

November 2023



Men's breakfast with members of Holy Trinity Hinckley

Dear friends and family,

Greetings from Normandy! We are doing well and looking forward to what God will be doing through us and the church here this coming year. Our children are back at school. Johan, the youngest is preparing for his French Baccalaureate (equivalent of A-level). Joshua and Eloise are back at University in the UK. We thank God that they are enjoying their courses. They both plan to do a year placement in Industry next year. ***Please pray for them that they will find the right placement.***

In October we were greatly encouraged by a team who visited us from the UK from Holy Trinity Hinckley, one of our supporting churches. Our church in Caen had a men's breakfast as well as a women's breakfast with them on the Saturday morning, where they shared their testimonies about God's love and faithfulness.

Ministry in Caen

Thank you for praying for the annual gathering we had in September for the six churches of our network. It was a blessed time with teaching and discussion on the theme of making disciples. We

thank God for several new people who have joined churches in the network. One of these is '**Ishmael**' from Iraq. He moved to Normandy recently and has joined one of the churches. He is on fire for God and has been sharing his faith in Jesus with people from the Middle East. He has started a well-attended house group with them.

Please pray for the churches and for 'Ishmael', his ministry and God's provision for an apartment for him.



Women's breakfast with members of Holy Trinity Hinckley

Future place of worship

We have been praying for a while for the renovation of the Adventist church building in Caen and the possibility of moving in as a church for our Sunday services and midweek events. It is well located in the city centre. This is becoming more and more of a reality now. The building work has progressed, and we hope to be able to move in this

February. ***Please pray for the people living in that area of Caen and for God to prepare and guide us for the new season coming.***

Equipping church members

We are keen to see more church members discover their gifts and use them for the advancement of the kingdom of God. In that respect we ran a **preaching training** called “Club Pred” in the network two years ago. It was very fruitful and some of the participants are now preaching in their churches. We ran it again on the 4 October with 13 participants from five churches including Dave and Xavier from the church in Caen. We will gather via Zoom every three weeks for eight months. ***Please pray for this new group and for Sena, Francis and Kevin who will be leading it.***

On Saturday 4 November we are running a Sunday school teachers’ training in Caen. We thank God that we have more children coming to the church in Caen and more volunteers to help with children’s ministry. ***Please pray for Jane who leads this ministry, for the new people joining the team and for the children in the church to grow in their love for Jesus.***

Equipping church planting teams (M4)

In October we had the second weekend of training for the four church planting teams. There were 30 people, and we were very encouraged by what God has been doing through them throughout France. They are all impacting their local communities. One team now has a very good relationship with their local authorities, who six months ago were very resistant to them doing children’s ministry in the community. ***Please pray for these four teams*** and especially for God’s

guidance for the church plant in Montmartre, which is in the centre of Paris. It is an unreached area with many artists living there. May God use that church to impact that area with the gospel and hope in Christ.

Local evangelism

We continue to reach out to people living in the neighbourhood of Grace de Dieu. We thank God for the good contacts we already have and are praying for God to open doors to new ones. We long to bring the hope of Christ and the love of God into that disadvantaged area. ***Please continue to pray with us that the Catholic church there will allow us to use one of their venues to host people at least once a week around tea and coffee.***

On Christmas Eve we are planning an evangelistic event: **Christmas Around the World.** We will have a special guest service followed by festive food from the seven nationalities represented in our church. ***Please pray with us as we plan, organise and invite friends to this event.*** Thank you for your love, support and prayers.

Love from, Sena & Jane

Sena and Jane Ounate-Lare, Caen, France

Email: ounatelare@crosslinks.org

Crosslinks, 251 Lewisham Way, London SE4 1XF | 32 Montgomery Road, Belfast BT6 9HL | +44 (0)20 8691 6111 | pletters@crosslinks.org



Church planting teams

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