

Sena & Jane Ounate-Lare

September 2025



Summer church picnic

Dear friends,

Greetings from Normandy. We are both well and enjoyed the summer. It was a joy to have the children home with us at different points.

As we head now into autumn it has been good to gather again as a church and step by faith into God's plans for the coming year. Jimmy and Tantine who were baptised in June are growing steadily in their faith and both participate in the life of the church. Jimmy helps regularly with the sound desk and Tantine is enthusiastic about prayer and evangelism.

We are excited to welcome Xavier, a young leader in the church, to join the PCC this month. He is a third-year Bible school student and very involved in church life. Please pray for him.

Ministry in Caen

Summer

In August we took advantage of the warmer weather to organise a Sunday worship and fun day in a local park. We had an open-air church service followed by a picnic and fun time. It was a great time of fellowship and wonderfully a visitor to the park joined us during the worship.



Evangelism in Grace de Dieu: Xavier, M, Sena and Jane

Evangelism

In August with a small group from the church, we started an outreach to an underprivileged area of Caen called 'Grace de Dieu'. People were unusually receptive which was an encouragement for us and the church. We could see that God had prepared the way for us. Irna, a mother of two children who we met, even told us, 'It's God who caused us to meet today!' Since

then, she has recommitted herself to the Lord and has started coming to church with her children. Please pray for the people we have met and had conversations with and for Jane and I as we follow up. Pray especially for R, a man in his early 20s, who works in a funeral home and is keen to know about the Bible and has questions about life after death.

House groups

Our three house groups stopped over the summer, but we are looking forward to starting them again in October. Sena will still lead the post-Alpha group where a few non-christian people were already coming, with the possibility of more people joining this year. Please pray for us as we prepare to relaunch these groups.

Women's Bible study group

God has put it on Jane's heart to run a Bible study and discussion group for women. She is planning to start this autumn and there are already several women ready to join. Please pray for Jane and that God will use it to help the group grow stronger in their faith.

Ministry in Normandy and France

Preaching club

In early October, with two other leaders, Sena will be doing an online preaching training for a dozen people from different churches within the network in Normandy. They will meet every three weeks, and it will continue for about four months. This will be the third time we have done this training, and it has been very fruitful for the attendees and a blessing for the churches. This year Kevin, one of the former participants, will be leading the training and Francis and Sena will be supporting him. **Please pray for Kevin and all the participants including David and his wife Vanessa from our church in Caen.**

M4 training for church planters

On 10-11 October Sena and the M4 team will be starting another two-year training process for four new church planting teams from various regions in the north of France. There will be a gathering every six months and coaching for them throughout the process. Another group of at least three church planting teams will be starting their process in the south of France at the same time. That group is led by Franck. **Please pray that all these new churches will impact the communities where they are and they will grow to be healthy and missional churches.**

Coming events

- **27-28 September:** Sena will be **teaching at a weekend away** for the church based in Nantes that he oversees. Some of the church members have invited non-Christian friends and family. **Pray that God will speak to people's hearts through his word and that non-believers there will come to know the Lord.**
- **14-16 May 2026:** next year the **Annual Convention** of the **French Baptist Federation** will be held in Caen. There will be between 350-400 delegates and pastors from over 100 churches throughout France. Our church in Caen and other neighbouring churches of the network will be preparing to host them. This is a big and exciting challenge for us as a church. **Please pray for us as we prepare for this event.**

Thank you for praying and supporting the ministry here in France.

With much love,
Sena and Jane

Sena and Jane Ounate-Lare Caen, Normandy, France