacques Monod, Nobel Prize winner in medicine.
The French Protestant Federation

By Ursula Perrier

If you’ve read the article on the previous page, you may be wondering who exactly is the French Protestant Federation, and why did it invite Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to speak in Paris in 1965? And how did we become a member of this Federation?

As an interdenominational and international Christian community, our mission is to bear witness by word and deed to the love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ, to provide a place of English language worship in the American Protestant tradition, and to engage in ministries and services that enrich the lives of residents and visitors in Paris. Because we value our relationship with the local Body of Christ, the ACP is a member of the French Protestant Federation (FPF). While there is no judicatory relationship with the FPF (we have “non-voting” status), the ACP benefits from association with it.

The FPF is composed of denominations from a broad spectrum of Protestant traditions (e.g., Lutheran, Reformed, Baptist, Evangelical, Pentecostal, etc.) and various French Protestant benevolent associations. The Federation is made up of almost 30 denominations or unions of churches and 80 associations, involving 500 projects and movements, working in a wide range of areas: children, youth, the elderly, health care, social work, education, arts, international relations, mission and development.

The FPF was founded in 1905, when an unfortunate division existed within French Protestantism. There was a need to create closer ties among the various churches, especially at a time when the legislation concerning the separation of church and state was being drawn up and Protestants were barely being consulted. In order to present a common position and to take a stand in the public debate, six churches joined forces and created the FPF. Progressively over the years, more churches have joined the Federation, and in 1962 the FPF opened up membership to institutions, associations, and charitable organizations such as La Cimade, the CASP and the Scouts.

The main purpose of the FPF is to create synergy, mutual understanding, and deeper links between the member churches and organizations and to help them fulfill their responsibilities to the communities they serve. To this end, the FPF also provides common services such as, TV (Présence Protestante every Sunday morning), radio (Fréquence Protestante to which ACP contributes every first and third Monday evenings), military and prison chaplaincy, bible studies, inter-faith relations, research, documentation and information.

The FPF invites personalities of international renown to speak to both the Protestants and the general public on ethical, political or social issues. This is why in 1965 the FPF invited Martin Luther King to speak to the French people. In addition, every five years, the FPF runs the mega-event “Protestants en Fête” in which ACP has participated.

FPF serves as a representative for Protestantism to the state, public authorities and the media, and airs its views on important economic, social or ethical issues. It publishes statements on timely subjects such as bioethics, international events, secularism, education, economy, homosexuality, climate change, and more.

The FPF has been planning participation in COP21, the conference on climate change in December. It has published a booklet entitled “Les changements climatiques,” which analyzes the issue from a theological and ethical perspective. It is actively promoting the worldwide fast (initiated by the Lutheran Federation) on the first of every month with the aim that a just treaty will be reached. The FPF is also mobilizing 40,000 Europeans and Africans on a pilgrimage to Paris to arrive for the conference, and working with the French administration and Entreaide Protestante to handle their accommodation.

By belonging to the FPF, the ACP joins its efforts and activities to the larger French protestant community, broadens its network and creates ties with other churches. If you are interested in more information, see www.protestants.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 5 and 19 October. 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, at www.acparis.org/acptoday. Faith Talk from Paris - it’s a souvenir that never gets old. Contact acptoday@acparis.org.
Reformation lights
By Alison Benney

Post tenebras lux: “After the shadow, light”

If we were designing the Reformation window today, would we pick the same four reformation rock stars? Our forebears settled on, from left to right, Martin Luther (German), John Calvin (French), Thomas Cranmer (English), and John Knox (Scottish).

Martin Luther, of course, is widely credited with starting the Reformation when he nailed his 95 Theses to the door of Castle Church in Wittenberg, on 31 October 1517. Luther criticised the selling of indulgences, on the grounds that the Pope had no authority over purgatory, and that the Catholic doctrine of the merits of the saints had no foundation in the gospel.

John Calvin is also acknowledged as one of the creators of the Reformation, when he broke away from the Roman Catholic church around 1530. While Luther created a formal church, known today as the Lutherans, Calvin’s followers created many churches, including the French Huguenots, the English Puritans, the Scottish Presbyterians and the Dutch Reformed Church.

Thomas Cranmer was Archbishop of Canterbury during the reigns of Henry VII, Edward VI, and briefly of Mary I. He was involved in the annulment of Henry VIII’s marriage to Catherine of Aragon, which led to the separation of the English Church from the Holy See. He wrote and compiled the first two editions of the Book of Common Prayer. However, when Catholicism was briefly re-established, he was condemned as a heretic and burned at the stake, in March 1556.

John Knox is considered the founder of the Presbyterian denomination in Scotland, and influenced the writing of the Book of Common Prayer. He worked with John Calvin in Geneva, and later helped write the new confession of faith and ecclesiastical order for the reformed church, the Kirk.

There are also four “pioneers of the Reformation” seen along the top of the window, each bearing a shield: John Huss from Prague; Peter Faber from France, the first Jesuit theologian; Faber was canonized by Pope Francis in December 2013; John Wycliffe from England, translator of the Bible; and Patrick Hamilton, a Scottish martyr.

Thanks to Fred Gramann for his invaluable archive of photos of our stained glass windows.
Soup, salad and sundaes

Cuisine de Thurber Thursday

By Carol Brown

Thurber Thursday at ACP is an adult-oriented dinner and speaker event. The speakers are invited to lecture on a variety of topics. The lecture is followed by a question-and-answer time.

Before the lecture, a dinner is prepared and served by a team of ACP volunteers. This year the dinner has taken the form of “Soup, Salad and Sundaes.” The menu alternates between vegetarian and meat-based soups. The salad is in the form of a salad bar, allowing each person to customize their meal according to their preferences. On vegetarian soup days, there is a meat choice in the salad bar.

This is a lovely soup for looking towards the crisp days of fall!

Roasted Butternut Squash Soup

Serves 10-12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredient</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>butternut squash</td>
<td>1.5 kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>orange juice</td>
<td>240 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>large onion</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>olive oil</td>
<td>60 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>butter</td>
<td>45 gr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sea salt</td>
<td>15 gr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chicken broth</td>
<td>1 litre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>honey</td>
<td>60 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>honey</td>
<td>60 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>whipping cream</td>
<td>120 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nutmeg, salt, white pepper</td>
<td>A pinch of</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Turn oven on to 375. Pour 1 tbsp oil in a foil-lined roasting pan. Place the squash, cut side down on roasting pan. Make slits in skin with sharp knife. Pour orange juice over squash. Roast for 45 minutes, until knife slides in easily and the squash is tender - skin should be brown and blistered. Let cool. Scoop out squash into a bowl.

Heat remaining olive oil in a large pot over high heat. Cook onion, butter, sea salt, and cracked white pepper in oil till onions begin to brown, about 10 minutes. Add the squash; cook and stir together, about 10 minutes. Pour chicken broth and honey over the mixture; bring to a boil, reduce heat to medium-low, and cook at a simmer for about 5 minutes.

Blend until smooth with a stick blender.

OR

Pour the mixture into a blender no more than half full. Cover and hold lid in place; pulse a few times before leaving on to blend.

Puree in batches until smooth.

Stir cream, nutmeg, salt, and ground white pepper into the soup to serve.
My family and I have been attending the ACP for close to 24 years now. We have known many pastors, some of whom have served for many years, others for several months, holding interim positions.

Pastor Steve Hall is one of those whom I vividly remember. He was the interim associate pastor from the 1996 to 1997, and at an ACP retreat he told me in his very direct way that he felt I was sitting on a gold mine professionally and was wasting my time holding a salaried position that would take me nowhere.

Until then, I had always seen myself as an employee, and was quite happy serving the Anglophone community with my Q&A column, published in the Paris Free Voice. It was impossible for me to see that this column and its growing readership were the material for a career that I would love and be good at, instead of working as a jurist or in some other administrative position in a bank.

But Pastor Hall had had a very successful career in managing businesses, so I wrestled with his idea, until I was able to trust his wisdom and trust my desire to make a living providing legal assistance to those in need. And so started my private business and with it, a pro bono service to those in the church who haven’t the resources for legal aid, including many refugees.

While many members of the Church Council were my mentors, Pastor Hall stands out; had it not been for him, I believe I would have never started my practice. He saw what I could not see, and he could say tough things with a lot of love – and I learned from him that such an approach was possible.

It is never easy to explain an unpleasant truth: one risks losing the person’s attention, and in a professional setting, losing them as a client. During the sessions, some people become desperate; how does waiting 5 years as an undocumented alien sound like, while risking being picked up by the police? I might as well state “for a lifetime” to a 30-year-old refugee.

And how can I do any good when an employer exploits a 28-year-old fleeing civil unrest from her African country? She is forbidden to leave the home to secure the health coverage called AME although she is about to lose her sight due to an illness. Of course, she does not have a pay-slip, which would enable her to be regularized. When I explain that finding a good employer would fix her problem, I do not address her issues, even though it is the real solution.

I have countless examples like this, when I need to speak the brutal truth as naked as it can be, yet with overflowing love, hoping that this Christian caring attention will have more effect than the harshness of the words I speak. I need to be filled with the Holly Spirit to dare speak this way and to believe that I can do it. That’s when I say Thank you, Pastor Steve Hall! – I hope I have been a good student of yours.

Indeed, every other Wednesday from 5 to 7 people congregate in front of G1. They all come with different reasons, different expectation, and their respective struggles are vastly different. Helping people to go through the procedure to get their carte de séjour is the most common success the ministry has. Some of those people are Americans, with one who stayed undocumented for close to 15 years. Often it takes over a year to have the whole file ready, which is an easier task, than preparing these people psychologically to handle the procedure, which can be complicated.

Pastor Hall died in August. I want to pay tribute to him, considering how much he meant to me and to our family. My son, Eric, was not even two years old when Pastor Hall convinced me to strike out on my own. He was an extraordinary pastor, and I send my most sincere condolences to Marge, his wife.

The path to the ACP refugee ministry
By Jean Taquet

By Jean Taquet

Call for Sunday Nursery volunteers We have a growing need to serve our smallest disciples, and our nursery requires extra helping hands during the 11h and 13h30 services. Please contact childrensworship@acparis.org if you have experience with caring for children under 23 months and you would like to assist this vital ministry.
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 concerts, see http://acparis.org

SONATES POUR PIANO DE BEETHOVEN

Sonate N° 4 en mi-bémol majeur
Sonate N° 10 en sol majeur
Sonate N° 19 en sol mineur
Sonate N° 20 en sol majeur
Sonate N° 21 "Waldstein" en do majeur

à l’Eglise Américaine
65, quai d’Orsay - 75007 Paris

Entrée Libre – Libre Participation
Free admission — Free-will offering

Are you inSpired by the Spire? The Spire team needs a production assistant and help with layout. If you enjoy giving shape to ideas, and sharing information about our church and Paris community, you will love volunteer work with the Spire! We need new members on the team now, to prep the September edition. If you’re interested, please contact Alison Benney at Spire@acparis.org
Communion class for families

By Allison Wheeler

Why do we take communion? What does it mean to us a community, to me as an individual? And does someone need all the answers before they are ready to partake? If you had difficulty answering these questions for yourself, imagine the difficulty that parents can have trying to answer these questions in a way that their young children can understand. On March 9th, Pastor Michelle Wahila took some of that burden off of parents when she led a communion class for families.

Over 40 people of all ages were in attendance. The younger children sat coloring thematically appropriate coloring sheets up front at little tables while the parents and older children sat in folding chairs and listened intently to Pastor Michelle explain the concept of “open table” that we practice at the American Church, how everyone with but a mustard seed of faith is welcome at the Lord’s table. The event was such a success that plans are already underway to host another communion class next year.

The purpose of the class was not to replace confirmation classes, but to give parents the tools to talk with their children about communion, as well as a chance for them to ask any questions that they may have. One question that Pastor Michelle and I both receive often is whether or not it is appropriate for children to take communion. Pastor Michelle answered this question during her talk by describing communion as a journey: the ritual of the Eucharist means something different to us at 13 than it does to us at 30, and again something different when we are 70. And no one, no matter their age or how deeply they have studied, will ever fully understand the mystery of this sacred rite. Therefore, unless parents wish their children to wait to take communion due to their own beliefs or the traditions of their particular denominations, there is no reason for children not to participate.

After the question/answer session, Pastor Michelle served communion to everyone. It was a beautiful thing to see so many children taking communion for the first time, to witness their excitement dipping their bread into the wine, practicing saying “thank you” or “Amen” to the pastor serving them. It was a powerful reminder that Christ died not just for those able to read, or to sit still through a worship service. Jesus died for all of us. And we are richer as a community when everyone participates in communion, in this shared remembrance that we are united in Christ.
ACP Café, 9 October

From 19h30-21h30 in the ACP Theater, come hear the musicians of Still Point play new music and covers in a candlelit café setting. A catered dinner will be served to benefit missions, and art from the ACP Young Artists’ week will be on display. Free entry, snacks and drinks provided.

Autumn Book Sale
Sunday October 11th

Thousands of English books in all categories!

Children’s story time with Janina Rossiter, author of “Tovi the Penguin” series from 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Home-made bake-sale too!
Humanitarian assistance in South Sudan isn’t just about food aid. Pockets of the country are building towards recovery and rehabilitation. In the center of Jonglei state, agencies are integrating the activities of various sectors (e.g. Nutrition and Water Access), as part of its strategy to increase our focus on the root causes of malnutrition. Malnutrition rates in the state are amongst the highest in the country, and have been for many years. Although all agencies treat malnutrition with the distribution of Plumpy Nut and behaviour-change messaging on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF), some agencies are starting to address the water and hygiene-related causes of malnutrition through safe water management.

In one particular village, on 24 July, the community selected 7 individuals, including 3 women, to serve on their Water User Committee. This concept is not new to them. In fact, they have had 3 individuals responsible for the borehole the last 2 years, successfully collecting contributions to pay mechanics who repair the borehole when needed. Where I work, we aim to strengthen the management of the borehole by including the newly selected committee in an improved workshop, most recently led by my colleague, the WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) Coordinator. On this day in July, the village chief, the church leaders, and elders, along with some 25 community members, met to listen to one of our WASH staff review the roles of the water user committee. The group of men and women spent some 30 minutes under a neighbouring tree to discuss the selections and reported back to Tearfund. The conversation became quite energized as the debate over whether a woman should lead the committee continued. In the end, the leader of the three women was selected to be the Treasurer, while the other two will be committee members, alongside the previous borehole caretakers. Peter, one of the church leaders, said, “We are continuing the journey our grandfathers began in search of clean water. This step we took today is important for us because we are part of the community. And I am delighted that you came to witness.”

The group will now start a new education on the roles and responsibilities of the water user committee and how they can be influential in maintaining the quality of their borehole and offering new opportunities for community development. The church leaders asked us to pray:

- For preservation of the village borehole
- For continued support to the community
- For peace because they have none currently, and
- That one day they may have the capacity to serve themselves

South Sudan isn’t about food aid dependency. There are communities who wake every day seeking opportunities to serve their own neighbours, their families, in the very sectors we claim to help them in.

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**Safe water in the Sudan**

By Michael Beeman
## ACP Spire Diary

**events, meetings and concerts**

(please check [www.acparis.org/whatson](http://www.acparis.org/whatson) for updates, and also Young Adults and weekly schedules)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special Events and Monthly Meetings and Concerts</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s Worship Feast</td>
<td>Sunday 4 Oct</td>
<td>11h00 &amp; 13h30</td>
<td>Michelle Wahila associatepastor @acparis.org</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Note: No Atelier Concert</strong></td>
<td>Sunday 4 Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACP Today: Faith Talk in Paris radio show</td>
<td>Monday 5 Oct</td>
<td>20h45 - 21h30</td>
<td>100.7 FM, Radio Fréquence Protestante</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurber Thursday - A Life Worth Living</td>
<td>Thursday 8 Oct</td>
<td>18h30; 19h30 Dinner, Lecture Thurber Room</td>
<td>Jeff Powell <a href="mailto:interimassociatepastor@acparis.org">interimassociatepastor@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ACP MOPS (mothers of children ages newborn-6)</strong></td>
<td>Thursday 8 Oct</td>
<td>10h00 - 12h00</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 9 Oct</td>
<td>10h00 - 14h00 The American Cathedral</td>
<td>If you are interested, please first contact: Kristie Worrel <a href="mailto:friidaymissionlunch@acparis.org">friidaymissionlunch@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACP Café</td>
<td>Friday 9 Oct</td>
<td>19h30 - 21h30 Theater</td>
<td>Natalie Raynal <a href="mailto:cmusic@acparis.org">cmusic@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Multicultural Couples Potluck Dinner</td>
<td>Friday 9 Oct</td>
<td>20h00 Thurber Room</td>
<td>Monica Bassett &amp; Anja Wyss <a href="mailto:multicultural@acparis.org">multicultural@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listening Skills Workshop - Rev. Jeff Powell</td>
<td>Saturday 10 Oct</td>
<td>9h00-16h00 Thurber Room</td>
<td>Jeff Powell <a href="mailto:interimassociatepastor@acparis.org">interimassociatepastor@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Writers’ Group</td>
<td>Saturday 10 Oct</td>
<td>14h30 - 16h30 Room G2</td>
<td>Tendayi Chirawu <a href="mailto:writers@acparis.org">writers@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Worship Communion Class</td>
<td>Sunday 11 Oct</td>
<td></td>
<td>Michelle Wahila <a href="mailto:associatepastor@acparis.org">associatepastor@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Gathering - Ann Birot-Salsbury, Nonviolent Communication</td>
<td>Sunday 11 Oct</td>
<td>12h30-13h30 Library</td>
<td>Kim Herr <a href="mailto:women@acparis.org">women@acparis.org</a></td>
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### ACP Spire Diary
### events, meetings & concerts (cont.)
(please check [www.acparis.org/whatson](http://www.acparis.org/whatson) for updates, and also Young Adults and weekly schedules)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Events and Monthly Meetings and Concerts</th>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contacts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Special Concert - Choirs and Soloists of the ACP</strong>&lt;br&gt;See the story in the Spire for details. Our adult choir, Bronze Ringers and Celebration Ringers will participate. Admission is free. Free admission, with free-will offering.</td>
<td>Sunday 11 Oct</td>
<td>17h00</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>Thurber Thursday - A Life Worth Living</strong>&lt;br&gt;Video course by Nicky Gumble, which explores the New Life in Christ as presented by Paul in Philippians</td>
<td>Thursday 15 Oct</td>
<td>18h30; 19h30&lt;br&gt;Dinner;Lecture&lt;br&gt;Thurber Room</td>
<td>Jeff Powell&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:interimassociatepastor@acparis.org">interimassociatepastor@acparis.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>Movie Discussion Group</strong>&lt;br&gt;This month's listings: Pawn Sacrifice by Edward Zwick, Testament of Youth by James Kent, Lamb, by Yared Zeleke, Sicario by Denis Villeneuve. See any or all and join the group for discussion.</td>
<td>Thursday 15 Oct</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td>Room G2</td>
<td>Rebecca Brite&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:movies@acparis.org">movies@acparis.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>Sandwich Ministry</strong>&lt;br&gt;Preparation: Friday 19h30, meet at ACP Reception&lt;br&gt;Distribution: Saturday 13h30, meet at ACP Reception</td>
<td>Friday 16 Oct</td>
<td>19h30</td>
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<td>Jurie Ane Feleo&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:homelesssandwich@acparis.org">homelesssandwich@acparis.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>School Holidays / Vacances Scolaire - Toussaint</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sat 17 Oct - Sun 1 Nov</td>
<td>Saturday 17 Oct</td>
<td>13h30</td>
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<td><strong>Atelier Concert - George Garcia HERRANZ, piano</strong>&lt;br&gt;Free admission, with free-will offering</td>
<td>Sunday 18 Oct</td>
<td>17h00</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>ACP Today: Faith Talk in Paris radio show</strong>&lt;br&gt;Tune in for inspiring music and interviews.</td>
<td>Monday 19 Oct</td>
<td>20h45 - 21h30</td>
<td>100.7 FM, Radio Fréquence Protestante</td>
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<td><strong>Thurber Thursday - Dr. Clayborne Carson</strong>&lt;br&gt;Martin Luther King Jr. Centennial Professor of History, Stanford University and founding director of Martin Luther King, Jr., Research and Education Institute at Stanford University, which includes the King Papers Project.</td>
<td>Thursday 22 Oct</td>
<td>18h30; 19h30&lt;br&gt;Dinner;Lecture&lt;br&gt;Thurber Room</td>
<td>Jeff Powell&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:interimassociatepastor@acparis.org">interimassociatepastor@acparis.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>Concert: Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. preaching at ACP</strong>&lt;br&gt;The program will consist of traditional Spirituals performed by Angela Owens (soprano), LaToya Lain (mezzo-soprano) and Morgan Fauchois-Prado (piano). A free-will offering will be taken.</td>
<td>Saturday 24 Oct</td>
<td>20h00</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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<td><strong>Sunday Worship - Dr. Luke Powery preaches</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dean of Duke University Chapel and associate professor of the practice of homiletics at Duke Divinity School.</td>
<td>Sunday 25 Oct</td>
<td>9h00,11h00 &amp; 13h30&lt;br&gt;services</td>
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<td><strong>Atelier Concert - François HENRY, piano</strong>&lt;br&gt;Free admission, with free-will offering</td>
<td>Sunday 25 Oct</td>
<td>17h00</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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You are invited to a celebration commemorating the 50th anniversary of when

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
preached at the American Church in Paris
on 24 October 1965

Thursday 22 October
Saturday 24 October
Sunday 25 October

Thursday 22 October
DR. CLAYBORNE CARSON,
the Martin Luther King, Jr. Centennial Professor of History at Stanford University will speak on "Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Continuing Freedom Struggle." 19h30 (18h30 for dinner)

Saturday 24 October
An evening of concert Negro Spirituals by
ANGELA L. OWENS (soprano)
LA TOYA LAIN (mezzo-soprano)
MORGANE FAUCHOIS-PRADA (piano).
20h (Free entry / Free-will offering)

Sunday 25 October
REV. DR. LUKE POWERY,
Dean of Duke Chapel and Associate Professor at Duke Divinity School,
will preach at all 3 services
(9h00, 11h00, 13h30)

The American Church in Paris
65 quai d’Orsay, 75007 Paris
www.acparis.org
tel: 01 40 62 05 00