



Lyon East house group - At the suggestion of one of the members of my house group we have begun a series of studies on the "10 Commandments in light of the New Testament." What a great idea and I'm motivated in my preparation. Pray that we will grow in our relationships with the Lord and others. Here's feedback from a couple of my friends in the group. I love these people!

*"I thought of you this morning, and our meeting last night ... I was approached by Jehovah's Witnesses near the market in Meyzieu for 20 minutes, and we talked about several of the issues discussed last night. It was still fresh in my memory, especially some specific verses. While they were attempting to get me "stuck" on the name of God, I left them with who Jesus is ..."*

*"Thank you for sending your notes on the study [since I was not able to attend] ... Thank you for leading us in the Word of the Lord. Rereading the passages studied allows us to better understand the message of God. The world is going so badly and we really need to hold on to what stands firm."*



Chateau of Saint Albain - In recent months my time commitment to assisting with the Chateau retreat center has increased, even if it is behind the scenes work. Lise has been in Germany for the past six weeks so I needed to assure hands-on oversight of the finances. Several accounting projects needed my attention in anticipation of meeting with the "expert comptable" (CPA) in order to prepare the year-end financial statement. Pray for my on-going witness to him. The CEP-Chateau committee has been dialoging a lot as we look at personnel needs and the daunting challenge of bringing the Chateau up to handicap standards.

Ladies Bible study – It is a joy to study the book of Acts every other Tuesday afternoon with women who want to grow in their love for the Lord and their knowledge of the Word! So far the Gospel has left the confines of Jerusalem and has spread to Judea and Samaria and will this week spread to non-Jews with Cornelius. I'm so thankful for faithful witnesses over the centuries that allowed the good news of salvation to reach me. Pray for Lori and me as we co-lead the group.



Sainte Foy group – Vincent, Anne-Marie, Liliane and I continue to meet periodically for fellowship, prayer and a time in the Word. We celebrated New Year's Eve together and again met recently for cheese fondue and a look at 1 Cor. 10. Pray that we can stimulate one another to love and good deeds. Our schedules make it difficult to meet this year.

Networks!? Some have asked how the restructuring of Encompass World Partners has directly affected me. My situation is a bit complicated because I have roles related to three different networks. I identify with the Church Equipping Network because of my long-standing personal ministry in discipleship, teaching and shepherding in the local church. However, because I also serve as Europe Regional Administrator, I work in close collaboration and serve as a liaison with the Mobilization Services Network. Paul Klawitter, who is the Director of the Church Planting Network, and for whom I have worked for over 10 years, has asked that I continue to be his assistant. My long-standing prayer is that I can find balance between my personal and administrative responsibilities. Pray for strength and wisdom as I wear many hats.

Church Equipping Network retreat – 40 Encompass missionaries working in 11 countries /4 continents met here in Lyon in January for the first network retreat. Feedback was very positive. Progress was made toward understanding the functioning of the network and meeting the objectives of our time together. Pray for Florent Varak as he gives leadership and encourages the members who are involved in diverse ministries worldwide.

EPEVC transitions - Over the next 6 months Florent will transition out of his pastoral role in the Lyon-Villeurbanne church after 25 years. He and Lori will continue to be involved in the Trévoux church plant. Philippe Viguier and his wife Sophia have stepped right in. Philippe is continuing the preaching series in John that Florent started. He is a gifted teacher and musician and is a great asset to the church.

Charis Europe - National Ministry partners, some church leaders, and some Encompass staff, including me, will join together in Porto, Portugal February 19-22 to discuss collaboration across the continent of Europe. Please pray for God's clear direction for our time together and that each will go away encouraged.

On the home front – Since I have lived in the same apartment for over 20 years and the last time that I papered my living room was 16 years ago, I decide to “refresh” the decor. I’m happy with the outcome. A few days before Christmas I had a leak in my heating/hot water system and had to have a technician come out several times but all is now back to normal – FINALLY! I took my cat Squirt to the vet a couple of weeks ago because the glands in her throat were again swollen. She was hostile to him but the effects of the cortisone shot were spectacular. The down side is that she is always hungry and begging for food!

THANK YOU! I recently received my year-end donor report and I am so grateful for your partnership and financial support which allow me to continue to minister on this needy continent.

I’m still trying to find when would be the least disruptive time for me to be away on home ministries especially in light of the transitions at the Chateau. I will contact my supporters to schedule visits when I figure it out! In the meantime, thanks for your patience.

Patty MORRIS