The Reformation

500 years

Post tenebras lux
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Most of the photos of ACP’s stained glass windows featured on the cover and in this edition were photographed by Fred Gramann.
Dear Members and Friends of the ACP,

This autumn is significant for any number of reasons, but for the ACP there are two important events to consider. Firstly, Christians around the world are remembering the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther’s nailing of his 95 theses on the Wittenberg Schlosskirche door on 31 October, 1517. Secondly, we here at the American Church in Paris are celebrating our 160th year of Napoleon III’s official charter for our congregation to hold public English-speaking worship services on our own property. It was The Rev. Edward Norris Kirk who was, with the initiative and support of the AFCU, the founding pastor of the chapel located on the rue de Berri in the 8th arrondissement.

These two historical events are significant because, as Edmund Burke once famously said, “Those who don’t know history are doomed to repeat it.” In my earlier years as a pastor, I used to robustly celebrate Reformation Sunday, while in my more recent years have come also to see the Reformation as something to lament. There are at least 35,000 or more different Christian denominations. This is not exactly the outcome the Lord Jesus prayed for, “That they all may be one” (John 17:21)! So it’s a poignant time for the church. How do we focus on the renewal the reformers intended without continuing to add to the division and schism within the Body of Christ?

While only formally catalogued in the 20th century, the three solas that were most common in the 16th century are: “Sola Scriptura, Sola Gratia, Sola Fides” (“only scripture, only grace, only faith”). They were designed to recover a particular focus on the gospel and life together: scripture over tradition, faith over works, and grace over merit.

The ACP’s theme verse this year, in honor of Reformation history and our own anniversary celebration, is taken from Revelation 21:5a, where the Risen and ascended Lord declares, “Behold, I am making all things new.” We are literally making ongoing renovations to the ACP’s magnificent physical plant, with a new wheelchair accessible lift and lavatory, new flooring in the basement, new firehose dry-pipes, and other upgrades. We are having an all church retreat on the theme of Making All Things New. We are in the final stages of a search process for a new Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Adult Ministries, and we are getting ready for stewardship season to consider how we are investing in the new thing God is doing in our midst and through us to impact the world.

We are called to reflect more deeply on how Christ is making all things new for us spiritually. How do we need to be open to traditions that need to be changed in light of the central biblical motif of God’s saving love for all people? How does faith need to prioritize our works, and grace become the primary ethos of our life together? How do we avoid hypocrisy and be guided better by Jesus’ prioritizing the weightier matters of the law, “justice and mercy and faith” (Matthew 23:23)?

I found it interesting reading again the farewell discourse by Rev. Kirk, when he said, “And here according to our purpose and our compact the services are to be Christian, simply and purely Christian. That is, they are to be evangelical but never denominational. Just so far as Christian men [sic] can agree to compromise some of their denominational peculiarities for the sake of Christian charity and Christian fellowship, so far they may be satisfied with these services. But let it be most definitely understood that, except by a violation of compact, the chapel we are erecting can never become exclusively devoted to the forms of any one sect. Some have complained of this. I glory in it.” Indeed.

We are pursuing and proclaiming in word and deed what I hope is the gospel (evangel, or “good news”) of Jesus Christ, and in a spirit of unity rather than “denominational peculiarities.” Please continue to pray as we prepare for the new thing God is doing in and through us. It is quite clear that in our broken world where so many suffer violence and hopelessness, our witness is both important and urgent. Grace and peace,

In Christ,

Scott Herr
Senior Pastor

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Bible readings for October

1 October 17th Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 17:1–7;
Psalm 78:1–4, 12–16
Phil 2:1–13;
Matthew 21:23–32

8 October 18th Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 20:1–4, 7–9, 12–20;
Psalm 19
Phil 3:4b–14;
Matthew 21:33–46

15 October 19th Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 32:1–14;
Psalm 106:1–6, 19–23
Phil 4:1–9;
Matthew 22:1–14

22 October 20th Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 33:12–23;
Psalm 99
1 Thess 1:1–10;
Matthew. 22:15–22

29 October 21st Sunday after Pentecost
Deut 34:1–12;
Psalm 90:1–6, 13–17
1 Thess 2:1–8;
Matthew 22:34–46

Sunday Women's Fellowship
Walking in the Light by Debbie Bird

Sunday 15 October, Debbie Bird will be speaking on “Walking in the Light.” Debbie and her family are in Paris thanks to a Department of Defense post at the US Embassy. Prior to Paris, they lived in Northern Virginia for 18 years and home schooled for 10 of those years. She co-coordinates the Tuesday Women's Bible study at ACP, still homeschools her children, and is excited to share her story.

Our fellowship begins at 12h15; come, chat, and eat. Debbie's talk will start around 12h45.

Sunday 15 October, 12h15-13h30, Thurber room. All women welcome for a time of fellowship and conversation. Free childcare available on courtyard level (ground floor). Looking forward to seeing you!
Reforming heaven

by the Rev. Tim Vance
Associate Pastor

As I was driving into our new hometown in central Oregon for the first time eight years ago, the song “Hotel California” started to play on the radio. This song by the Eagles includes this line, “This could be heaven or this could be hell.” I was both excited and anxious about this move and my new job, so this phrase really struck me. But then when I got out of the car for the first time I was greeted by 42 degrees (108 F) of oppressive heat. This certainly didn’t feel like heaven!

As it turned out, the heat was deceptive. A wonderful community of friends surrounded us, we were involved in meaningful work, we bought our first home, and two of our three kids were born in Oregon. We experienced heaven coming close in many ways.

I guess we sort of wondered the same thing about our move to Paris. This could be heaven or this could be, I don’t know, something like a visa process.

Well, when I first began to read the book of Revelation as a teenager, I was taught to read it like a codebook for telling the future. Sort of like a secret decoder ring that you might get in a box of sugary cereal as a kid (ok, maybe that’s an exclusively American experience). This secret future basically involved all the Christians escaping the suffering of earth by getting sucked into heaven. And heaven was somewhere far, far away.

But later on, I began to encounter other perspectives on the book of Revelation. For example, maybe the author was addressing the particular people of his time along with their particular challenges and needs. And maybe this first-century audience more easily understood the symbols and strange images we find in this book. And if the book of Revelation was practical and applicable to the real-life challenges of real people, in a real place at a real time, then maybe God’s Spirit has been speaking through this book to real people, in real places throughout time. And I guess that would include now!

So toward the end of the book of Revelation, we see this image of a new heaven and a new earth. And as we noted in last month’s Spire, heaven is coming to earth. And then it’s proclaimed that God is making his home with humanity on earth (Revelation 21:3).

I guess what I’m trying to say is that a new reformation, 500 years after the Protestant Reformation, must include a renewed sense that this is where the action is. Our Christian hope is not escaping the challenges and suffering of our world. Instead, a truly Christ-like hope will include entering into the challenges and sufferings of our world, trusting that we will meet Jesus there. A truly Christ-like hope will include embracing this place, not only as our home, but also God’s home.

With this in mind, we then come back to these important questions. If I expect God to show up in my life (as it truly is), how is he inviting me to experience refreshment and transformation? If Jesus cares about and is attending to the particular challenges and needs of real people in this real place, how is the American Church in Paris invited to be a part of heaven coming to earth?

At our most recent Thurber lecture, I was struck by a comment that Dr. Keith Ward made about why people like physicist Stephen Hawking don’t care to talk about God. He said that in his (Dr. Hawking’s) mind, “God seems to be a term for a divine being who is concerned with trivial things like the color of carpets in church. And those trivial things are just not that interesting and so God ultimately is not that interesting.” My first thought was, “He’s right - if that is our image of God then he’s not interesting, or really very practical!”

The bigger question we should be asking then, is “What are the things that really matter?”

A new reformation will begin, and maybe is already beginning, when we realize that God is concerned with things that really matter. Heaven coming close will be about real people in real places. Heaven being reformed then means that we (and our world) begin to wake to the fact that God is actually concerned with what Jesus would refer to as “weightier matters” (Matthew 23:23).

If we examine our own life and look out at our world, what might those weightier things be? How might heaven practically, physically, relationally come to earth?
Cross Vision: Making Sense of the Old Testament’s Violent Portraits of God

Come to the Thurber lecture on 25 October given by Rev. Dr. Greg Boyd.

The kingdom of God revolution is most fundamentally predicated on people having a beautiful, Christ-like conception of God. One of the greatest challenges to this beautiful vision are the many violent portraits of God in the Old Testament. Boyd will, therefore, be offering his reflections on how as Christians we can reject violence as a divine characteristic and embrace the whole of the Bible as God's inspired Word.

Greg Boyd is an internationally recognized theologian, preacher, teacher, apologist, and author. He has authored or co-authored 22 books, including his best-selling and award-winning Letters From a Skeptic, and his most recent books Crucifixion of the Warrior God and Cross Vision. Greg's ministry has been featured on the front page of The New York Times, The Charlie Rose Show, CNN, National Public Radio, the BBC, and numerous other television and radio venues. His primary vision is to help the Church become the Kingdom of outrageously loving servants that God called it to be and to help non-believers discover the transforming power of Jesus Christ.

Greg received his Ph.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary (1988), his M.Div. from Yale Divinity School (1982), and his B.A. from the University of Minnesota (1979). He was a professor of theology for 16 years at Bethel University (St. Paul, MN) where he received the Teaching Excellence Award and Campus Leadership Award. He continues to teach as an adjunct professor at Bethel University as well as Fresno Pacific Mennonite Seminary (Fresno, CA). Greg is the founder and senior pastor of Woodland Hills Church (Maplewood, MN) and the President of Reknew Ministries (Reknew.org).

Greg is an avid drummer in a rock band (“Not Dead Yet”) as well as a competitive race walker. Greg and his wife Shelley have been married for 37 years. They have three children and five grandchildren and live in community with several other families in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Thursday 25 October: Light dinner at 19h, presentation from 19h45 to 21h15.
Looking forward to returning

by the Rev. Dr. Lewis Poag
Visiting Pastor

In the summer of 1990 Pat and I moved to Paris where Pat’s employer, American Airlines, was engaged in a project for SNCF. As a computer programmer, she began working on a new reservation system for the upcoming launch of the Eurostar. Meanwhile, after 18 years of local church ministry, I was assuming a new position as “house-husband” at our apartment in the 16th arrondissement.

Both of us jumped into our new jobs with enthusiasm, as we did with our new city. We began exploring the wonderful museums, restaurants, gardens and fabled tourist sights of Paris, but also started looking for a place to worship. We decided to try the American Church in Paris. After one visit we stopped looking. The ACP became our church home in France. It remained so until our return to the US in February 1996.

During the intervening years, we became deeply involved in the church’s ministries, first as active members. Then following an unexpected staff departure in July 1991, I became the Interim Associate Pastor. Later, after that position was filled, I served as Moderator of the Church Council. When Sr. Pastor Tom Duggan announced his return to the mission field in Thailand, I was asked to fill in from January 1993 to March 1994, until the search for a new pastor was completed. Working with the talented staff and enthusiastic congregational leadership proved to be a great privilege. It was also a blessing to be in ministry with the diverse body of Christians who made up the church membership. We truly believe that the Spirit was at work in our experience at the American Church.

Of course much has changed since the 90s, except for the excellence of Fred Gramann’s 40 years of musical leadership which we celebrated with you in 2016. The ACP’s ministries have grown, with more programming, outreach, and staff than ever before. Most of the congregation will be new to us, as well as the staff. All of which feeds our excitement about coming to serve among you again, in the role of Visiting Pastor. We are looking forward to seeing you very soon.

Lewis and Pat

Lewis and Pat Poag have been living in retirement at Lake Junaluska, NC, with the last of their children: a Pekingese named “Bear.” They are active in the ministries of The First United Methodist Church in nearby Waynesville, enjoying a variety of service, learning, and fellowship opportunities. The Poags have three adult children, and one granddaughter who turns 16 this December. They have one living parent, Pat’s mother, who celebrated her 95th year this past July. They enjoy walking the Lake, discussing politics, good food, interesting books, all sorts of music and, yes, a few favorite TV shows.

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 edition of the Spire is Thursday, 19 October.
A Who’s Who of the reformers on the ACP pulpit

by Jenn Cavanaugh

Pope John XXIII (1881-1963) served as the ecclesiastical envoy to post-WWII France and as the Vatican’s first Permanent Observer to UNESCO. Elected pope as an unobjectionable compromise candidate, deemed likely to be only a short-term placeholder on account of his advanced age, he instead convened the Second Vatican Council, which introduced sweeping reforms to the Catholic Church. His encyclical “Peace on Earth” significantly defused religious and political tensions during the Cold War.

John Wesley (1703-1791) started a “holy club” with his brother, Charles, at Christ College, Oxford. Their first attempts to establish this “Methodism” in the colony of Georgia ended in disaster. Back in England, Wesley had a conversion experience and became an itinerant evangelist, preaching a gospel of free grace and entire sanctification to the working poor of the Industrial Revolution. The holiness movement he fostered spurred concurrent passions for social justice and spiritual revival on both sides of the Atlantic.

St. Paul (c. 4 BC – c. 64 AD), like most of the church reformers that would follow him, did not set out to found a new religion so much as to call his own co-religionists into greater faithfulness to their own tradition. Paul became the apostle most influential in reinterpreting the Judaism of Jesus’ day in order to articulate the theological centrality of Jesus as the promised messiah, Lord, and savior, as well as the inclusion of the Gentiles in God’s redemptive purposes.

Martin Luther (1483-1546), an Augustinian monk, was excommunicated for condemning certain church tenets and practices, such as the sale of indulgences, that undermined the primacy of scriptural authority over church tradition and of grace working through faith as the means of salvation. The Protestant Reformation is often dated from when he posted his 95 Theses – a series of theological questions and proposals he wished to publicly debate – on the door of the Wittenberg Castle church on 31 October, 1517.

John Calvin (1509-1564) wrote the first edition of his magisterial Institutes of the Christian Religion while in self-exile from his native Catholic France. He spent three years ministering to French refugees in Strasbourg, but is best known for his role in the theocratic experiment of Geneva, where he tried – for better and for worse – to organize the city around the principles in his Ecclesiastical Ordinances. The influence of Calvin’s humanism, theology, and polity is still evident not only in the Protestant church, but also throughout Western civilization.

Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929 -1968) was a Baptist preacher like his father and grandfather before him. His Christian ideals led him to become the best-known spokesman for the civil rights movement in the United States. His personal commitment to and powerful witness for non-violent resistance as a means of achieving social justice earned him the Nobel Peace Prize at the age of 35. The next year, he preached at this pulpit, on 24 October 1965.
The anniversary that Protestant churches around the world are observing this month focuses on the German theologian Martin Luther, as it was his defiance in Wittenberg 500 years ago that we now mark as the start of the Protestant Reformation.

But revolutions are seldom due to one person. Even if you knew none of the history of those others who made the Reformation, you could read it in the same textbook that people in the Middle Ages used: the stained glass and carvings of the ACP.

Chief among the figures that appear here – the only one besides Luther to appear twice – is a Frenchman born in Noyon, in the Oise valley about 100 km north of Paris, in 1509. He was baptized Jehan Cauvin – a named rendered in Latin, the language of both his first career, the church, and his second, the law, as Calvino or Calvini, before passing down in history in re-Gallicized form: Calvin.

The Paris where precocious young Jehan came to study Latin in about 1523 had been abuzz with talk of church reform, despite the Sorbonne having officially condemned the movement two years earlier. News not only of Luther’s actions but also soon thereafter the reforms of Huldrych Zwingli in Zurich, and Martin Bucer in Alsace, had quickly reached the Latin Quarter.

Such news at first fell on relatively fertile ground. Even King Francois I tolerated the movement for a time, out of affinity for humanism and affection for his sister Marguerite, who was attracted by Lutheran ideas. Their interest had encouraged such humanist scholars as Jacques Lefèvre at Saint-Germain-des Prés, the powerful Abbey whose church, now its sole vestige, remains a Parisian landmark.

Years before Luther’s split from Rome, Lefèvre’s work and that of his fellow humanist Erasmus had influenced the German theologian. Lefèvre’s students included Guillaume Farrel, one of the first French humanists to openly embrace Protestantism and later a key figure in Calvin’s life. They both exiled themselves to Switzerland, whence they would eventually send many pastors back to lead churches in France.

In 1534, French Protestants circulated posters in Paris and several provincial cities denouncing the Catholic Mass – and, in an extraordinary breach of royal security, managed to attach one to the bedroom door of King Francois. This was a turning point in public opinion of what were then known as French Lutherans but would come to be called Huguenots – a derogatory nickname of disputed origin, later proudly adopted by those it was aimed at.

The public reaction against this Affair of the Placards, as it came to be known, was what drove Calvin to join Farrel in Switzerland, some two years after Calvin abandoned his law studies upon undergoing a conversion to Protestantism. There (after an interlude in Strasbourg) he would develop the system of theology

Continued on next page...
that still bears his name and would influence, among others, the Scottish minister John Knox. He shares our Reformers window with Calvin, Luther, and Thomas Cranmer, who like Knox shaped the early versions of the Book of Common Prayer still used by Anglican Protestants.

King François died in 1547, having turned enthusiastically to burning Protestants as heretics in his last years. His son Henri II continued the practice, but failed to keep the new faith from mushrooming. Henri’s Aunt Marguerite, meanwhile, had wed another Henri II, king of Navarre. Their daughter Jeanne would be the mother of still another Henri, a key figure in the French Wars of Religion at the end of the century and eventually king of France as Henri IV.

That Henri’s path to the French throne led through one of the bloodiest religious wars (actually a series of conflicts) in European history, second only to the Thirty Years’ War of 1618-48 in Central Europe. The Huguenot Wars, or French Wars of Religion, began on 1 March 1562, three years after the formal founding of the Reformed Church in Paris. One of its most formidable foes, the Duke of Guise, came across a large group of Protestants holding a service in a barn near Wassy in eastern France, and his troops massacred more than 60 of them.

Between then and King Henri IV’s Edict of Nantes in 1598, which effectively called a more or less lasting truce, some 3 million people lost their lives, including roughly 3,000 in Paris alone in the St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre that began the night of 24/25 August 1572.

More than 1,000 of those victims, their bodies dumped into the Seine, washed up and were buried on the Ile Maquerelle, an island later joined to the Left Bank proper, just about where our church would one day be built. A record of payment to workmen for burying the bodies is one of the only reliable accounts of the loss of life in the massacre, estimates of which range from 5,000 in Ile de France to 70,000 nationwide.

Out of such sorrowful histories rose the Reformed Churches of Europe, whose national seals can be seen in stained glass on the west wall of the sanctuary, down from the Tiffany windows and across from a brass plaque donated by an American Huguenot society.

Commemorative events for the 500th anniversary have been ongoing around the world for the last year, from Wittenberg to Westminster. From 27-29 October, Strasbourg hosts the third edition of Protestants en fête, with a special focus on the Reformation. In Geneva, celebrations include a special exhibit for the 100th anniversary of its international Monument to the Reformation, known as the "Reformers Wall."

Tuesday 31 October will be a national holiday in all of Germany (normally it is only a holiday in five states). On 29 October, the Pop-Oratory Luther, the project of a thousand voices, will perform the final concert of its tour. Wittenberg is hosting many special exhibits, will hold its annual Renaissance Festival from 22-31 October, and on the 31st will stage a Reformation Day festival. It starts with a morning service in the city’s two main churches, the Castle Church, where Luther is said to have nailed up his 95 Theses and the St. Mary’s Town Church, where Luther preached and was married. Afterwards, there will be a parade, street theater, and concerts.

Would you like to be part of the Reformation Jubilee?

Join the international celebrations by uploading a photo. The photos will be projected on to a screen in Lutherstadt Wittenberg to celebrate the history of the world. So your church, your community, could be at the heart of the Reformation Jubilee.

Here’s how: Take a photo of yourself at your church or your community. Upload it to our website www.visit-luther.com/celebrate. See who else from your town, your state and your country is celebrating the Jubilee. If you also share your photo in social networks, use hashtag #LutherCountry.
The French Protestant Federation
by Ursula Perrier

The ACP is a member of the French Protestant Federation, but do you know what the Federation is? Did you know it is the group responsible for inviting Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to speak in Paris in 1965?

As an interdenominational and international Christian community, the ACP 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, interfaith 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 of 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.

For instance, for COP21 two years ago, it published a booklet on “Les changements climatiques,” which analyzed the issue from a theological and ethical perspective.

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.
Solidarity or Nothing
A day of reflection and discussion proposed by the Social Christianity movement. Founded in the 19th century, Social Christianity seeks to confront Christian faith with our social, economic, cultural, and ecological environment, to publicly express hope and take action in accordance with that hope. Six brief interventions on contemporary societal challenges will be followed by the study of four Biblical texts, led by New Testament scholar François Vouga.

Saturday, 14 October, 9h30-17h. La Maison Fraternelle, 37 rue Tournefort, Paris 75005. The event is free, but a basket will be passed for contributions to defray coffee break and lunch costs. For more information: http://latelierprotestant.fr/event/la-solidarite-ou-rien.

Jesus, the Encyclopedia
For the launch of Jesus, the Encyclopedia, the Collège des Bernardins and publisher Albin Michel have invited a variety of contributors — exegetes, psychoanalysts, historians, theologians and others — to a round table discussion on Jesus, the mystery that never stops questioning us.


Jerusalem and Babylon: Rereading Saint Augustin
How has political Augustinianism come to mean almost the contrary of Augustine's theses in the City of God? A one-day symposium with a variety of academics, theologians, and philosophers.

Tuesday, 10 October, 9h-17h30. Institut Catholique de Paris, 21 rue d'Assas, 75006 Paris. The event is free. Registration & Info: www.icp.fr

Protestants en Fête (not in Paris)
This event is not held in Paris. If you've ever wanted to go to Strasbourg, this might be the occasion. The biannual celebration of Protestants in France is full of activities for the entire family, including a concert and worship service for more than 10,000.

What’s up in Paris

Night owls’ delight
The Nuit Blanche packs 28 official and over 100 “off” events into one very long night. The Canopée des Halles is hosting a giant dance spectacular. The Rives de Seine will be awash with a massive, interactive “Tide of Letters,” intended as a metaphor for the democratic process but mostly a colorful, ever-evolving jumble of giant letters, best viewed from nearby bridges. Several Métro stops will stay open all night, cafés will purvey midnight snacks, and the website offers a special selection for kids who want to stay up late…just this once, of course. Saturday 7 October, www.nuitblanche.paris

Afro-batics
The Cirque Mandingue got its start on the beaches of Conakry, Guinea. Now this joyous troupe of musicians, dancers, and acrobats is bringing “Afro Cirkus, the Itinerary of a Continent” to the Cabaret Sauvage at La Villette. Irresistible African rhythms and dance moves weave together exuberant tumbling, multi-story human pyramids, gravity-defying Chinese pole stunts, and eye-popping contortionist tricks into a vivid portrayal of the history and heritage of the African continent. 4-29 October, www.cabaretsauvage.com

Fan zone
Even against the motley, multi-cultural, multi-media circus that is the Festival d’Automne, Mohamed El Khatib’s “Stadium” stands out for its sheer, offbeat audacity. Not a singer, dancer or actor in sight, but 53 real-life soccer fans from the depressed industrial city of Lens. Leather-faced factory workers, angry young men, and delectable, die-hard soccer granny Mémé Yvette take to the stage with horns, banners and team-colors regalia to deliver a memorable glimpse into their very unique world. “Stadium” at Théâtre de la Colline until 7 October, other regional venues through 17 November. www.festival-automne.com

Lucky Thirteenth
Le Treizième Art, a vast new theater space specializing in comedy and circus acts, has just opened in the former Gaumont cinema in the 13th arrondissement. There the fabled avant-garde Montreal troupe Cirque Eloize will mark the Paris première of its show “Cirkopolis,” a dreamlike collage in which impressive and often highly lyrical stunts are superimposed on a stark industrial cityscape. Worker drones exchange mind-numbing routine for magical routines involving tumbling, juggling and giant, gyrating hoops. 5-29 October, www.le13emeart.com

The art of the deal
An entirely different kind of circus comes to town this month in the form of the 44th annual Foire Internationale de l’Art Contemporain, bringing 192 major art galleries from 29 countries to Paris’ Grand Palais. For collectors and contemporary art junkies, all that heavy art-illery amassed under one glass-domed big top is well worth the hefty price of admission. If you’d rather just browse, sculpture displays in the surrounding streets and “Hors les murs” events in nearby arts venues offer parallel glimpses of contemporary creation, free of charge. 19-22 October, www.fiac.com

Hero sandwich
Want to meet a superhero? Want to be one? The Comic Con festival is your chance to meet the comic-book crème de la crème: cartoonists, film-makers, and actors from cult sci-fi TV series. Cool attractions include a Star Wars rebel fighter training game and a 360° video-selfie booth for would-be superheroes to show off their stuff on social media. Enthusiasts dress up as their favorite sci-fi, comic book or fantasy characters, and compete for a berth at the Cosplay world finals in Chicago. May the Force be with you! 27-28-29 October, www.comic-con-paris.com

October event listings
by Karen Albrecht

ACP Spire, October 2017 13
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 15 October, 17h00

Ensemble Lumina – Caroline DRURY director;
ACP Bronze Ringers – Fred GRAMANN director

Byrd, Haydn, Schumann, Chopin, Prokofiev,
Pärt, Runestad, Riše, Gjello,
Gramann, Greenfield, Winter

Sunday 22 October, 17h00

John KAMFONAS – piano

CHOPIN
Préludes op. 28 (extraits)
Foloneuse Fantaisie, op. 61

BEETHOVEN
Sonate en ré mineur, op. 31 n°2 “La Tempête”

KAMFONAS
Improvisation

DEBUSSY
Images I : Reflets dans l’eau, Hommage à Rameau, Mouvement

Sunday 29 October, 17h00

Naji HAKIM - organ & piano;
Raphaëlle DENIS - harp;
Rima TAWIL - soprano;
Katia-Sofia HAKIM - poet

OEUVRES DE
Naji HAKIM

SUI TE FRANCAISE pour orgue
PHÈDRE, chanté pour soprano et piano
TROIS DANSES BASQUES pour orgue
CANTILENA pour orgue
SONATE pour harpe (world premiere)
We continue to meet every Sunday from 15h00-17h00 enjoying some fun games for the first hour and digging into a lesson during the second. Many thanks to the various parents who supply the snacks for our hungry teenagers and leaders Sunday after Sunday.

The topics being looked at during October include:

- 8 October - What’s your status on social media?
- 15 October - Justice: What is it & why should we care?

Special note: There will be no regular youth gatherings on 22 and 29 October due to the Toussaint holidays.

Serve the City Mission Project

Are feeling the urge to help those less fortunate around you, but not sure how? Log on to facebook.com/servethecityparis. Here you will find great opportunities to a part of the Serve the City movement of volunteers, who are seeking to show compassion and kindness to the most vulnerable in our city.

Youth and Young Adult Ministry

We continue to enjoy our Tuesday gatherings and are looking at a variety of topics that encourage us to consider how our faith is intersecting with our everyday life. Our discussions are focused on one central question. The questions being asked during October include:

- 3 October - Can we really love God without loving others?
- 10 October - Why is it so hard to forgive?
- 17 October - Is anger the issue or is the real issue what you get angry about?

All young adults (ages 18-30) are welcome to join us.

Eight lycée students, along with Jake and Tricia Van Asten, will attend the International Youth conference of the AICEME (association of international churches in Europe and Middle East November 2-5. Pray that they have a great experience together.
What’s going on?
Tune in to ACP Today radio

Have you ever listened to ACP Today, the American Church in Paris’ radio show? Join us on Mondays at 20h45 – this month on 2 and 16 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, or the ACP mobile app.

Friends and visitors, what better way to keep in touch with the ACP family and learn about the latest ACP news? All our shows are downloaded to our website, at www.acparis.org/acptoday. Faith Talk from Paris – it’s a kind of souvenir that never gets old.

If you have any questions, comments, ideas or would like to contribute to the show, be sure to contact us at acptoday@acparis.org.

#TryAlpha

Alpha is a great opportunity to ask questions and learn more about the Christian faith in a relaxed, informal and friendly environment.

There are many people who are now part of our ACP family because someone reached out and invited them to “come and see” what the Christian faith is all about. It’s not always easy to tell friends, family and colleagues about God but we all know someone who has questions about life and faith. Giving them an Alpha invite and personally bringing them along to the Alpha Course is one of the easiest ways to do this!

Your prayer support is essential, so please keep the guests and the team in your prayers throughout the course.

Is there more to life than this? Let’s find out together. Over 29 million people around the world have done Alpha – have you?

For more information, please contact alpha@acparis.org. Details about the ongoing course are available via the website at acparis.org and our social media channels.

The Movie Discussion Group
19h30, Thursday 19 October
Room G2

This month’s movies to see beforehand:
Faute d’amour, L’Ecole buissonnière, Detroit, and Loving Vincent
See any or all at your leisure and join the group for discussion.
Contact: movies@acparis.org

Did you know you can follow the American Church in Paris on social media?
@AmChurchParis /AmericanChurchParis
Training to be a Chaplain

In one of the training classes I attended as a Chaplain Trainee, a young chaplain told a story about an interesting visit he had with a prisoner in his cell. The prisoner welcomed him in, then spent the next two and a half hours telling the chaplain what he was going through in his life. At the end, when the chaplain finally had to leave, the prisoner thanked him intently for coming, telling him how greatly the conversation had helped him. The chaplain said goodbye and left, thinking to himself "but I didn't say anything... he did all the talking..."

Interesting. Prisoners, like everyone else in this world, need someone to listen to their story. Not judge it, analyze it, add to it or give feedback. Just listen to it. Have someone who cares enough to listen to what they have to say. Have you heard the statistic that, when other people are talking, most people spend 75% of their time not listening to what the other person is saying, but thinking about what they're going to say next?! I think most of us are frequently guilty of that. I know I am.

Another speaker at the same training class explained that prisoners are rarely able to speak out and express their own thoughts or opinions; they are almost always on the “receiving end” of other people's orders. They are told when to wake up, when to eat, what they can and can't do, what they can’t say. And if they disobey, well... it’s not good. In the extreme case, they could even have their sentence extended.

They have totally lost control of their lives - they have lost their freedom in almost every sense of the word. Hence their need to be able to express themselves, their emotions, their worries and their hurts, openly, to someone who is willing to listen to them. A chaplain may be the only person who can fill that role, and also who actually believes that the prisoner can change and have a new life. There is hope! We believe God’s trustworthy and true words: See, I am making all things new (Rev 21:5).

And finally, a speaker at another class encouraged us to let the Bible (God) speak for us, and to let God direct us to the right scripture passage(s). We shouldn’t try to help prisoners by ourselves. God knows what He wants to say to that specific person – we don't. Good point. I hadn't thought of it that way.

Into the cells

I started visiting women prisoners in their cells last month for the first time, and have been trying to remember these lessons on listening when I'm with the women. When a thought pops into my mind like “Oh – I had a similar thing happen to me that I could share!” or some “good advice” comes to mind that I think I can give her, a gentle thought comes to me that the woman in front of me is not there to hear my story, my thoughts and opinions; I am there to hear her story, her pain, her suffering and her joys. I need to listen, not talk. Just listen, and see if any scriptures come to mind.

Easier said than done. I'm working on it – both in prison and in my life on the “outside.”

ACP is participating in projects for prisoners around the Paris area in a number of ways, in addition to our four members currently attending worship services with inmates inside the prisons:

- We have donated English Bibles in four prisons, for Anglophone inmates who are not yet able to read the Bible in French;
- Through your generous donations, we have provided a wide range of Christian literature in English to Anglophone inmates in three prisons;
- Through a very kind donation from our MOPS group, two bags of maternity clothes were delivered for pregnant inmates at one of the women's prisons.

We're looking at other ways we can help, especially with Christmas coming up. If you have any suggestions or would like to participate in some way in this ministry, please feel free to contact me at prisonministry@acparis.org.
An extraordinary day at Deep Griha, India
by Pascale Deforge

I would like to share with you what I call an "extraordinary" day. Thursday, 28 September, I was at the Deep Griha slum center where I teach Indian ladies from this poor and difficult community how to sew school uniforms.

Two women were waiting at our tailoring workshop for the others to arrive (in India, lesson times are elastic!), and suddenly, Suvarna, who is 23 years old, said: "I want to convert to Christianity." I was so surprised that I said, "Speak with Jesus, He will tell you."

Two days before, I had already been overwhelmed to learn that Kavita, another participant in the workshop, was also a converted Christian. So yesterday I asked to her to share her story with us about how she became a Christian. She spoke very emotionally for an hour as Suvarna listened, joined by the other women as they arrived one by one.

Kavita explained to us that when she was 13, she had to get surgery to remove her kidney, and had said to her mother, "Do not sell your home and jewelry to pay for the surgery; Jesus will help."

I read the passage in the Bible about Jesus saying: my daughter, your faith has saved you. We then had a conversation about faith, and about speaking to Jesus and listening for his response.

Suvarna read some Bible verses and, for the first time in our group, she asked for and recited with strength our daily prayer.

The other women were very pleased, said that it was a great prayer. But Suvarna was Hindu. I hadn’t asked for her to convert. We "only" read the Bible and pray every day.

As Jacob said, God was in this place and I did not know it. And as God is sooo good, when we left the slum and entered the house of the man who helped us with the maintenance of our sewing machines, we found him wearing a big cross. His wife Laxmi is Hindu but he is Christian, like his father. Laxmi said, "Maybe Hindu cancelled," speaking of herself, making two converted Christians in one day.

This is indeed overwhelming grace!

Something transformative is happening in our group. I do not ask for conversion because the Indian Government deports westerners who are actively converting Indian people. So, while we pray and read, I do not dare to sing Christian songs with these women, because we do not have a window to close, and the area is Hindu and Muslim. Please pray for these women and that we continue to follow Jesus’ plan and be safe.

The Deep Griha Society (DGS) is an independent charitable organization that focuses on nutrition and education programs, including: Child, Youth & Women Empowerment; Medical & Health Care; Disha (HIV/AIDS awareness); and Rural Empowerment. It works to better the lives of people living in the slums of Pune, India’s seventh largest city, situated about 160km from Mumbai. For more information, see the ACP website: acparis.org/deep-griha-society or www.deepgriha.org.
The ACP Ministry Fair
Sunday, 17 September

A huge thanks to Pastor Tim and the Community Life community for organizing this year’s wonderfully well-attended Ministry Fair. Over 20 different groups within the church staffed tables to share their vision for ministry with all comers. If you missed it, but still want more information on any of the myriad activities of the church and how you might get involved, please swing by the Welcome table in the theater after any service to fill out an interest form.

The Refugee Task Force makes recommendations to the Mission Outreach Committee on ways to motivate members of our congregation to help alleviate the refugee crisis in Paris. The task force is looking for new members. If you would like to join or see what we do, please contact Ursula Perrier at ursulaperrier@gmail.com. Our next meeting is on Monday, 23 October at 19h30.

European Heritage Days
16-17 September

On Saturday 16 September, we welcomed over 400 visitors for Journées du Patrimoine tours last month, double our number in 2016. As usual, 90% of our visitors were French, but we had one guest from Brazil, from China, from Russia, and a handful of Americans. Most identified as Catholic, but along with the Protestants, we also had 17 atheists and 10 people without religion, along with one Muslim, one Buddhist, three Hindus, and a Deist. It’s always an exhilarating and exhausting effort by docent team volunteers Anjlo Ajmal, Rebecca Brite, Midge Dillon, Pierre Lhomme, and Alison Benney. A big thanks to Venie Marron and Gigi Oyog for helping to make everyone feel welcome.
French schooner La Boudeuse now in Le Havre
By Diane Ficarelli

Have you noticed there’s something missing in front of the American Church? Two years ago, the three-masted French schooner La Boudouse anchored in the Seine right in front of the church (cf. articles in the October and November 2015 issues of the Spire). Two months ago, on 20 July, the ship sailed down the Seine to the port city of Le Havre, where some much-needed repair work was done, pending news of her next expedition.

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
2. Click on “messages” at the bottom.
3. Click on “Bulletins” at the top.
What things, experiences and practices refresh you or give you life? What images or ideas come to mind when you think about the book of Revelation? The apocalypse?

Jesus says in Revelation 21:5: “Behold, I am making all things new.” Can that be right? Can Jesus be at work making Paris and our world new? Can Jesus make me new?

Join us for our All-Church Fall Retreat led by Pastor Tim Vance, as we explore these questions in worship, small group conversations, special workshops, fun activities, quiet time and mealtime.

All-Church means EVERYONE is invited to be part of this special time together! Programs are being developed for children, youth, young adults, adults and families. This is a fantastic opportunity to get to know each other while learning, worshipping and relaxing together.

The retreat will take place from Friday 13 to Sunday 15 October at the Massibielle Retreat Centre, 1 rue Auguste Rey, 95390 Saint Prix, a 20-minute train ride from Gare du Nord. Participants will be greeted at the station on Friday evening and taken to the Centre by shuttle. Upon arrival, there will be a time of fellowship with a welcome buffet. We’ll play games geared at getting to know each other!

Saturday morning we’ll begin the day with worship before launching into teaching. Pastor Tim Vance will lead the retreat as we explore together our image of God. While adults discuss and share in small groups, children will have their own time of learning.

After lunch, there will be time for creative thinking, exercise, games, and walking in the nearby Montmorency forest. There is also time to simply rest and enjoy the natural setting of the Massibielle Retreat Centre. Retreats are meant to be a time to slow down, relax and reflect away from the distractions of our busy lives.

In the evening, we’ll join together for further fellowship and teaching, sharing with each other our experiences of the day. A surprise awaits the children...

On Sunday, we will take time to worship together, conclude the teaching and enjoy lunch before returning to Paris in the early afternoon. Shuttles will be available to transport participants.

For more information about the weekend, please contact the Christian Education Committee at christianeducation@acparis.org or the Associate Pastor, at associatepastor@acparis.org.

**Prayer Chain Team**

_Do you have a prayer request for our Prayer Team?_

If so, please forward your prayer by email 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.
# ACP Spire Diary – October 2017

## events, meetings and concerts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Events and Monthly Meetings and Concerts</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>12h15</th>
<th>Thurber Room</th>
<th><a href="mailto:membership@acparis.org">membership@acparis.org</a></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>New Member Orientation</strong></td>
<td>1 Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>Please RSVP to <a href="mailto:communitylife@acparis.org">communitylife@acparis.org</a> to join the class. All are welcome!</td>
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<td><strong>Atelier Concert</strong></td>
<td>1 Oct</td>
<td>17h</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Free admission, with free-will offering</td>
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<td>Clémentine DECOUTURE - soprano; Nicholas</td>
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<td><strong>ACP Today: Faith Talk in Paris radio show</strong></td>
<td>2 Oct</td>
<td>20h45-21h30</td>
<td>100.7 FM, Radio Fréquence Protestante</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tune in for inspiring music and interviews.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Alpha Course week 1</strong></td>
<td>5 Oct</td>
<td>19h</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alpha@acparis.org">alpha@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Explore the meaning of life, ask questions and</td>
<td></td>
<td>19h45</td>
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<tr>
<td>learn more about the basics of the Christian</td>
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<td>program</td>
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<tr>
<td>faith in a relaxed, informal and friendly</td>
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<td>environment. This 10 week course is free and</td>
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<td>open to everyone.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Adult Fellowship</strong></td>
<td>6 Oct</td>
<td>From 20h contact for location</td>
<td>Daphne <a href="mailto:30plusfellowship@acparis.org">30plusfellowship@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Singles and pairs, join us for fellowship every first Friday of the month in a lounge café setting, sharing testimonies, talking about the highs and lows of your life with brothers</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NO Atelier Concert this week</strong></td>
<td>8 Oct</td>
<td>17h</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Alpha Course week 2</strong></td>
<td>12 Oct</td>
<td>19h</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alpha@acparis.org">alpha@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Explore the meaning of life, ask questions and</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday Mission Lunch (volunteers needed)</strong></td>
<td>13 Oct</td>
<td>10h-14h</td>
<td>The American Cathedral</td>
<td>If you are interested, please first contact: Kristie Worrel fridaymissionlunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>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</td>
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<td><strong>ACP MOPS (mothers of children ages newborn-18)</strong></td>
<td>13 Oct</td>
<td>10h-12h</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mops@acparis.org">mops@acparis.org</a></td>
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<td>Free childcare available.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>All-Church Fall Retreat - Refreshed</strong></td>
<td>13-15 Oct</td>
<td>10h-14h</td>
<td>The American Cathedral</td>
<td>Tim Vance <a href="mailto:associatepastor@acparis.org">associatepastor@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A weekend of learning and fellowship at the Massibielle Retreat Center, 20km outside of Paris. Pastor Tim Vance will help us grasp the book of Revelation and the theme of “being made new in Christ.” This retreat is for everyone, with programs for children and adults. Details and registration on our website at acparis.org.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Writers’ Group</strong></td>
<td>14 Oct</td>
<td>14h30 - 16h30</td>
<td>Room G2</td>
<td>Tendayi Chirawu <a href="mailto:writers@acparis.org">writers@acparis.org</a></td>
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(please check www.acparis.org/whatson for updates and weekly schedules)
# Special Events and Monthly Meetings and Concerts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Women’s Fellowship</strong></td>
<td>Debbie Bird will speak about “Walking in the Light.” All women are welcome at our monthly fellowship. Free childcare is provided.</td>
<td>Sunday 15 Oct 12h15-13h30 Thurber Room</td>
<td>Teri Lee Valluy <a href="mailto:women@acparis.org">women@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert</strong></td>
<td>Free admission, with free-will offering Ensemble Lumina; ACP Bronze Ringers; Agnes WAN – piano</td>
<td>Sunday 15 Oct 17h Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACP Today: Faith Talk in Paris radio show</strong></td>
<td>Tune in for inspiring music and interviews.</td>
<td>Monday 16 Oct 20h45-21h30</td>
<td>100.7 FM, Radio Fréquence Protestante</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Alpha Course week 3</strong></td>
<td>Explore the meaning of life, ask questions and learn more about the basics of the Christian faith in a relaxed, informal and friendly environment. This 10 week course is free and open to everyone.</td>
<td>Thursday 19 Oct 19h meal; 19h45 program Thurber Room</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alpha@acparis.org">alpha@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Movie Discussion Group</strong></td>
<td>Movie selection: <em>Faute d’amour, L’Ecole buissonnière, Detroit, and Loving Vincent.</em> See any or all at your leisure; join the group for discussion.</td>
<td>Thursday 19 Oct 19h30 Room G2 or, weather permitting, the courtyard</td>
<td>Rebecca Brite <a href="mailto:movies@acparis.org">movies@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Multicultural Couples Potluck Dinner</strong></td>
<td>Fellowship and discussion on topics such as raising bicultural/bilingual children and cultural differences. Bring a dish to share.</td>
<td>Friday 20 Oct 20h Thurber Room</td>
<td>Monica Bassett &amp; Anja Wyss <a href="mailto:multicultural@acparis.org">multicultural@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>School Holidays / Vacances Scolaire - Toussaint</strong></td>
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<td>Sat 21 Oct - Sun 5 Nov</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert</strong></td>
<td>Free admission, with free-will offering John KAMFONAS - piano</td>
<td>Sunday 22 Oct 17h Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thurber Thursday - Rev. Dr. Greg Boyd speaks on “Cross Vision: Making Sense of the Old Testament’s Violent Portraits of God”</strong></td>
<td>Rev. Boyd is an internationally recognized theologian, preacher, teacher, apologist, and author.</td>
<td>Wednesday 25 Oct 19h meal; 19h45 program Thurber Room</td>
<td>Tim Vance <a href="mailto:associatepastor@acparis.org">associatepastor@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Alpha Course week 4</strong></td>
<td>Explore the meaning of life, ask questions and learn more about the basics of the Christian faith in a relaxed, informal and friendly environment. This 10 week course is free and open to everyone.</td>
<td>Thursday 26 Oct 19h meal; 19h45 program Thurber Room</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alpha@acparis.org">alpha@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Time Change to Winter Time / Standard Time</strong></td>
<td>Set clocks back one hour</td>
<td>Sunday 29 Oct 3h (2h)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert</strong></td>
<td>Free admission, with free-will offering Naji HAKIM - organ &amp; piano; Raphaëlle DENIS - harp; Rima TAWIL - soprano; Katia-Sofia HAKIM - poet</td>
<td>Sunday 29 Oct 17h Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Toussaint</strong></td>
<td>Church house and office closed for public holiday.</td>
<td>Wednesday 1 Nov</td>
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L’ENSEMBLE LUMINA
CAROLINE DRURY, DIRECTEUR

THE ACP BRONZE RINGERS
FRED GRAMANN, DIRECTEUR

DIMANCHE 15 OCTOBRE 2017 À 17H

ŒUVRES DE
Byrd, Haydn, Schumann, Chopin, Prokofiev,
Pärt, Runestad, Riše, Gjeilo,
Gramann, Greenfield, Winter

A L’ÉGLISE AMÉRICaine
65, QUAI D’ORSAY
75007 PARIS

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