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Photo: ©Mark Primmer
At the beginning of September as people are returning from summer vacations you will likely hear in Paris something like "Je vous souhaite une bonne rentrée!" or simply "Bonne rentrée!" It’s a way of both acknowledging the challenges ahead of getting back into the normal school and work routines, but also of a sincere desire for it to go well through what are sometimes tough transitions of getting back to the city and what can seem like a mountain of work for families, students, and workers returning from summer vacation.

We welcome one another and many newcomers at this time in the church community. We remember as Paul says in Romans 15:7, “Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.” It is genuinely a joyful time as old and new friends gather again for worship on Sundays and meet in various small groups during the week for friendship, learning, and service.

This year we invite you to the Ministry Fair on Sunday, 18 September, to become aware of the many opportunities that you have at the ACP to connect in meaningful ways for both personal spiritual strengthening as well as dynamic service to others. We believe a formula for spiritual health is W+2. Worship on Sunday plus a way that you can receive and a way that you can give during the week. We hope the Ministry Fair will be a fun welcoming and connecting time after the 11h00 and 13h30 services, but of course throughout the year every week in the bulletin and website you’ll discover new opportunities to connect, give and receive.

In Ephesians 4 we read that everyone is given a gift of the Holy Spirit, and I believe that you are actually a healthier person if you exercise your gifts and share your time and talent with others in meaningful ways. Paradoxically, yielding to the Holy Spirit’s gifting and calling can bring you greater fulfillment and resilience to the challenges that are inevitable in the various seasons and changes of life.

According to a recent New York Times opinion by David Brooks, “If you really want people to be tough, make them idealistic for some cause, make them tender for some other person, make them committed to some worldview that puts today’s temporary pain in the context of a larger hope.” He goes on to conclude that “Emotional fragility seems like a psychological problem, but it has only a philosophical answer. People are really tough only after they have taken a leap of faith for some truth or mission or love. Once they’ve done that, they can withstand a lot.” I think Brooks is right. And our community is the context of a larger hope!

I invite you to prayerfully consider taking a leap of faith and this season of la rentrée to commit yourself anew to the truth of the gospel, the mission of the Kingdom of God, and a deeper love of God and neighbor. Who would have thought? Bible study, prayer, singing in the choir or ringing bells, cooking for fellowship events, ushering, serving with Children’s Worship or Youth Group, ACP Today radio show, or Bloom, feeding the hungry with Serve the City or the Friday Mission Lunch, or giving generously at a fundraiser will make you a healthier, stronger person...

Let’s toughen up, and have a “bonne rentrée” everyone!

In Christ, Scott
On Saturday, 27 August 2016, it was my privilege to officiate at the wedding blessing of Robert Chilton and Lois Rudy, who stood in the chancel of the ACP sanctuary, repeated their vows, and exchanged their rings. You may wonder why this is noteworthy, since we celebrate hundreds of wedding blessings a year at ACP. What is special about this ceremony is that Robert and Lois met at the American Church in Paris 51 years ago!

Lois was an American student, studying at the American University in Paris, at its inception, when its classes met at the American Church. There were fewer than 200 students in what was then a two-year program. Robert worked at the Reception Desk at the American Church, a job he held for three years. The two met in the reception area, and they dated while Lois was in Paris at AUP. They ultimately went their separate ways, with Robert remaining in Paris, and Lois returning to the US.

A number of years ago, they located each other, and renewed their relationship, that led to their wedding blessing day this summer, more than 50 years after their first meeting. Lois and Robert were as happy a couple as I’ve met, and I enjoyed hearing Robert’s stories about ACP in the 1960s when it was his job, holding down the Reception desk, to also serve as pallbearer at funerals.

Bible readings for September

4 September
Jeremiah 18:1-11
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (UMH 854)
Philemon 1-21
Luke 14:25-33

11 September
Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28
Psalm 14 (UMH 746)
1 Tim 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10

18 September
Jeremiah 8:18-9:1;
Psalm 79:1-9 or Psalm 4 (UMH 741);
1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

25 September
Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15
Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 (UMH 810)
1 Timothy 6:6-19
Luke 16:19-31

Would you like to propose articles, write, proofread, do layout or take photos? Contact Alison Benney at Spire@acparis.org Note: Deadline for the October Spire is Thursday 22 September.
Four kids and a marketing executive from a major mobile-phone company in the United States are sitting at a library table. The marketing exec then says to the kids, “Let’s say a friend invites you over and they have a really big, really fun pool. And then another friend invites you over who has a much smaller, less fun pool. Which pool would you rather go to?” The commercial ends with the slogan, “It’s Not Complicated. Bigger is Better.”

In many ways that slogan is true. It’s great to be a part of something big, something larger than ourselves. This is one reason we gather together each week as a larger body to worship together. Sunday worship reminds us that we are a part of God’s global family. Bigger is also better when we begin to recognize that Jesus has invited us to be participants in his work of redeeming and restoring all things.

But when it comes to building meaningful relationships that help us to grow; bigger can sometimes get in the way. It’s hard to be close friends with 613 Facebook friends and clicking “like” probably isn’t what Jesus meant when he said, “love your neighbor, as yourself.” Meaningful relationships require time, depth of interaction, and close proximity (face-to-face interaction). And because all of these elements require time, energy and commitment, small group relationships are, in the end... better.

Many times churches can feel like a really big pool and if we float around on our own for a while there might come a time when we realize that bigger isn’t better. We don’t want you to float alone. So a community group is a place where we can be known and where we can know one another and Jesus more deeply. This “knowing and being known” begins to happen as we (over time) pray, study, eat, serve, sing, share, and even play together.

Now as we think about smaller experiences of community, let’s think bigger (I know, I told you it would be complicated). A small group (or what we are calling community groups) can come in many forms. Since the point is connecting with others in community we are expanding our vision for community groups to include, bible studies, fellowship groups, choirs, service teams, and yes traditionally titled “small groups.”

We are doing this because we believe that Jesus is already at work creating a variety of opportunities for each of us to get connected with a small community that fits our schedule and areas of interest. This may be a little complicated... but smaller can actually be better.

Learn more online at www.acparis.org or email us at communitygroups@acparis.org.

**Clicking “like” probably isn’t what Jesus meant when he said “Love your neighbor, as yourself.”**

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**New Member Orientation: 2 October, 12h15-13h30**

Please save the date to attend the class if you are interested in becoming a member of the ACP.

RSVP to communitylife@acparis.org.
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

fall 2016 | 19h00 - 21h15 in the thurber room  
The American Church in Paris
Rene Descartes famously said “I think; therefore, I am.” But what if Descartes was wrong?

Now, Descartes was getting at something different here. He was trying to prove that he could believe in his own existence, but this quote and this way of thinking has permeated our post-Enlightenment minds. Including our Christian worldview.

Over the summer, as a staff and council, we read James K. A. Smith’s book, You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit. In it Smith argues that, despite our typical understanding that we are thinking things, what we actually are first and foremost is loving things.

This has huge implications on Christian discipleship.

We’ve often thought if you are what you think, then helping people become more like Jesus is simply a matter of implanting new information to them about how Jesus would act or live.

But that’s not always how it works. Think of all the times that you know what’s right and do something else entirely. I know that Jesus loved the poor and cared for the powerless, but I don’t act loving to the poor, and the powerless seem kind of weak to me. Who’d want to be like that?

So often there’s a distance between what we know and what we do. As Smith points out, “It seems we can’t think our way to holiness.”

One way that Scripture illustrates this is in Philippians 1:9-11.

“This is my prayer: that your love might become even more and more rich with knowledge and all kinds of insight. I pray this so that you will be able to decide what really matters and so you will be sincere and blameless on the day of Christ. I pray that you will then be filled with the fruit of righteousness, which comes from Jesus Christ, in order to give glory and praise to God.”

Verse 9 says it all. Paul prays that our love would become even more and more rich. Once again Smith says, “It’s not that I know in order to love, but rather: I love in order to know.”

Perhaps this is what Christian discipleship is all about, a reorienting of our loves. How do we shape our loves? Through habits. We are all lovers and the daily pursuits that make up our lives tell us what we love. Our habits tell us what is really important to us.

This can be a challenging thing to accept: sometimes we don’t want to see that what we really love is not the thing we tell others we love. Maybe you are putting your trust and hope in money, not God’s provision. Maybe you are seeking to fix your loneliness and emptiness in a spouse and not God’s love. Maybe you are seeking fulfillment in being successful and not in God’s grace.

Look at your patterns in your life; what do they say about what you love? Knowledge is important and it has a vital role in helping us discern what things to love, but if we don’t then shape our loves, we may continually wrestle with our beliefs and practices not lining up. The shaping of our habits of love is the path of Christian discipleship.

You are not only your beliefs; you are what you love.

*I would highly recommend that you pick up a copy of You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit by James K. A. Smith to delve deeper into this topic.
What images come to mind when you hear the word God? How about the words Dios, Dieu, Allah, Mungu, Theos, Gott, 神 (Shén), Gud, Dios or אלהים (Elohim)? Do the words for God in your native language or in other languages produce different images in your mind? Do you see an old man sitting on a cloud? Is God angry or is he calm? Is he mean or is he kind?

Every culture (religious, national, generational, economic, family, etc…) can help us better understand the true nature of God and every culture can hinder us from understanding and knowing God. So how can we recognize the difference?

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 28-30 October at the Massibielle Retreat Centre in St. Prix (95), 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, various workshops will be offered – creative times of art, storytelling as well as 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.

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, 2 nights’ accommodation, sheets, and shuttle from the St. Prix station. Please do not let money keep you from joining us for this retreat. Scholarships are available.

For online registration, see the ACP website www.acparis.org or register at the welcome desk in the lobby of the ACP. For more information about the weekend, please contact the Christian Education Committee at christianeducation@acparis.org or the Associate Pastor, at associatepastor@acparis.org.

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**FUNDRAISING EVENTS for accessible access to ACP**

**Wednesday, 21 September, 16h30:**
A cooking class and tasting, for a minimum donation of €100.

**Friday 23 September, 20h:**
A €1,000 per plate (minimum) Gala Dinner and silent auction.

Both take place at the ACP, in the Thurber room.
Dr. Tony Campolo, our Thurber Thursday speaker on 1 September, and guest preacher on 4 September, has seldom shied away from controversy. Espousing both biblical and leftist views, he has taken many stands – against war, income inequality, capital punishment – that sometimes make the evangelical Christian mainstream uneasy.

His message on welcoming the LGBT community into the church is equally guaranteed not to comfort the comfortable. But he arrived at it only gradually. He credits his wife, Peggy, with being way ahead of him on the issue and helping him get to his current stance, which he laid out in his 2015 statement, “For the Record.”

The key, he recalled in the Faith Talk from Paris radio broadcast in July, was genuine dialogue.

In discussions with Peggy, he said, “I always started with these words: ‘Here’s my position. I could be wrong.’ And I expected the same thing.” Unless both parties agree that they could be wrong, that “I’m open to what you have to say,” he explained, “you end up preaching at each other” instead of engaging in dialogue.

Peggy introduced him to LGBT couples, and reexamined with him the biblical verses that have most often been used to condemn non-straight relationships. “She helped me see a lot of things in the Scripture I had not seen.”

More importantly, he stressed, “My own marriage has worked out very well. If I was to be asked ‘Of all the blessings you have received, what was it that made you into the Christian you are today?’ – of all the influences, I would have to say it’s my wife.

“When I realized what a blessing she has been to me, I had to ask myself a very simple question: Can I deny this kind of blessing to gays and lesbians? If I enjoy marriage and marriage has been such a positive spiritual blessing for me, how do I turn around and deny this” to others?

Comparing opposition to gay marriage to suppression of the rights of African Americans and of women, he said: “There is a strong biblical case that can be made to support slavery. I don’t think any Christian supports slavery today. The scripture also had a view of women that we’ve moved beyond. We took a few verses and we used them in such a way as to exclude people who should have been included in the household of faith.”

Dr. Campolo, 81, a lifelong Baptist and Pennsylvanian, holds a PhD from Temple University in Philadelphia. He is professor emeritus of sociology at Eastern University, a Baptist-affiliated school in St. Davids, PA, and associate pastor at West Philly’s Mount Carmel Baptist Church.

A former spiritual adviser to President Bill Clinton, he also founded evangelical education ministries working particularly with those in poverty.

Peggy Campolo, his wife of nearly 60 years, was well known in evangelical circles as an outspoken supporter of full civil and religious rights for LGBT people for decades before her husband arrived at a similar position last year; before that, he had firmly held that although it was not a sin to be gay, acting on it was. They even held many public debates on the subject, drawing comparison to former Republican (now Libertarian) consultant Mary Matlin and her husband, Democratic adviser James Carville.

Noting that “I’m a sociologist by trade,” Dr. Campolo told Monica Bassett for Faith Talk from Paris: “Sociologists are agreed on one thing: Nobody knows what causes homosexual orientation. But it occurs so early in the development of the child.” He added, “And gay people do not change their orientation.”

Why, then, asked Monica, was homosexuality so difficult for church people to accept? For the same reason, he replied, that many had trouble accepting women in roles of church leadership, or accepting African Americans as equals and doing away with slavery. “The problem is that many of us just ignore what Jesus was all about. We do not pay attention to the kind of savior he was.”

He closed the interview by saying, “I could be wrong! Except for one thing: I know that Jesus loves you. No matter who you are or what you are or where you’re coming from in sexual orientation, Jesus loves you. And that’s my message.”
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 4 September 17h00**

Works by Heitor Villa Lobos, Astor Piazzolla, Frédéric Chopin, Maurice Ravel

**Sunday 11 September 17h00**

Works by Bach, Rameau, Sweelinck...

**Sunday 18 September 17h00**

**Sunday 25 September 17h00**

Works by Debussy, Schumann, De Falla, Prokofiev

**Sunday 2 October 17h00**

Ernest John Moeran (1894-1950)

Stalham River

William Sterndale Bennett (1816-1875)

Suite de Pièces, op. 24

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Sonate pour piano en Fa mineur, op. 5
This summer, along with visiting my family in the Pacific Northwest (son Ben, daughter-in-law Stacey, grandchildren Noah and Emile, my parents - both 93! - my brother Bob and wife Vicki, plus numerous cousins and their children), I had the opportunity to be the handbell director for two wonderful events.

The first was a 7-day handbell cruise from Vancouver, Canada, up the coast of Alaska and back, organized by the Bells of the Cascades based in Portland, Oregon. Among the ship's 2,000 passengers were 150 handbell ringers and friends. While at sea we rehearsed in groups of 50, preparing a concert for the other passengers on our final day. The group photo was taken on the main staircase of the ship with the ringers sporting their green polo shirt made especially for the occasion. Perhaps you can spot Nancy and myself in the center.

The second event was the Bay View Week of Handbells, held annually the third week of August in Bay View, Michigan. Amid a community of some 400 Victorian cottages on Lake Michigan, 104 ringers rehearse in a lovely auditorium in preparation for a major concert at the end of the week. The event features the largest collection of aluminum bass handbells found at any festival, transported each year from the Malmark Foundry. The event is so popular that when registration opens on 1st January, the ringing positions are all taken within hours. I have been the Assistant Director for several years to Carl Wiltse, and will have the extreme honor of replacing Carl as the new director in 2018.

Our new Youth Intern, Emily Chesley

Emily Chesley is an M.Div. Candidate at Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey, and completed her B.A. in Christian Ministries, with a concentration in Intercultural Ministry, at Azusa Pacific University in California. She is also a missionary kid (MK) and a third culture kid (TCK). She was born in Belgium, grew up in Chad, and went to high school in Cameroon.

Emily has served in a wide variety of ministries in churches, summer camps, universities, orphanages, and afterschool programs. Her love for the world and attempts to obey God have taken her to India, Mexico, and the United Kingdom, and she looks forward to creating a new home at the American Church in Paris.

She is an INTJ on the Myers-Briggs; loves swing dancing, reading, and playing board games; and is always up for a cup of tea and scones! Her favorite Bible verse is Psalm 4:8, and her favorite subject is Early Church History.
Is globalization sharing progress?

A roundtable discussion in English

The world is a better place than it used to be. People are healthier, wealthier, and live longer. Yet the escapes from destitution by so many have left gaping inequalities between people and nations.

Angus Deaton, Princeton University professor and recipient of the Nobel Prize in Economics in 2015, along with other leading thinkers, lead a roundtable discussion on the historical and ongoing patterns behind the health and wealth of nations, and what needs to be done to help those left behind. Discussion in English with simultaneous translation.

**Thursday, 8 September 20h at the Collège des Bernardins, 20 rue de Poissy, 5ème. Tickets €6/€3. For more information, go to [www.collegedesbernardins.fr](http://www.collegedesbernardins.fr).**

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**Sunday Women’s Gathering, 11 September**

12h15-13h30, Thurber Room

Join us as we kick off our 2016/2017 monthly Sunday Fellowship. Kristina Keenan, a member of ACP and head of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Paris Chapter, will speak on “The joys of service: From serving your country to serving the community.” Kristina will reflect on her time in the US military, her deployments to Bosnia as a peacekeeper, and her current humanitarian-volunteer projects. We look forward to seeing you there. Childcare available.

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“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Colossians 3:16-17
In today’s society there are more and more disabled persons, physically or otherwise, and we our mission is to welcome all. We need to make it possible for the physically disabled to easily come and worship with us, and to participate in all the activities of the church.

For people with a sight disability, you will notice that we have highlighted the first and last step of each landing of our staircases to make them more visible in conformity with current building code. We need now to find a solution for the mobility-challenged.

Our building was built between 1928 and 1930, and there was no regulation or concern at that time about ease of access for the disabled. These days people have become more aware of the problem and the French government is asking all architects of new buildings to integrate the needs of access for the disabled.

Our building is accessible by different staircases and the steepness of the main staircase does not make the installation of ramps a good option. For several years now the Property Committee has been studying different alternatives with a specialized engineering firm to find the best solution. We have recently commissioned a well-known architectural firm to study the different ways we could set up a disabled access.

We are considering three possible projects. It is important to respect the aesthetics of the building, local regulations and current building code. Early September, the Property Committee will meet with the architect to look at the feasibility of the thee possible solutions and make a recommendation of the best for the Church. The projects will then be presented to the Executive Committee and the Council for approval.

Creating a disabled access is a big investment for the ACP, in the vicinity of €150,000, but we feel is it necessary to welcome the disabled and also to respect French regulations, which make it compulsory for any public building to have a disabled access.

We welcome any and all donations towards this important project and the Church is organizing on 23 September a specific fundraiser with a gala dinner (contact Tom Wilscom : tom@hommage.com).

Two important fundraising events are planned to support this project. Both events will be held at the ACP, in the Thurber room.

**Wednesday, 21 September, 16h30:**
A cooking class and tasting, for a minimum donation of €100.

**Friday, 23 September, 20h:**
A €1,000 per plate (minimum) Gala Dinner, and an exclusive silent auction. Items for sale range from prestige wines to experiences on the Colorado River.

Dear God, it’s me…Kim

There are many things I am grateful for. And I thank you, God, for all the ways you stay out in front of me - with those subtle reminders of yours - of my daily blessings that I might miss if it weren’t for your gentle ways of guiding me to look.

Today you helped bring together a handful of ACP friends, to discuss and plan for our Handicap Lift fundraiser this September. I am overcome with emotion at the heartfelt commitment and empathy of each friend who has joined our initiative to make this needed lift happen - for all of us, as we are humbled in knowing anyone of us may need a physical lift at some point in our lives to access a community of strength.

I find myself smiling: ACP, “Accessible Church in Paris.” Amen!
Dear ACP Friends,

This summer was my turn for a biannual “furlough” trip to the U.S. Ably replaced at Rafiki Village by four young sports coaches and two willing couples, I was delighted to take some time off.

Rafiki "Enrichment Week," held at Home Office in Florida was a joyous time of renewing contacts with the other missionaries and with stateside supporters, as well as the Home Office staff, so I got plenty of "adult conversation". We had six lectures on each of two Bible chapters, "Gems from Genesis" and Thessalonians, by theologians who write our Rafiki Bible Study material. The top army general from Nigeria and his wife, and the Lutheran archbishop of Tanzania and his wife, all of whom are "friends of Rafiki" gave a series of lectures as well. FIVE brand new full-time missionaries were finishing their "survival week" training so did the cooking and serving of beautiful meals - we do get wonderfully spoiled at Home Office.

We are so thankful to God who is providing a new missionary couple to serve with us in Uganda. The Smiths will arrive in September with their 9-year-old son, to take over the Rafiki Institute of Classical Education Dean and Plant Management positions.

I then spent a week on the North Carolina Outer Banks with 17 members of my US family, and had a "mini reunion" of the class of ’66 with good friends from high school. More good food and a wonderful time to catch up on each other’s lives.

Then came a few days in Berkeley CA with son Charles, Gwen, 3-year-old Elise and 8-week-old Simon. A special family moment watching the France-Portugal match together in a pub with a few other California Frenchies. It was great to spend time with them, and to hug the children. I do miss them but was definitely delighted to be back “home” with my Rafiki children here.

After returning to Uganda it was a joy to have Jonathan Reid, ACP Mission Outreach Committee Chairman, Laura and their family visit Rafiki for the monthly cookout and afternoon games. Our Rafiki kids were shy but truly thrilled to have distinguished guests.

We walked around to the various residence cottages to see all the children cooking (firewood collected from our grounds, big pots of meat or chicken stew, cooked cabbage and greens, matoke, rice, sweet potatoes...). We had lunch in one of the gazebos - treated as honored guests seated in chairs - with three mamas and 20 of our “middle” age boys. The Reids were interested in everything about our life here and about Rafiki in general.

After that the Rafiki children’s field games started up, so all joined in a bit. It was a great day. Visitors are always a special ministry to me, and our children and staff absolutely love guests. They asked a million questions, as usual.

I feel truly blessed to have had a break from routine, to travel and to renew friendships. It was indeed an enriching time – just as holidays are meant to be.

Back to business now: wrapping up the search for schools and universities for our older children, managing stewardship of our financial resources, teaching in the Teacher Training Institute, leading the Mamas Book Club, and outfitting the house to welcome our new missionary family. Full, demanding, wonderful days.

I wish all of you Parisians a happy rentrée. May God bless each of you in the new fall season.

You can contact Patti at plafage@gmail.com. Donations can be made to her at www.rafikifoundation.org. Patti is ROS #207.
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 Hermann 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.
Come to the fair!
The ACP Ministry Fair
Sunday, 18 September, noon to 15h30

By Camilla Radford-Furman

The Ministry Fair at ACP is one of those events that you just shouldn’t miss. No matter what.

As you settle into the new routine that the rentrée has brought before you, and you have filled in most of the family necessities into your calendar, you hopefully have planned for some “me” time and, hopefully for some “God” time in there too!

With the busy-ness of the season, which honestly won’t end till after Christmas, (don’t fool yourself now!), you must put that “me time” and “time for God” to good and practical use. Work your available time smartly, and get the best bang for your buck, so to speak, for this Ministry Fair serves another great purpose, as the kick-off to our stewardship campaign, where we encourage you to give and commit of your time and talent.

Perhaps you’ve been to one of the Ministry Fairs? If so, you know that you have the chance to peruse all the things that go on at ACP, and find that particular group or activity that calls to you, perhaps even pulls at your heartstrings. You know, that call to involvement that would fill that longing to belong, or that way of contributing that you have been looking for.

Members of all the committees will be there to greet you and give you information about what they are up to, what is involved, what you can expect, what you will receive. Each committee and each mission is different with its own needs and gifts to offer, and it is the one time of the year that you can see it all in one place!

Whatever project you find that touches your heart, your participation would be a blessing to so many. First of all, it will be a blessing to you, for when you give, you receive. It will also be a blessing to those whom you help. And then let us not forget that it will be a blessing to those leading that project or group. Really, we need all the help we can get!

The other activities and groups you will find to tickle your interests are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bible Studies: On Sundays and during the week</th>
<th>Wedding ministries</th>
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<tr>
<td>Communications: The Spire - radio show- website</td>
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<td>Building and Property Committee</td>
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<td>Christian education</td>
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<td>African and Filipino Fellowships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s and Men’s ministries</td>
<td>Music: Contemporary, traditional and youth</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Multicultural Couples group</td>
<td>Meditation and prayer groups</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stop by the Bloom Where You’re Planted table to sign up as a volunteer. We need helping hands and friendly faces for Reception, Greeters, Children’s Program, Food service and Set-up/Decoration. Contact: bloomvolunteers@gmail.com.
So the French President called. He wondered if you wanted to stop by his place sometime next weekend. If you're not too busy hanging out at the television studio, the National Assembly, or the Sorbonne, that is.

Living in Paris we already enjoy easy access to some of the world's most amazing cultural heritage sites, but one weekend a year, the Journées Européennes du Patrimoine issue us all backstage passes to see the less accessible bits. On Saturday and Sunday, 17-18 September, more than 17,000 monuments across the country will host more than 26,000 special events and openings to celebrate the theme of Heritage and Citizenship.

Venues range wildly, from farms to palaces and from a photography studio featuring celebrity headshots to a dermatological museum featuring lifelike casts of skin diseases. Here are few highlights:

**Elysée Palace:** We regret to inform you that the President’s invitation was not terribly exclusive. In fact, his residence is the most visited site during this weekend, with lines usually several hours long. It opens at 8 am both days, though, so early risers will have a distinct advantage.

**Hôtel de Ville:** If you’re willing to settle for seeing where the mayor hangs out, you might be able to skip the line altogether. Last year they were experimenting with an app that would text you when it’s your turn to enter, freeing you up for a civilized cup of coffee or a browse around the farmer’s market, Saint-Gervais, or BHV while you wait.

**The American Church:** Yes, that’s us! You can come and learn more about our very own heritage on Saturday between 10h-17h, or contact Spire@acparis.org if you’d like to volunteer to welcome visitors.

**Special exhibitions:** “Terrain-tested Travelers” at Archives Nationales; “Homages to the Victims of the November 13, 2015 Attacks: from the Street to the Archives” at Archives Départementales et Communales de Paris.

**Musée des Arts Forains:** A visit to this collection of old-timey carnival games and rides is great for children of all ages, Ray Bradbury fans, and anyone unenthused by the prospect of another weekend of touring palaces.

**Activities:** Ride vintage buses at the Maison de la RATP, watch silent movies at the Jérôme Seydoux-Pathé Foundation, or sign up in advance to climb the Tour Saint-Jacques.

See [http://journeesdupatrimoine.culturecommunication.gouv.fr/](http://journeesdupatrimoine.culturecommunication.gouv.fr/) for the official program of venues, events, and opening times in French. Most sites offer free entry, but their listing will specify if there are any charges for special events, tours, workshops. A drop-down menu in the top right corner of the main page will translate content into English, German, Italian or Spanish. You can also follow on Facebook or Twitter for the latest info.

Body of Christ: What’s up in Paris

By MaryClaire King

Fear is a lie

Paris is the first stop on the European Holy Spirit Night tour, a huge celebration of the glory of God. Jesus Culture and Martin Smith will lead in praise music and in the presence of God, followed by speakers Todd White, Ben Fitzgerald, Markus Wenz and others who want to encourage you with a message to live without fear, like Jesus.

Wednesday, 21 September, 18h30. Théâtre des Folies Bergère, 32, rue Richer, 75009 Paris. For more information and tickets (17€-50€) go to paris.holyspiritnight.de.

Journées du Patrimoine, Christian points of interest

Saturday, 16 Sept: The organs of Mount St. Geneviève
An organ marathon kicks off at 14h30 in the court of Louis le Grand High School, 123 rue St-Jacques, with a tour before going to the chapel to hear the organ. The marathon then moves to the equally prestigious Henri IV High School, 23 rue Clovis, before finishing across the street at the beautiful church St-Etienne-du-Mont.

Sunday, 18 Sept: The organs of three of Our Lady churches
The marathon continues at 14h30 on Sunday at the church Notre-Dame des Champs, 91 boulevard du Montparnasse, followed by Notre-Dame du Travail in the 14th, and then at the Notre-Dame du Rosaire, also in the 14th.

Saint-Joseph-des-Carmes, 70 rue de Vaugirard, 6eme
Founded in 1613 by Marie de Médicis. In 1792, during the Revolution, it served as a prison for the priests who refused to swear allegiance to the Republic: 114 were massacred on site. In the crypt, their ossuary and the tomb of Frédéric Ozanam offer a place of reflection. Ozanam founded the Conférences Saint-Vincent-de-Paul in 1833, the first charity network organized by laymen. Free access and guided tours of church and crypt: Saturday 10h-17h30 and Sunday 12h30-18h.

Saint-Germain-l’Auxerrois, 2 Place du Louvre, 1er
Parish of the Kings of France. The churchwarden’s pew was designed by Le Brun for Louis XIV. Guided tours Saturday 14h30 and Sunday 15h.

Notre-Dame-des-Victoires, 4 place des Petits-Pères, Paris 2eme
Founded in 1629 by Louis XIII to commend his victories to the Virgin Mary, this basilica has been attracting pilgrimages to the Immaculate Heart of Mary since 1836, including Saint Therese de Lisieux. Guided visits Saturday 15h30 and Sunday 14h30.
What’s up in Paris

September event listings

By Karen Albrecht

The Observatory of Light

Frank Gehry’s stunning Fondation Louis Vuitton is often likened to a sailboat, but it is also something of a modern-day cathedral, with lyrical lines and soaring arches that beckon the eye and the soul upward. Daniel Buren’s bold new installation, splashing brightly colored decals across Gehry’s intriguingly angled surfaces, has provided the edifice with its own equivalent of stained glass, creating infinite, jewel-like effects that vary with every passing cloud and sunbeam.


Anatomy of a Collection

Paris’s fashion museum holds a vast storehouse of garments that are lovingly preserved but rarely displayed. This show features a hundred-odd pieces spanning three centuries, from Marie Antoinette’s corset and the pink silk breeches worn by her ill-fated son the Dauphin to George Sand’s surprisingly girly bronze silk frock, Audrey Hepburn’s smart Givenchy hats and the Duchess of Windsor’s designer duds, along with sumptuous theatrical costumes, humble working man’s garb and even a World War I nurse’s uniform. Fascinating, evocative and oddly moving.


White Man/Black Man

This quirky little show, part of the 10th anniversary celebrations at the Musée du Quai Branly, takes on the little-studied subject of how Westerners are depicted in African art. Carvings and painted statuettes portray colonial soldiers, clerics and administrators, often in uniform and complete with their iconic contraptions and conveyances. The whimsical yet haunting caricatures cast an unaccustomed light on the warped costume drama of colonialism.


Journées du Patrimoine

The 33rd edition of the wildly successful “heritage days” is the public’s once-in-the-year chance to peek, free of charge, into a host of amazing historical buildings: mansions, factories, embassies, ministries, libraries and churches. There are scores of architectural treasures to be explored in Paris, but lines can be long, so why not consider fanning out to some of the 1,500 sites featured throughout the Île de France? A good online guide is available at www.evous.fr

17-18 Paris,
http://journeesdupatrimoine.culturecommunication.gouv.fr

Techno Parade

The annual open-air Techno Parade draws a cast of thousands to dance through the streets to the sound of booming electronic beats. Leading up to Saturday’s parade, a 3-day gathering of electronic music VIPs will feature symposia, master classes, and the inevitable slew of club nights. And after the big parade, the massive Dream Nation party at Les Docks will feature four separate stages with electro, dubstep, drum & bass, trance and hardcore, and the beats will go on until 6am.

As Christians, we've got our marching orders, and it’s quite a challenge! Fortunately, we don’t have to proclaim the good news to the whole of creation by ourselves. God is powerfully at work in our congregation. So many people here are responding to His call on their lives. They are teaching children, enriching worship in the choir, feeding the homeless, leading small groups, eradicating loneliness over a cup of coffee and a thousand other things. They are indeed, as our church mission statement proclaims, “bearing witness by word and deed to the love of God as revealed in Jesus Christ.” But what happens if no one hears about it?

That’s where the Communications team comes in. We have been called to come alongside our brothers and sisters to help them spread the word, both inside and outside the church. For this, we use many tools, from this fantastic newsletter to radio programs and Twitter, and those tools require a wide variety of skills. We will focus this year on unifying all types of communications and making them

<table>
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<th>ACP Communications Committee</th>
<th>By MaryClaire King</th>
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**ACP Communications Committee**

**By MaryClaire King**

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**American Church in Paris Council members, 2016-2017**

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<tr>
<th>Mary Fenu, Moderator</th>
<th>John Benson, Vice-Moderator</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Prevett Council Secretary</td>
<td>Jeanette Laugier Assistant Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pierre Lisbonis Chair</td>
<td>Valentina Lana Vice-Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashleigh Searle-Picq Chair</td>
<td>Peter Moody Vice-Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pierre-Charles Rupin Chair</td>
<td>MaryClaire King Vice-Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denise Dampierre Chair</td>
<td>Marc Jourlait Vice-Chair</td>
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</tbody>
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**Mission Outreach**

| Jonathan Reid Chair | Elodie Ruth Mbette Vice-Chair |

**Finance, Stewardship & Development**

| Julia Kung Treasurer, Chair | Pam Bohl Vice-Chair |

**Community Life**

| Mary Hovind Gay Chair | Patti Turquet de la Boisserie Vice-Chair |

**Property**

| William Johnston Chair | Matthew Brown Vice-Chair |

**Nominating Committee** - Sorry, no photos!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rose-Marie Burke</th>
<th>Glosafina Francisco</th>
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<td>Dominique Grelet</td>
<td>Marie Grout</td>
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<td>Mark Primmer</td>
<td>Chris Wobo</td>
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</table>

20 ACP Spire, September 2016
A word from your ACP Council
By John Benson

On behalf of the 2016-2017 Council of the American Church in Paris, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone “back to school” in Paris! Hopefully you had a refreshing and enjoyable summer here in Paris or abroad. Either way, we as a Council are excited to be back, and we look forward to a full year of fellowship, discipleship, and spiritual growth at ACP.

In preparation for the new school year, the Council has been reading a book entitled, *You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit*, by James K.A. Smith. This book will serve as the inspiration for the second planning retreat for the Council, to be held in September. One of the fundamental messages of this book is that we, as followers of Christ, need to understand that our daily activities, commitments – and our personal use of time – mirror our truest desires.

As a Council, we feel blessed that we are able to incorporate service to ACP into our monthly “routine,” as it helps to reflect God’s love back on to each one of us. We also want to educate the ACP membership on the role of Council in the life of ACP, and the role of the members, at large, in the ministry of ACP so as to encourage our congregation to consider incorporating service opportunities into their daily routine here in Paris.

In the weeks leading up to the Ministry Fair on 18 September, members of Council will share some “Council Greetings” during the Sunday worship service times. The goal of these messages is to introduce the congregation to the responsibilities and activities of many of the Committees, so as to encourage members to prayerfully consider where their talents and gifts could be applied at ACP. Make no mistake: the ACP Council is nothing more than a representative body of the ACP congregation. However, ACP has opportunities for service through the Council, that are sure to enrich the daily routines and lives of the entire congregation.

Simply stated, there is certainly a place and a need for your giftedness in the service of God’s Kingdom here in Paris, and we hope that you will find a place where you too can be blessed by the community of believers in ACP. As with the elected members of the Council, we are quite certain that your commitment of time and talents to the ACP committees will be a rewarding investment for your spiritual growth.

And he said to them, ‘Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.’ - Mark 16:15

more cohesive to help spread the news on what God is doing in our church.

We also know that communication is not one-sided. As many great minds have noted, God gave us two ears and only one mouth. Listening is at the heart of communication. That is how the newest members of the Communications team got involved.

Pierre-Charles Rupin, the new Co-Chair of Communications, is a Breton married to an American. Raised Catholic and having spent several years in the US, Pierre-Charles works in solution sales for Microsoft and has been a member of ACP since 2012. I am an American married to a Frenchman and have been a member of ACP since 1993, but Communications is an entirely new role for me. Both Pierre-Charles and I got here by listening to God. Moreover, we are both convinced that God is speaking to some of you out there!

If you hear that still quiet voice calling you to get involved in helping communicate about all the great things He is doing in our church, we want to hear from you! Contact us at communications@acparis.org and start proclaiming the good news.
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!

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.

The Movie Discussion Group

Thursday, 22 September, 19h30 – room G2 (or courtyard)
Films to see in advance: Toni Erdmann, Southside With You (First Date), Hell or High Water (Comancheria) and Where to Invade Next.
See any or all at your leisure and join the group for discussion.
Contact: movies@acparis.org

Prayer Chain Team

Do you have a prayer request for our Prayer Team?
If so, please forward your prayer by e-mail to prayerrequests@acparis.org.
Your prayer request will remain strictly private and confidential.
Prayer is powerful. We are here for you.

If you would like someone to pray with you after services, a Prayer Team member is available.
Meet in the chapel next to the theater.
God loves you, share it!

ACP mission trip to India
By Claire Boutet

Our dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Last February, we were telling you about our mission trip to Pune, India, with the non-profit organization called Deep Griha Society. We divided our two weeks into spending time with the women who were involved in the income-generating program, and the boys at the City of Child orphanage, in Kasurdi village, 49 km from Pune.

At that time, the boys and staff at City of Child were experiencing a big shortage of water. The well was not filling up enough due to a lack of rain during the monsoon. The solution was to raise money and dig the well deeper. We called God for mercy and He gave it to us through the generosity of all of you wonderful people, and through the power of prayer.

Now, we are taking back our love and smiles to Pune once again in October, for the whole month.

Even though the kids will still take up a big part of our time, split between activities, Bible reading and love and joy spreading, most of it will be spent with women. These beautiful women carry with them hard stories to hear or even imagine but we believe God can use us to ease and facilitate their lives.

How?

First, by teaching them a bit of English. Even though the lessons should take up much more time, the basics can be broached with the help of Bible stories and Bible verses.

Second, by helping them create new Christmas decorations and crafts that you will be able to discover and buy at ACP’s Christmas market in November!

Finally, by sharing the Gospel and showing the peace and love God can bring.

We keep praying for the people at DGS, for their security, health and happiness. We pray that they feel the love and peace of God in their daily life, that they see life with His eyes. Join us in our prayers! Or... crazy idea! Join us in our mission!

If you want to know more about this mission, please feel free to email Pascale Deforge at pascaledeforge@live.com or Claire Boutet at claire-boutet@live.fr

My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. - 1 John 3:18
ACP Café
19h30, Friday 7 October
American Church in Paris

Enjoy dinner while listening to new music and covers by musicians of the 13h30 service and more. Free entry.

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.

What’s going on? Tune in: ACP Today

Have you tuned in to ACP Today, the American Church in Paris’ radio show yet? Join us on Mondays at 20h45 - this month on 5 and 19 September. 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.

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 within 48 hours 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.

Did you know you can follow the American Church of Paris on social media?

@AmChurchParis /AmericanChurchParis
In the hood: Events in the 7eme

Monday, 5 September, 19h30, at the ACP: Bruno Le Maire, running as a candidate in the French presidential election, speaks at a rally at the ACP; see www.brunolemaire.fr

Monday, 19 September, 20h30, in the jardins de la Mairie du 7ème, outdoor cinema. « Les Grandes Ondes » by Lionel Baier, organised with the Swiss Embassy, in the company of the “équipe du film.”

Friday, 23 September, Fête de la Gastronomie, in the Salons de la Mairie du 7ème

Sunday, 25 September: Famillathlon 2016, at the Champ de Mars, from 11h to 18h. Free sports activities for the whole family, including martial arts, football, circus, badminton, and baton-twirling, as well as classes of yoga, Zumba, belly-dancing, and others. More info here: www.famillathlon.org

As in previous years, 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 seriously committed to learning French. In addition to the class, personal effort and commitment 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. Also consider the practical benefits for your daily life: 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 fkpierre@gmail.com. Classes will start in October, and the exact date will be announced asap.

The American Library in Paris has just finished a major renovation, the most significant in its half-century at this address. The Library reopened its doors on Tuesday, 30 August with normal operating hours.

Monday Closed
Tuesday & Wednesday 10h-19h
Thursday, 10h-22h
Friday & Saturday, 10h-19h
Sunday, 13h-19h

10, rue du Général Camou 75007 Paris

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.
## Special Events and Monthly Meetings and Concerts

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<td>Thurber Thursday - Rev. Dr. Tony Campolo</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>19h Wine &amp; cheese; 19h45 Lecture</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
<td>Tim Vance associatepastor @acparis.org</td>
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<tr>
<td>On Welcoming the LGBT Community into the Church</td>
<td>1 Sept</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guest preacher - Rev. Dr. Tony Campolo</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>9h, 11h, 13h30 Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACP Today: Faith Talk in Paris radio show</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>20h45-21h30</td>
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<td>Tune in for inspiring music and interviews.</td>
<td>5 Sept</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atelier Concert</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>17h Sanctuary</td>
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<td>Free admission, with free-will offering</td>
<td>4 Sept</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margarete NÜSSLEIN, soprano; Ulrike NÜSSLEIN, piano; Wolfgang NÜSSLEIN, cello;</td>
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<td>Theodore NÜSSLEIN, viola</td>
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<td>Youth Choirs rehearsals resume</td>
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<td>Theater</td>
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<tr>
<td>13h-13h30 Angel Choir (ages 3-5)</td>
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<td>13h30-14h Junior Choirchimes (ages 6-10)</td>
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<td>14h-15h15 Youth Choir (ages 6-18)</td>
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<td>15h15-16h Youth Handbells (ages 10-18)</td>
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<td>19h30-21h30</td>
<td>Theater</td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
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<td>14h-15h Theater</td>
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<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Mission Lunch (volunteers needed)</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>10h-14h The American Cathedral</td>
<td></td>
<td>If you are interested, please first contact: Kristie Worrel fridaymissionlunch @acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every Friday a hot, nutritious meal is prepared for the homeless and needy. ACP</td>
<td>9 Sept</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>is responsible for the meal on the second Friday of each month, but we are</td>
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<tr>
<td>grateful for help with cooking, serving, and cleaning up every Friday.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Worship resumes</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>11h &amp; 13h30 services</td>
<td></td>
<td>Emmanuelle Denfert-Bariani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11 Sept</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>childrensworship @acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Worship Rentrée Potluck</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>12h15-13h15 Room G7 or Courtyard</td>
<td></td>
<td>Emmanuelle Denfert-Bariani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All children’s worship families are invited to join us for a meal and fellowship</td>
<td>11 Sept</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>childrensworship @acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to kick off the new season of Children’s Worship. Please bring a dish to share.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Gathering - Kristina Keenan</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>12h15-13h30 Thurber Room</td>
<td></td>
<td>Teri Lee Valluy <a href="mailto:women@acparis.org">women@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>who will reflect on her time in the military, as part of a peacekeeping mission</td>
<td>11 Sept</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>in Bosnia and her current humanitarian work. A time of fellowship and a discussion.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Program resumes</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>15h-17h</td>
<td></td>
<td>Emily Chesley youthintern @acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11 Sept</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atelier Concert</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>17h Sanctuary</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fred Gramann <a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free admission, with free-will offering</td>
<td>11 Sept</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harumi KINOSHITA - harpsichord</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Contact</td>
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<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Special Events and Monthly Meetings and Concerts</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Celebration Ringers rehearsals resume</strong></td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>18h45-20h</td>
<td>Theater</td>
<td>Fred Gramann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sandwich Ministry</strong></td>
<td>Friday 16</td>
<td>19h</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jurie Ane Feleo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation: Friday 19h, meet at ACP Reception</td>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>13h30</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:pariservethecity@gmail.com">pariservethecity@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution: Saturday 13h30, meet at ACP Reception</td>
<td>Saturday,</td>
<td>13h30</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Les Journées du Patrimoine</strong></td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>10h-17h</td>
<td>Library</td>
<td>Alison Benney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take a tour of the ACP and discover its history, architecture and some secrets!</td>
<td>17 Sept</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:spire@acparis.org">spire@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers needed.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ministry Fair - ACP Council committees and other groups</strong></td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Following 11h</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Hovind-Gay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>showcase their projects and activities to welcome new participants to join in</td>
<td>18 Sept</td>
<td>&amp; 13h30</td>
<td></td>
<td>communitylife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>activities of the greater ACP community.</td>
<td></td>
<td>services</td>
<td></td>
<td>@acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert</strong></td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>17h</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free admission, with free-will offering Axia MARINESCU - piano</td>
<td>18 Sept</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACP Today: Faith Talk in Paris radio show</strong></td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>20h45-21h30</td>
<td></td>
<td>100.7 FM, Radio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tune in for inspiring music and interviews.</td>
<td>19 Sept</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fréquence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Cooking class and tasting - Fundraiser to support building a handicap lift for</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>16h30</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
<td>More information:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>entrance to ACP. Cooking class &amp; tasting with New York Chef Hong Thaimee, owner</td>
<td>21 Sept</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.acparis.org">www.acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of Ngam NYC and author of True Thai Real Flavors for Every Table.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Movie Discussion Group</strong></td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>19h30</td>
<td>Room G2</td>
<td>Rebecca Brite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movie selection: Toni Erdmann, Southside With You (First Date),</td>
<td>22 Sept</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:movies@acparis.org">movies@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hell or High Water (Comancheria) and Where to Invade Next. See any or all at</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>your leisure; join the group for discussion.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Gala Fundraising Dinner to support building a handicap lift for entrance to ACP.</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>20h</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
<td>More information:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A formal Gala Fundraising Dinner w/a silent auction featuring a 6-course</td>
<td>23 Sept</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.acparis.org">www.acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>personalized tasting menu by Chef Hong Thaimee.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Installation of ACP Council</strong></td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>11h service</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atelier Concert</strong></td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>17h</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
<td>Fred Gramann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free admission, with free-will offering Axia MARINESCU - piano</td>
<td>25 Sept</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:music@acparis.org">music@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Duo Lichtspiel: Claire-Marie PESSEY - violin; Swetlana MEERMANN - piano</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>October highlights</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>New Member Orientation</strong></td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>12h15</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
<td>Mary Hovind-Gay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please RSVP to <a href="mailto:communitylife@acparis.org">communitylife@acparis.org</a> to join the class. All are welcome!</td>
<td>2 Oct</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>communitylife</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>@acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thurber Thursday - Darrel Guder</strong></td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>19h Dinner;</td>
<td>Thurber Room</td>
<td>Tim Vance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missional Theology</td>
<td>6 &amp; 13 Oct</td>
<td>19h45 Lecture</td>
<td></td>
<td>associatepastor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td></td>
<td>@acparis.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bloom Where You’re Planted</strong></td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>9h-18h</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:bloom@acparis.org">bloom@acparis.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New to Paris? Come join us at this full-day orientation program for newcomers to</td>
<td>8 Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>the “City of Lights.”</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Bloom Where You’re Planted

New to Paris? The BLOOM Program helps English-speaking newcomers settle in and make new friends.

Connecting people for 50 years

Saturday
8 October, 2016
9h00 ~ 18h30
at
The American Church in Paris

We have an exciting new orientation program!

French cooking and how to adapt your home recipes;
Where Parisians shop for clothes and home items;
Where to go for entertainment in the City of Light;
About red tape for taxes and real estate;
The key to thriving in the French workplace;
How to stay healthy in Paris;
Transitioning to a new culture;
The education system and school options;
Plus, history, architecture and the culture of Paris.
For kids, there is an age-appropriate orientation, activities and lunch.

www.bloom.acparis.org for full details and online registration