<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In this issue</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thoughts from The Rev. Dr. Scott Herr</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurber Thursdays</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t believe what your pastor tells you, by Billy Roberts</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-church fall retreat, by Ashleigh Searle</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voting from abroad, by Rebecca Brite</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Concert Series</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Called to Witness, book review by Jenn Cavanaugh</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bible readings for September</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising the lift - just got a lift, by Daniel Grout</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body of Christ: What’s up in Paris, by MaryClaire King</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What’s up in Paris: September event listings, by Karen Albrecht</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOPS: Mothers of Preschoolers, by Jessie Cox</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Worship, by Emmanuelle Denfert-Bariani</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteering for Children’s Worship, by Julia Kung</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloom Where You’re Planted</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paris prison ministry, by Carolyn Bouazouni</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council Note, by Mary Crass-Fenu</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celebrating all saings by Amit Pieter</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is a saint? By Rev. Scott Herr</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability and Christianity, by Roz Ice</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the hood: Events in the 7eme</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September ACP calendar, by Lusti Sianturi</td>
<td>26-27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I was on a bus recently, and a woman in a wheelchair entered from the curb through the side of the bus. She wasn’t able to stamp her ticket and so she asked a lady standing by to pass it along. I counted five people taking the ticket until it got to the man standing next to the ticket verification machine. He got it stamped and then back it went through the same five hands to the woman in the wheel chair. She said loudly “Merci beaucoup!” and everyone smiled and returned to their iPhones!

It struck me that we are so glad to help someone when we see a real need and we can actually do something that will offer real assistance. I was delighted to see various random commuters so readily offer help to someone in need. It reminded me that there are so many good and decent people in this great city of Paris and most of them are very glad to be a good neighbor to the people around them. It’s good for us to remember this as we go out and about the city.

I was also very inspired and delighted to see you as a congregation rally to support the “lift project” that will hopefully eventuate in a wheelchair-accessible lift entrance, to allow anyone with mobility challenges to get into our facilities. On 18 September the offering was about double what a normal Sunday offering is, and along with the fundraising events – the cooking class, the gala dinner and silent auction – and with the help of generous donors from the ACP and AFCU, we will achieve our goal of 75,000 euros. Thank you so much, to all of you who were able to participate and help with this project!

The end of this month we will celebrate Halloween, which is the holiday that is the night before All Souls’ Day, or Toussaint here in France. This Christian holiday is the reason for the two-week school vacation! Sometimes we forget how important All Souls’ (or All Saints’) Day is in the Christian tradition. We say in the Apostles’ Creed that we “believe in the Holy Spirit, ...the communion of saints...” When we say this, we remember those who have gone before us throughout the ages, those who have died in Christ. But we also remember our contemporary brothers and sisters around the world who are living “in Christ.” The New Testament understanding of a “saint” is anyone who is “sanctified” by the blood of Christ. In other words, anyone who has put their faith in Christ is a “saint.” Karl Barth wrote, “The saints who live and act in the communion of the one Holy Spirit, and therefore in communion one with another, are Christians.” That we are called “saints” doesn’t make us any better than anyone else, necessarily! Knowing the gospel should make us more humble, because we realize our salvation is a gift of God’s grace, and not by works, and even that our “sanctification” is a result of grace... We may be more aware of God as the source of all goodness, truth, and beauty, but we sure don’t have a monopoly on it!

We are looking forward to having Professor Darrell Guder and Professor Linda Stratford give Thurber Thursday lectures this month and next. October is when we welcome new members in worship, and encourage everyone to get into a community group or participate in the All-Church Retreat led this year by Rev. Tim Vance. Tim will be inviting reflection on the various images of God that we live with (but which might not always reflect the reality of the God revealed in Jesus)!

As we approach the All Saints’ “Toussaint” holidays, let’s remember that all people are beloved of God and indeed have some of the imago dei in their being. And let’s remember that we are “saints” because of what Christ did for us that we could not do for ourselves, and so humbly be good neighbors, and celebrate and lend a hand when others are being good neighbors and living out the kindness, compassion and courtesy that is “the way it’s supposed to be” for all.

Happy All Saints all you saints!

In Christ,
1 sept | Tony Campolo  
 Welcoming the LGBT Community

6 oct | Darrell Guder  
 Missional Theology

13 oct | Darrell Guder  
 Missional Theology

10 nov | Linda Stratford  
 The Immigrant Experience

3 nov | Linda Stratford  
 War, Suffering and Hope

8 dec | Linda Stratford  
 Advent and Healing

thurber lectures.

fall 2016 | 19h00 - 21h15 in the thurber room
The American Church in Paris
Don’t believe what your pastor tells you

Billy Roberts
Director, Youth and Young Adult Ministries

I often say to people, “Don’t believe what your pastor tells you.” And I’m only partially kidding.

In ACP Youth, our Lycée students are in the middle of a teaching series called Can I Ask That? For the first half of our year together we are diving deep into questions about faith that sometimes we are afraid to talk about with each other.

Questions like:
• Can I trust the Bible?
• Can I be a Christian and believe in evolution?
• Does God discriminate against women?
• Is Jesus really the only way to God?
• What does the Bible say about being gay?
• Is it wrong to doubt God?
• Is hell real? How could God send someone there?
• Why do bad things happen to good people?

If those kinds of questions make you uncomfortable, I am not surprised. However, despite the anxiety these questions might raise, it isn’t doubt or uncertainty that is somehow toxic to faith. What’s harmful to our faith is silence on issues we must talk about with each other.

And so that’s what we’re doing week after week with our youth at ACP. When we wrestle with a different question there are some guidelines (with thanks to Fuller Youth Institute) we use to direct our discussion.

Don’t hold back

Some of us may feel or have been taught from past experiences that there are some questions that are off limits. But take a look at scripture and you’ll find plenty of questions, doubts, and laments from the authors scattered throughout.

Frederick Buechner once said, “If you don’t have doubts you’re either kidding yourself or asleep. Doubts are the ants-in-the-pants of faith. They keep it alive and moving.”

Your questions are important, so ask and be ready to be surprised by what God is saying.

Learn the context

Dr. Craig Keener describes the importance of context when reading the Bible.

“Using verses out of context one could “prove” almost anything about God or justify almost any kind of behavior – as history testifies. But in the Bible God revealed Himself in His acts in history, through the inspired records of those acts, and the inspired wisdom of His servants addressing specific situations.”

Understanding who wrote what in the Bible and for whom and why all matters when trying to make sense of the often confusing things we read in scripture.

Don’t study alone

We encourage our students each week to go home and talk with their parents about what we’ve talked about with each other at ACP Youth meetings. It is important that we seek out many people we trust to hear their thoughts and experiences of faith.

Having a wide net of people to whom you can ask tough questions is important for making informed opinions about matters of spirituality. We often make the mistake of reading the Bible and coming to our conclusions privately, when there is great benefit in reading and wondering together.

Continued .../...
Ask God for help

Finally, we tell our students to pray. We always begin with prayer that the Holy Spirit will illuminate our minds. God has promised us the Spirit will help us understand scripture. How many of us are asking God to follow through on that promise? We can’t do it on our own.

Our God is a big God. If we really believe in God’s power, then there is no question too great or too wild that can surprise God. But one of the tragedies in the church is that too many people rely solely on the word of their pastor.

Now, of course you should listen carefully to pastors who have been trained and equipped, and have spent their lives devoted to helping others discover Jesus and make sense of the Bible. But beyond that, I would like people to not just listen to their pastors, but dive into the text themselves. To ask questions. To research for answers. And to not do it alone, but in community.

When I tell people not to believe what their pastor tells them, I do so in a tongue-in-cheek way, but my deep hope for Christians everywhere is that they remain always curious and wondering about this great Christian story and tradition we’ve been given in the Bible.

No question is too great for the God of all things. Maybe we ought to really trust his Word when Jesus says “Search and you will find.”

I am indebted to Fuller Youth Institute for their incredible work on this topic where these guidelines come from. (fulleryouthinstitute.org)

See www.craigkeener.com/the-importance-of-context-in-bible-study

Explore our image of God at ACP’s all-church fall retreat

By Ashleigh Searle

During the all-church fall retreat taking place from 28-30 October we will be exploring together the question “What is our image of God?”. When we think of God, what do we see? Is God an old man in the clouds with a bushy white beard who sort of looks like Santa Claus? Or is God the rays shining down through the clouds? Maybe we can’t even visualize an image, but rather see God as some sort of amorphous force? It is tempting to want to create an image of God based upon who we want God to be. So, is God just some really nice guy who looks out for us? What’s the right answer here?

At the retreat, Pastor Tim Vance will be leading us through discussions on this topic. There will also be time to reflect individually, share ideas in small groups and to worship in congregation.

One exciting element of this retreat is a chance to explore our image of God creatively. Be it through art, photography or written word, we will explore and reveal our image of God. Bring your cameras, pens, and sketchbooks, and be prepared to let the Spirit guide us through an original, imaginative creative exercise!

We will also explore our image of God by spending time outside in the crisp autumn air taking in God’s creation. The Massabielle retreat center is located in the picturesque town of St. Prix, bordering the Montmorency forest. On Sunday morning, after worshipping together in the Chapel, we’ll take our prayers on the road and embark on a prayer hike in the forest, praising and praying together as we go.

For more information about the retreat and to register, consult the website http://www.acparis.org/retreat.

The retreat will cost €125 for adults, €75 for Young Adults, €140 for an adult and child, €250 for a family (2 adults and up to 2 children) and €40 for an additional child. The price includes all meals, two nights’ accommodation, sheets, and the shuttle from the St. Prix station. Please do not let money keep you from joining us for this retreat. Scholarships are available.
Voting from abroad

By Rebecca Brite

Many people think absentee ballots aren’t counted, or are counted last, or only in the case of a tie. But this is something of an urban legend.

This year’s US presidential election is attracting what seem to be unprecedented amounts of attention at home and around the world. There are also crucial races for the House and Senate, and at the state and local levels.

If, despite the incessant campaign news, you’ve not yet found time to register to vote from abroad and request your absentee ballot – yes, we know, it’s a busy time of year! – you can probably still do so if you act right away.

Election Day is Tuesday, 8 November. Your voter registration deadline depends on the state where you last lived. Many states’ deadlines are around a month before the election. In most cases, you need to mail your registration and ballot request to your election office, counting on it taking about two weeks to arrive.

Therefore, the sooner you send that request, the better. Even if you voted in the last US election, you need to request an absentee ballot again this year. Fortunately, federal election officials have made it easy with a standardized form, the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA).

One easy way to get your FPCA is to go to the website of the Federal Voting Assistance Program, www.fvap.gov. There you select your voting residence state – for overseas civilians this is the state in which you last lived. An automated assistant helps you fill out your request and generates your completed FPCA in the form of a PDF, which you print out, sign and date, and mail to the election board whose address is provided in the handy instructions accompanying the FPCA.

When mailing your FPCA from France, be sure to put €1.25 postage on it; postage is required if you are not mailing it from within the United States.

If you don’t have Internet access and a printer, you can get an FPCA in Paris through the US Embassy (contact their Voting Assistance Officer at VoteParis@state.gov or 01 43 12 47 60) or the non-partisan, Paris based non-profit Union of Overseas Voters (UOV).

The UOV is holding public voter registration sessions outside the Shakespeare & Co. bookshop, 37 rue de la Bûcherie, in the 5th arrondissement near Notre-Dame, on Saturdays October 1 and October 15 from 2 to 5pm.

Even if you’ve never lived in the United States, many states still allow you to vote if you will be at least 18 on election day and your parents have a US voting address; check on the FVAP website at www.fvap.gov/citizen-voter/reside.

Once you send your FPCA, it’s important to make sure your election board received it. Most boards have a designated official whose email address and phone number are provided. About 10 days after you mail your application, you can email or call this person requesting confirmation that they got the FPCA. They will usually tell you when you can expect to receive your absentee ballot.

When the ballot arrives, don’t delay but fill it in and send it back right away. The Federal Voting Assistance Program recommends mailing it by 15 October. If you haven’t received your ballot by then, go to www.fvap.gov and request a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot, and mail it right away. Either way, you should check at www.fvap.gov/citizen-voter/registration-balls about a week later to make sure your ballot was received.

Many people think absentee ballots aren’t counted, or are counted last, or only in the case of a tie. But this is something of an urban legend; many states report that they start counting absentee ballots as much as two weeks before Election Day. It is true that some don’t count them until after the polls close, or even a day or two later, but all ballots are definitely counted before election results are certified. So make yours count!

If you have questions about registering to vote or casting your ballot, contact the UOV at Info@UnionOfOverseasVoters.org or call them toll-free at 0805 696 408.
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

### Sunday 2 October 17h00

**ERNEST JOHN MOERAN** (1894-1950)

*Studham River*

**WILLIAM STERNDALE BENNETT** (1816-1875)

*Suite de Pièces*, op. 24

**JOHANNES BRAHMS** (1833-1897)

*Sonate pour piano* en Fa mineur, op. 5

---

### Sunday 9 October 17h00

**FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN**

Sonate no. 3, si mineur, op. 58

**CLAUDE DEBUSSY**

Cloche à travers les feuilles

Et la lune descend sur le temple qui fut

Poissons d’or

---

### Sunday 16 October 17h00

**EDWARD GRIEG**

Morceaux lyriques

**FRANZ LISZT**

Rhapsodie hongroise, Nr 8

**CLAUDE DEBUSSY**

Reflets dans l’eau - Hommage à Rameau - Mouvement

**OLIVIER MESSIAEN**

Première communion de la Vierge - Noël

**STASYS VAINIUNAS**

Lament

**MARIUS BARANAUSKAS**

Les neuf béatitudes (première mondiale)

---

### Sunday 23 October 17h00

**JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH**

English Suite No. 2, BWV 807

**CLAUDE DEBUSSY**

L’île joyeuse

**JOSEPH HAYDN**

Sonate en La-bémol majeur, Hob. XVI:46

**SERGEI RACHMANINOV**

Etudes-Toccata: no. 5 en Mi-bémol mineur / Moments Musicaux op. 16 nos. 3 et 4

**ISAAC ALBENIZ**

Iberia Livre I, Interludios et El Paquito

**SOFIA GUBAI-DULINA**

Clavier (1962)
Princeton Seminary’s Dr. Darrell Guder was by no means the first to recognize the decline and fall of Christendom; but he has become a leading voice of a generation that is still working out the implications of its demise. He wastes no time in mourning. In *Called to Witness*, rather than lamenting the church’s loss of political clout, Guder portrays this major upheaval of Western culture as an opportunity for the church to read the Scriptures the way the early church did and, in so doing, to recover the early church’s sense of participation in God’s mission.

Guder reminds us that the New Testament was written to motley gatherings of believers short on earthly authority and practiced in weathering persecution, who nonetheless sought to follow their corporate vocation of witness to God’s intent to redeem all of creation.

When Constantine elevated Christianity to the status of state religion, the interests of the church eventually became enmeshed with those of the prevailing political structures. The church’s mandate became the care and feeding of its own. It lost both its outsider status and its sense of calling, of being sent into the world, leaving parishioners instead to focus on remaining within God’s good graces and seeking reassurance of salvation on a personal level. The sense of urgency to communicate and embody the gospel for the sake of the world became harder to maintain when people began to see their own culture as Christian.

Guder sees the church’s disassociation with the now outmoded structures of Christendom as a work still in progress. But he sees it as a good work that enables the Western church to recognize its own historic cultural captivity, to be converted to God’s purposes and ongoing work in the world, and to restore our witness of unity as we learn to act, listen, and speak with both modesty and conviction. In this crucial posture the Western church post-Christendom can engage in mission and dialogue on an equal footing with the “next-Christendom” churches of the south and the east. Guder urges post-Christendom churches to reclaim their pre-Christendom identities as missional communities that are gathered to be sent, as parables of the reign of heaven, and as God’s legible love letters to the world.

“Mission … must be seen as the fundamental, the essential, the centering understanding of the church’s purpose and action.”

– Darrell L. Guder, *Called to Witness*, p. 65

Darrell Guder will be our featured speaker for these upcoming Thurber Thursday lectures

**October 6 @ 7 PM: Mission before Christendom; October 13 @ 7 PM: Mission after Christendom**

A very limited number of copies of *Called to Witness* will be available for purchase.

---

**6 November 17h00**

Œuvres de

**Britten, R.V. Williams, Beethoven, Schumann, Brahms et Bridge**
At the women's gathering on 16 October, Mary Hovind-Gay will share her story of love, grief and new hope after losing her husband to cancer when she was 47. Her topic, “Carry On,” will focus on how even though God does not grant us immunity from trials, He does travel with us through our difficult journeys. All women are welcome to join us from 12h15 - 13h30 in the Thurber Room to discuss how to “carry on” when trials hit, and discover God’s peace in the midst of them.

Free childcare will be available on the basement level.

But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.
- Jeremiah 29:7

Sunday Women’s Gathering,
Sunday, 16 October
12h15-13h30, Thurber Room

2 October
World Communion Sunday
Lamentations 1:1-6;
Psalm 137 (UMH 852)
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

9 October
Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
Psalm 66:1-12 (UMH 790)
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

16 October
Joel 2:23-32;
Psalm 65 (UMH 789)
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

23 October
Jeremiah 31:27-34
Psalm 119:97-104 or Psalm 19 (UMH 750)
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Luke 18:1-8

30 October
Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4
Psalm 119:137-144 (UMH 840)
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12
Luke 19:1-10

Bible readings for October
Fundraising the lift - just got a lift

By Daniel Grout, property committee

Last month we wrote that the property committee was working on a good solution to ensure that the American Church building become accessible to everyone. We also understood that the budget for that project was high and that we would need help from all people concerned by the church who believed that it was a necessary project.

One Sunday in September, with a wonderful intervention from Kim Ball, the church dedicated that day’s offering toward funding the project.

A fundraising dinner was planned for 23 September – but not just any kind of dinner. We invited a famous Thai chef from New York, Hong Thaimee and asked her to cook the dinner for 50 to 60 special guests who agreed to pay a high price for the fundraiser, as well as to participate in a silent auction during the evening.

Hong Thaimee invited some friends along to help her organize a dining room in the theater. The church provided volunteers to help in the kitchen and to serve the wine and the food.

I had the privilege of taking Hong and her friends shopping in French markets. French markets are wonderful for the fresh products they provide, from fruit to vegetables, all kind of spices, fish and meat, and on top of all those wonderful goods, you find people very welcoming, explaining their products, how to prepare them and even some vendors let you sample them; such a wonderful atmosphere for people coming from another part of the world.

The dinner was a great success, a collection of flavors and great food. And we were delighted to have Hong Thaimee introduce herself and close the dinner with a great speech.

If you are interested in donating to the project, please send your donation to Tom Wilscam, ACP at tom@hommage.com.
Body of Christ: What’s up in Paris
By MaryClaire King

Stopping Violence and Building Recognition

A day of reflection and discussion around political issues and Biblical texts with François Vouga, New Testament Professor. Seven speakers will address issues such as why cruelty, anthropology of violence, weapons industry, non-violence, and is violence avoidable.

**Saturday, 15 October, 9h30-17h, Faculté protestante de théologie, 83 bd Arago, 75014 Paris.** For more information: [http://latelierprotestant.fr/event/dejouer-la-violence-construire-la-reconnaissance/?post_type=tribe_events](http://latelierprotestant.fr/event/dejouer-la-violence-construire-la-reconnaissance/?post_type=tribe_events)


**Wednesday, 5 October, 20h**

The Earth Our Common Home

Discussion chaired by Frédéric Sicard, President of the Paris Bar Association with P. Frédéric Louzeau on the challenges of an ecological conversion, and Christian Huglo on ethics and environment.

**Wednesday, 12 October, 20h**

Sharing and Respecting the Earth for What Transition?

Discussion chaired by Dominique Attias, Vice-President of the Paris Bar Association, with Sabine Roux de Bézieux on the "sea between laws and lawlessness," and Dominique Bourg on which justice for which public heritage, today and tomorrow.

**Wednesday, 19 October, 20h**

What Kind of Solidarity for an Earth Received Free of Charge

Discussion chaired by Thierry Massis of the Paris Bar Association, with Régis Waquet on the universal destination of goods and the preferential option of the poor, and Alain Papaux on the biosphere and fundamental rights.

**Collège des Bernardins, 20 rue de Poissy, 75005 Paris. Tickets 6€/3€. For more information, see the website [https://www.collegedesbernardins.fr/rencontres-et-debats/droit-liberte-et-foi](https://www.collegedesbernardins.fr/rencontres-et-debats/droit-liberte-et-foi)**

We welcomed over 200 visitors for Journées du Patrimoine tours last month, 90% of them French, but we had three guests from China, a handful of Italians, and people from as far away as Mauritius, Iran, Russia and Australia. Most identified as Catholic, but along with the Protestants, we also had 20 atheists or people who marked a zero under Religion, along with one Muslim and one Baha’i. It’s always an exhilarating and exhausting effort by Docent team volunteers Rebecca Brite, Midge Dillon, Valentina Lana, Pierre Lhomme, and Alison Benney.
**Magritte - The Treachery of Images**

Belgian painter René Magritte's witty and often contradictory juxtapositions of words and images make him one of the most accessible, yet most enigmatic, of 20th-century artists. Featuring many iconic favorites plus plenty of lesser-known material, the Centre Pompidou's show casts Magritte's whimsical vision in a new light, exploring its serious philosophical underpinnings and its roots in the Surrealist movement.

*Until 23 January, www.centrepompidou.fr*

---

**Oscar Wilde - L’impertinent absolu**

Of course, no wit before or since could ever measure up to the legendary Oscar Wilde, quotable quipster extraordinaire. Though the Irishman lived (and died) in Paris, this is the first time the city has honored him with an exhibition. Some 200 photos, manuscripts, artworks and personal mementoes document the highly colorful existence of he who famously remarked "when good Americans die they go to Paris."

*Until 15 January, www.petitpalais.paris.fr*

---

**Magritte - The Treachery of Images**

Belgian painter René Magritte's witty and often contradictory juxtapositions of words and images make him one of the most accessible, yet most enigmatic, of 20th-century artists. Featuring many iconic favorites plus plenty of lesser-known material, the Centre Pompidou's show casts Magritte's whimsical vision in a new light, exploring its serious philosophical underpinnings and its roots in the Surrealist movement.

*Until 23 January, www.centrepompidou.fr*

---

**Hergé**

The Grand Palais is celebrating another Belgian artist renowned for the witty interplay of words and images. Cartoonist Georges Remi, alias Hergé, penned the multifarious and much-beloved adventures of Tintin, which have sold some 250 million books in a hundred languages. Along with original drawings and insights into Hergé's creative process, the show explores his journey across a troubled century and his love of fine art.

*Until 15 January, www.grandpalais.fr*

---

**Oktoberfest**

If this surfeit of wit gets to be too much, don your lederhosen and head over to Paris's version of the autumnal Germanic beer-fest, where wurst, not wit, is the order of the day. Feast on hearty Bavarian fare and swill down some suds to the sound of a rollicking oompah band. Among the many delights to be sampled (in moderation): the "Bavarian cancan" and the election of "Miss Oktoberfest."

*6-16 October, www.oktoberfestparis.fr*

---

**Le Rouge et le Noir**

This new rock opera is infusing a catchy pop beat into that most romantic of French novels, Stendhal's saga of ambition, passion and betrayal. In a brilliant casting coup, the young hero Julien Sorel is played by the 20-year-old heartthrob Côme, who rose to fame as a finalist on the French TV show "The Voice." French chanson star Zazie wrote the music.

*Until 31 December, http://lerougelenoir.fr*

---

**What's up in Paris**

**October event listings**

By Karen Albrecht
MOPS stands for Mothers of Preschoolers, covering children from birth through kindergarten/GS. The MOPS ACP group is starting its third season, and it’s an amazing opportunity for Parisian mothers to experience what others around the world have experienced for over 40 years, to plug into a group of moms who all have a small child and to get a little “me” time while the kids are in the nursery or at school.

MOPS is a grassroots networking movement that believes moms are world influencers. We also believe that incubating hearts and giving just—because hugs can change the course of history. That’s why we connect moms all over the world to a community of women, in their own neighborhoods, who meet together to laugh, cry, and embrace the journey of motherhood. MOPS groups are rallying women to be more honest, to feel more equipped, and to find our identity by journeying alongside one another.

Members of MOPS ACP meet one Friday morning each month and with an evening session twice a year. While the children are cared for by loving workers in the nursery, moms enjoy some form of nourishment with coffee/tea, listen to an encouraging lesson about some aspect of mothering, and have time to connect with each other during discussion times with a small group.

From a French-speaking Coordinator in Toulouse:

For MOPS I had asked Anne, one of the mums, to do something on cooking leftovers, and soup! She did a little presentation and LOVED it! She even thanked me for giving her the opportunity, saying how exciting it was for her to get her presentation ready even if it was about soup! This is what excites me! I think it got some thinking going. I spoke to another mum who thought she didn’t have anything to bring to the group and within two minutes we found something she will do in June - I love this job!

A team of mothers take responsibility for the direction and smooth functioning of MOPS. As we are all mothers of preschoolers, it works best to break up the leadership tasks into bite-size portions. We have moms who greet, others who lead lessons, some who love organizing arts and crafts, and those who love to plan outside activities!

In order to connect the over 9,600 mothers who are a part of international MOPS, there’s a yearly theme that all groups are encouraged to incorporate into their program. This year’s theme is “We are Starry Eyed” and its verse is: Thus says the Lord who made the Earth, the Lord who formed it to establish it... Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know. - Jeremiah 33:2-3

Starry Eyed means looking for the light even when darkness is enveloping. It is an opportunity to hope recklessly and to witness God’s presence guiding things seen and unseen, comfortable and uncomfortable. When we reflect back over our lives, this year is going to stand out. It will be the year that we decide to live fully by both sunlight and moonlight. And the best part is, we will experience it all together because “We Are the Starry Eyed.” If you’re a MOP looking for inspiration and Christian community, please join us.


**30 + Small Group**

If you are roughly 30 or older and want to grow spiritually, you are invited to join the new 30+ small group!

The group will meet on Wednesdays, twice a month, starting on 12 October at 20h, for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship.

Just come as you are! More information at thirtyplus@acparis.org.
Children’s Worship
By Emmanuelle Denfert-Bariani
Interim Director of Children’s Worship

It has been a pleasure to join the Children’s Worship team from day one, as I had the privilege to see how much grace, love, and talent were poured into the hearts of these little ones. Children’s Worship is meant to include all children from different cultures or backgrounds so that everyone may feel at home in God’s house. Curriculums are adapted to age groups, and incorporate songs, crafts, and sometimes games, in order to provide each child with the means to worship God in his or her own way. Each session starts with a circle time of introduction and a prayer, and children are invited to share their joys and concerns. The children then listen to a Bible story or a parable, and follow up with a time of activity or craft-making related to the lesson. Ideally there are three leaders in each group, one of whom greets each child so that they feel welcome and loved, another tells the Bible story and sometimes engage in conversation to help the child to go deeper in matters of faith, and last but not least is a “helper” who contributes in dealing with any unpredicted situations or with a child’s specific needs.

I can see that God is truly at work in these children’s lives, as seeds of faith, love, and joy sprout over time; and this is the greatest reward of all. I am grateful to the ACP pastors for their heart and vision dedicated to children’s Christian education, and their support for all the different ministries for the little ones, including Children’s Worship, Vacation Bible School, and the various family events.

If you feel like you have a call to join the Children’s Worship team, please contact me at childrensworship@acparis.org

Volunteering for Children’s Worship
By Julia Kung

Volunteering for this ministry has brought me rewards beyond what I had imagined. I started volunteering about a year ago, when my son Arthur turned 3. To be honest, I did it for him, to ensure that he felt comfortable and happy at church. But as I started volunteering more regularly, I saw how God was working in my life through Children’s Worship. Through the smiles of the children, the questions they ask, and the stories they share, I feel so appreciated and fulfilled.

It also improved my relationship at home with my husband and son. By sharing God’s word with the children, I have challenged myself each week to “walk the walk” of being patient, kind, and loving – at church and at home. I have been so blessed by volunteering and in ways that I had not imagined before. I’ve met other volunteers, including other parents, who have encouraged me in my Christian walk, and in my desire to teach my son about Jesus. Additionally it has allowed me to get to know the children at our church, and to be able to call many of them by name. Every time I can, I try to say a word of encouragement, or to influence them in a Christianly way. I have gotten so much out of volunteering that I would recommend it for anyone who enjoys providing a positive influence on children. And who knows, you might be the one who is blessed by doing so, just like I was!
Bloom Where You’re Planted
Connecting People for 50 years!
Saturday, 8 October
9h ~ 18h30
The American Church in Paris

The American Church in Paris has been welcoming newcomers to the City of Light for over 50 years! We delight in sharing our experiences and discoveries on how to make the most of your stay in Paris. We start the day’s orientation program with a fast-paced line-up of speakers. This year is even more exciting than ever.

Peter Caine, author of Paris, Then and Now, and owner of Paris Walks, kicks off our day with his passionate and informative description of the evolution of Paris.

Be prepared to be “Inspired, Connected, Empowered – Your new life in Paris” with Grace Wong-Folliet and Nancy Ing Duclos, founders of INSPIRELLE.

Charles Trueheart, Director of the American Library in Paris, will explore why there is such a need for the American Library in Paris.

Authors and books: We have an impressive line-up of authors to present their books and their lives in Paris. This will be followed by what promises to be a lively Q&A so you can ask those burning questions.

Come meet award-winning author Susan Herrmann Loomis, In a French Kitchen
Recently acclaimed in The New Yorker, Lauren Collins, When in French: Love in a Second Language
Owner of the diner Breakfast in America, Craig Carlson, will share his memoir Pancakes in Paris.
And, of course, the books will be available for book signings at the WH Smith pop-up boutique during the lunch break.

For the kids, there is an age-appropriate, full-day orientation, activities, and lunch.

We hope this has whetted your appetite and you will want to join us for a fun and informative day. Come visit us at http://bloom.acparis.org for full details and online registration.
For several years now it has been abundantly clear to a number of ACP members that we needed to start a prison ministry here in Paris. We have a thriving prison ministry going on in Ghana under our missionary there, Anna Cobbah, which is serving in seven prisons, and two more prisons have asked her to please come! God is doing wonderful things through Anna and her team. It’s time now for us to also serve the prisons right here in our home city of Paris.

The new ministry, which is in the start-up stage under the Mission Outreach Committee, has been named the “Paris Prison Ministry.” Not too original, but at least it’s clear! As the name indicates, it is aimed at serving the prisons around the Paris area, of which there are 13, varying in capacity from 20 prisoners to almost 3,000 prisoners. The total number of people incarcerated in France is approximately 68,000, and roughly 20% of them are in the Paris area, or about 14,000 inmates. The prison population is primarily men, but also includes women and juveniles (minors). And they don’t all speak French. There are many prisoners serving sentences in French prisons who are from other countries around the world.

The Fédération Protestante de France, of which ACP is a member, has 35 protestant chaplains serving in the prisons around Paris, holding worship services, visiting the prisoners in their cells, and conducting Bible study classes in some of the prisons. Over the past six months we have been working with chaplains from 4 of the prisons, as well as the regional protestant chaplain for the Paris area, to determine what role we here at the ACP can play in supporting them and how we can serve with them in the Paris-area prisons. The discussions are on-going.

Although some people at our church may feel comfortable going inside prisons, this is not the case for everyone. But there are many different ways to serve the Lord, so we are also looking for opportunities for people to serve in support of this ministry; for example, by providing a covering of prayer for those going inside, perhaps helping prepare gifts for the special Christmas services at the prisons, writing letters to prisoners, maybe translating worship songs... and other ideas that will emerge as we continue our discussions with the chaplains. If you have any suggestions, please forward them to the Mission Outreach Committee.

Most importantly right now, we would really appreciate your prayers for this ministry as we try to discern what the Lord wants the ACP to do in the Paris prisons, and also that the doors will continue to open wide for us. Please pray that the Lord will use us in mighty ways to touch many in need.

Thank you for this precious assistance. We’ll keep you updated on our progress. Watch for more news in future Spires!

Launch of the ThirtyPlus Adult Fellowship

Friday 7 October from 20h on

Singles and pairs, join us for fellowship once a month in a lounge cafe setting, sharing testimony, talking about the highs and lows of your life with brothers and sisters in Christ.

Every first Friday of the month at

Au père tranquille

16 rue Pierre Lescot 75001, 1st floor

Contact Daphne at ACPThirtyPlusFellowship@gmail.com
Volunteer opportunity - Bloom Where You’re Planted

Do you have a little spare time and some knowledge of Microsoft Excel? We are looking for 2 or 3 volunteers to help us on the "Bloom Where You’re Planted" Book Order Team (BOT for short). The people on this team work on a rotating basis, each one "on duty" for one week each month, filling any orders that come in from persons wanting to buy a Bloom book. The time commitment is usually no more than 1 or 2 hours per week of duty. You don’t need to have your own computer (although it’s helpful if you have easy access to e-mail & Internet) and French is not a requirement.

If you volunteer for the BOT, you'll be shown how to prepare the books for sending and how to use the Excel document to prepare invoices & receipts and keep track of the orders. This is not a hard job if there are several people to share the work.

If you’d like to volunteer or find out more about what’s involved, please contact bloom.acparis@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

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.
The 2016-2017 ACP Council kicked off the "retrée" on 30 August with a late-summer evening of fellowship and fun that included a bateau-mouche promenade on the Seine, followed by a picnic on the left bank of the river in front of the Church. As the boat streamed past the many beautiful edifices and landmarks of our City of Lights, Council members prayed for Paris, its leaders and institutions and those of France as a whole, and lifted up prayers of gratitude for the opportunity to call this lovely place home.

It was then immediately off to work for Council, with preparations for the Ministry Fair on Sunday 18 September. It was a resounding success, with 28 different ACP groups and ministries gathered in the theater between services, and representatives of each informing interested ACP members on opportunities to become involved in the life and outreach of the Church.

Council members then came together for their second Planning Retreat on 24 September, focusing first (after coffee and croissants of course!) on ACP's theological theme for this year Jeremiah 29:7, and exploring what it means to seek the shalom of the city on a personal level, as a Church, and as a larger community.

Using that reflection as a basis, Council members then sought to articulate this guiding spiritual theme in goals for the Council and its committees for the 2016-2017 year.

The weekend of Council exchange and planning came to a close on Sunday 25 September, with the congregation formally "installing" the new Council as servant leaders of the ACP, presenting Council members with its blessing and support, and calling on them to "seek the guidance of God's Word and Spirit" as they "serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination and love."

It is with this charge that we Council members will undertake our service to you - our ACP brothers and sisters in Christ - this year. We all feel incredibly blessed to be able to serve you and this wonderful "beacon on the Seine" in this way. We're looking forward to a wonderful year!

Wishing everyone a beautiful autumn with many blessings and much Shalom,

Mary Crass-Fenu
ACP Council Moderator

Summary of actual stewardship gifts received versus budget.

Please consider your tithes and offerings as part of God’s call to stewardship. For more information, please contact the finance and stewardship team: financeandstewardship@acparis.org
New Member Orientation: 2 October, 12h15-13h30

Please attend the class if you are interested in becoming a member of the ACP.
RSVP to communitylife@acparis.org.

Serve the City Paris Coordinator volunteer opening

Serve the City Paris has grown to the point where we now need two volunteer coordinators to assist with volunteers, programs, and the administration of STC Paris.

Serve the City Paris was established in 2015 to help those struggling and suffering on the streets of our great city.
The applicant will have a desire to serve those in need and less fortunate, a heart of compassion, and a strong drive to make Paris a better place for everyone.

Duties include helping to:

- lead the daily food distribution at Prêt-à-Manger and the weekend sandwich and breakfast ministries
- STC correspondence with new volunteers and programs
- coordinate the summer service camp at ACP
- coordinate the Christmas shoe drives with local schools and universities
- strategize with STC members for more ways to “know them by name”
- attend STC global events and meetings

Interested? Please send an email by 15 October to Valentina at ParisServeTheCity@gmail.com, with an explanation of why you feel compelled to be a part of STC Paris.

- Jeremiah 29:7

But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

Would you like to propose articles, write, proofread, do layout or take photos? Contact Alison Benney at Spire@acparis.org Note: Deadline for the November Spire is Wednesday 19 October.
Boo! Americans all know the surprises of Halloween, All Hallow’s Eve, but what about the day it precedes? The French religious holiday of Toussaint is held on 1 November, commemorating all known and unknown saints. In the Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches, saints – notably martyrs – were usually celebrated with their own day of the year. But during the persecution by Roman emperor Diocletian between 284 to 305 AD, the number of martyrs grew to a number too great for the calendar.

So in 610 AD, Pope Boniface IV dedicated a day to all saints. These saints in heaven, known as the “Church triumphant” were contrasted with living saints, the “Church militant.”

The tradition of celebrating All Saints Day in France and many other countries has come to mean a time to honor all potential unknown saints or, effectively, all dead loved ones. This tradition is visible today in large cemeteries like Montparnasse (in the 14th) or Père Lachaise (in the 20th) but also in every small churchyard throughout France. Here you will find new flowers, potted chrysanthemums and, often, candles. The French traditionally choose bold and cheerful chrysanthemums for funerals and gravesites.

Toussaint also happens to be the name of the French autumn school vacation, this year from 22 October until 2 November. This is the largest scholastic holiday between the September rentrée and the holidays of Christmas. Even if Anglophones are not familiar with it, children surely will be.

What is a saint?

Excerpt from an article by Reverend Scott Herr

What is a “saint” anyway? The New Testament Greek word for saint is literally ἅγιος (hagios), those people “holy” or “set apart” for God’s purposes in the world. The words “holy” and “sanctified” have the same root (in the Greek) as saint. Saints are people sanctified, or made holy, set apart for God’s work.

But how are they made holy? In I Corinthians 1:2 we read, “To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints...” Paul teaches that it is by being “in Christ Jesus” that we are sanctified, set apart, made holy for God’s work in the world.

Another interesting fact: In order to be canonized as a saint in the Roman tradition, you have to be... well, dead! But all of the saints referenced in the New Testament are alive! In other words, the New Testament assumption is that saints are living people who put their faith “in Christ.”

That means you and me, saved sinners that we are, are now saints, set apart for God’s Kingdom purposes at home, school, work, in the marketplace, and in our church community. In Ephesians 4 we read: “The gifts he [the Holy Spirit] gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry.”

...We’ll talk about it more around All Saints Day, which is always 1 November. But in the meantime, I pray that we all will daily live more and more into our identity and calling as the communion of saints.
ACP Christmas market
Saturday, 19 November, 9h-17h

Yes, it’s only October, but make sure to mark your calendars for the Christmas market mid-November. In addition to the wide variety of vendors selling hand-made clothing, jewelry, ornaments, and baked goods, we will also host a used-book sale, a photo op with Santa, and of course, Christmas Carols, along with a delicious international lunch served in the Thurber Room.

Love in a Box

Each year, the American Cathedral and the American Church in Paris collaborate on a Paris-wide project of creating Christmas gifts that are then donated to selected community organizations. These organizations distribute the gifts to a number of outlets, including homeless shelters, soup kitchens and orphanages. Boxes are also delivered to Cathedral-supported groups, including Bonne Mine, HOME and the Salvation Army in Strasbourg and Mulhouse. We collect, check, bag and deliver 2,000-3,000 boxes each year.

Look for more information soon on our website, acparis.org.

Serve the City Mission Project

The Serve the City Mission Project is distributing food donated by Prêt à Manger to the needy. There are now nearly 20 American Church volunteers serving up to 150 meals five days a week to the less fortunate in and around Paris. Additional volunteers are needed to help pick up sandwiches from the Prêt à Manger’s Neuilly-sur-Seine shop at 8h and distribute them to homeless people. Come join the team and help us Serve the City! Contact parisservethecity@gmail.com.

FEMMES FILMMAKERS FORTNIGHT

From 28 Sept-11 Oct, the Cinema Le Nouvel Odéon in the Latin Quarter, will present a program of six films made by French women directors, released in 2016 and subtitled in English. Each of the six films will be screened once a day for two weeks.

Get the program at www.parisiscinema.com

Ticket prices: full: €9,50
I am pleased to announce the launch of the Sustainability and Christianity Web site which I started to write while I was a member of the American Church in Paris 2009 – 2012.

This website brings together tenets of the largest religion of the world — Christianity — and the powerful contemporary paradigm of sustainability to envision and create a better future.

The Sustainability and Christianity site contains 20 easy-to-read essays that examine the environmental, social, and economic reality, inequity, and injustice of the world today. The essays include scripture that gives readers a clear understanding of where God, the prophets, the Psalmists, Jesus Christ, and the apostles stand on contemporary threats to the stability of the planet and its citizens. The essays contain practical suggestions for daily living to create a more sustainable world and prayers to address contemporary concerns.

The collection of essays address Bible-based and eco-social justices approaches to Christianity. The website is designed to be a resource for individuals and congregations.

I initiated this project while I attended ACP. Glen Thorpe encouraged me. The ACP Writer’s Group helped me get started. They were a blessing.

www.sustainabilityandchristianity.org
Did you know you can follow the American Church of Paris on social media?

Twitter: @AmChurchParis
Facebook: /AmericanChurchParis
In the hood: Events in the 7ème

Nuit Blanche at the Eiffel Tower, Saturday 1 October: American artist Cleon Peterson will create a giant fresco at the base of the Tower, and access to the first floor will be free in order to admire it.

Thursday 6 October, 14h30 or 20h30: Concert - Arnauld Askoy chante du Brel, in the Théâtre Adyar, 4 Square Rapp, 7ème, 19€

Saturday 8 October, 10h-14h: Collection of recyclables for Emmaus, including appliances, toys, books, furniture, two locations:
- A l’angle des avenues de Ségur et de Saxe
- 60, rue Cler
See www.eco-systemes.fr/proximite

Wednesday 12 October, 15h -18h: in the salons of the Mairie du 7ème, Concours Cuisine. Cooking workshops run by pastry chef Blandine Booter and a “grand chef du 7ème.”

Saturday 15 October, 14h-18h, starting in the courtyard of the Mairie du 7ème. Rallye 7 en famille. Follow the map around the quartier et identify architectural highlights, with games and activities along the way.

French language classes

French classes will be held on (most) Saturdays at ACP, from 17h to 18h30. They are taught by two native French speakers, Francois and Yasmina.

The class is intended for beginners who are committed to learning French. In addition to the class, personal effort and engagement are required. Attendance is limited to 20. The sign-up fee is €30, and a book purchase is necessary. There is no age or nationality restriction.

If you are here for several years, or if you want to obtain working papers, a knowledge of French will be required, think of shopping, visits to City Hall or the Prefecture, hospitals, schooling for your children, employment.

We cannot stress too much that learning a new language requires significant work. There is no such thing as “French made easy.” Therefore, consider carefully if you are ready to make that commitment. Weekly attendance is a requirement and ongoing progress is expected.

If you are interested, send your personal data (name, address, phone, nationality) to fpierre@gmail.com. Classes start in October.

Youth@Noon

Every second Sunday of the month, 12h15-13h15 in G2

Are you a youth (ages 11-18) who is unable to attend other youth group events or are you looking for another chance to hang out and grow in faith? Join us for a time of fellowship once a month to discuss everything from the week’s scripture lessons to current events, and how they relate to you! French and English speakers welcome. Lunch will be provided. For more information, email youthpastor@acparis.org.

Bring up the Bulletin

Did you forget your copy of the Bulletin in the pew? Want to find the email of one of the pastors? Confirm the date of an event? Do it with the ACP app!

1. Download the app, and launch it.
2. Click on “messages” at the bottom.
3. Click on “Bulletins” at the top.
### ACP Spire Diary – October 2016

**events, meetings and concerts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Events and Monthly Meetings and Concerts</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Organizer/Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Youth Program — Bubble Bump</strong>&lt;br&gt;Youth are invited to join us for an afternoon of running around in giant inflatable balls attempting to play football. Sign up here: <a href="https://goo.gl/forms/gvr7mnTcrcRHFc6y1">https://goo.gl/forms/gvr7mnTcrcRHFc6y1</a></td>
<td>Saturday 1 Oct</td>
<td>13h30-18h</td>
<td>Emily Chesley youthintern @acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New Member Orientation</strong>&lt;br&gt;Please RSVP to <a href="mailto:communitylife@acparis.org">communitylife@acparis.org</a> to join the class. All are welcome!</td>
<td>Sunday 2 Oct</td>
<td>12h15</td>
<td>membership @acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert</strong>&lt;br&gt;Free admission, with free-will offering&lt;br&gt;Duncan HONEYBOURNE - piano</td>
<td>Sunday 2 Oct</td>
<td>17h</td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACP Today: Faith Talk in Paris radio show</strong>&lt;br&gt;Tune in for inspiring music and interviews.</td>
<td>Monday 3 Oct</td>
<td>20h45-21h30</td>
<td>100.7 FM, Radio Fréquence Protestante</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thurber Thursday - Prof. Darrel Guder speaks on Missional Theology</strong>&lt;br&gt;Prof. Guder recently retired after serving as Princeton Theological Seminary’s Henry Winters Luce Professor of Missional and Ecumenical Theology.</td>
<td>Thursday 6 Oct</td>
<td>19h Refreshments; 19h45 Lecture Thurber Room</td>
<td>Tim Vance associatepastor @acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Launch of the ThirtyPlus Adult Fellowship</strong>&lt;br&gt;Singles &amp; pairs, join us for fellowship once a month in a lounge cafe setting, sharing testimonies, talking about the highs &amp; lows of your life with brothers &amp; sisters in Christ.</td>
<td>Friday 7 Oct</td>
<td>20h - Au Père Tranquille, 16 rue Pierre Lescot, 75001, 1st floor</td>
<td>Daphne 30plusfellowship @acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bloom Where You’re Planted</strong>&lt;br&gt;New to Paris? Come join us at this full-day orientation program for newcomers to the &quot;City of Lights.”</td>
<td>Saturday 8 Oct</td>
<td>9h-18h</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bloom@acparis.org">bloom@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Writers’ Group</strong></td>
<td>Saturday 8 Oct</td>
<td>14h30 - 16h30</td>
<td>Tendayi Chirawu <a href="mailto:writers@acparis.org">writers@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert</strong>&lt;br&gt;Free admission, with free-will offering&lt;br&gt;Yoko TODA - piano</td>
<td>Sunday 9 Oct</td>
<td>17h</td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thurber Thursday</strong>&lt;br&gt;Prof. Darrel Guder speaks on Missional Theology</td>
<td>Thursday 13 Oct</td>
<td>19h Refreshments; 19h45 Lecture Thurber Room</td>
<td>Tim Vance associatepastor @acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday Mission Lunch (volunteers needed)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Every Friday a hot, nutritious meal is prepared for the homeless and needy. ACP is responsible for the meal on the second Friday of each month, but we are grateful for help with cooking, serving, and cleaning up every Friday.</td>
<td>Friday 14 Oct</td>
<td>10h-14h</td>
<td>If you are interested, please first contact: Kristie Worrel fridaymissionlunch @acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACP MOPS (mothers of children ages newborn-6)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Childcare available. Come “flourish fiercely” with us.</td>
<td>Friday 14 Oct</td>
<td>10h-12h</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mops@acparis.org">mops@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ensemble Lumina Concert</strong>&lt;br&gt;The ACP chamber choir will sing selections by Byrd, Mendelssohn, Rachmaninoff, Gramann, Pärt, Foster and others. Free admission, with free-will offering</td>
<td>Friday 14 Oct</td>
<td>20h</td>
<td>Caroline Drury <a href="mailto:lumina@acparis.org">lumina@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Events and Monthly Meetings and Concerts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Multicultural Couples Potluck Dinner</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellowship and discussion on topics such as raising bicultural/bilingual children and cultural differences. Bring a dish to share.</td>
<td>Friday 14 Oct</td>
<td>20h</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Women's Gathering - Mary Hovind-Gay, 'Carry On - finding God's peace in the midst of trials'</strong></td>
<td>Sunday 16 Oct</td>
<td>12h15-13h30</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free admission, with free-will offering</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birute VAINIUNAITE - piano</td>
<td>Sunday 16 Oct</td>
<td>17h</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACP Today: Faith Talk in Paris radio show</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tune in for inspiring music and interviews.</td>
<td>Monday 17 Oct</td>
<td>20h45-21h30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Movie Discussion Group</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movie selection: La Fin Du Monde by Xavier Dolan, Kubo and The Two Strings by Travis Knight, Aquarius by Kleber Mendonça Filho and Captain Fantastic by Matt Ross</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>See any or all at your leisure; join the group for discussion.</td>
<td>Thursday 20 Oct</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td>Room G2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>School Holidays / Vacances Scolaire - Toussaint</strong></td>
<td>Thursday 20 Oct - Wednesday 2 Nov</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free admission, with free-will offering</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kunal LAHIRY - piano</td>
<td>Sunday 23 Oct</td>
<td>17h</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>All-Church Fall Retreat</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Join members of the ACP community for a weekend of learning and fellowship at the Massielle Retreat Center, 20km outside of Paris. Pastor Tim Vance will lead sessions on the theme “What is our image of God?” Get to know fellow church members, while learning, worshipping, and relaxing together. This retreat has programs for children as well as adults. For details and registration: <a href="http://acparis.org/retreat">http://acparis.org/retreat</a>.</td>
<td>Weekend 28-30 Oct</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tim Vance associatepastor @acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time Change to Winter Time / Standard Time</strong></td>
<td>Sunday 30 Oct</td>
<td>3h (2h)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free admission, with free-will offering</td>
<td>Sunday 30 Oct</td>
<td>17h</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Toussaint</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church house and office closed for public holiday.</td>
<td>Tuesday 1 Nov</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(please check [www.acparis.org/whatson](http://www.acparis.org/whatson) for updates and weekly schedules)
VENDREDI 14 OCTOBER 2016, 20H

A CAPPELLA CHAMBER CHOIR OF THE AMERICAN CHURCH IN PARIS
CHOEUR DE CHAMBRE A CAPPELLA DE L'ÉGLISE AMÉRICAINNE À PARIS

directed by Caroline Drury

ENSEMBLE LUMINA

BYRD  MAKAROFF

MENDELSSOHN  AMIDON

PART  RACHMANINOV

GRAMANN  FOSTER

The American Church in Paris
65 QUAI D'ORSAY, 75007 PARIS

ENTREE LIBRE (PARTICIPATION AUX FRAIS)  FREE ADMISSION (FREE-WILL OFFERING)