



Prayer in the Center

News from the Morris family May 2009

The prophet Isaiah wrote, *How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news...* (52:7). Even though there are no mountains where we live, we can still bring you good news!

To discover them, just follow our “beautiful feet” tracks.

Good news about our support!

Thanks to the many one-time and regular gifts we’ve received since last October, our current support level allows us to continue working normally without any changes to our missionary status or salary. However, the situation remains fragile and we need to keep praying, especially for the exchanges rates which have a great impact upon our final support figures (which are in euros).

Today, not only do we give thanks to the Lord, we express our great joy and appreciation to all who have prayed and or given so that this need be taken care of.

Good news: a new car!

For several years now we’ve needed to change cars; however, funds were ever short. In the meantime the kids kept growing and ran out of space in the back! As repairs to our 13-year old car became more and more frequent, and started digging holes in our budget, the need for a new car became urgent.

Recently Valérie came across an occasion we couldn’t pass up, a used car (2002) in excellent shape with lots of room for the kids. As the price matched exactly what we could pay, we snatched it up! Our thanks go out especially to Richard’s sister and the Kral family for their special gifts which helped make this possible.



Good news about Richard’s health!

Last month’s visit to the Dermatologist went well. Apparently, Richard’s skin problems and hair lost are not that serious. The doctor believes that the overall problem is actually a combination of several smaller factors, which combined together to create one big problem. He could not, however, explain the big white blood cell count drop that occurred a few years ago. But since their number has been normal for the last two years, he doesn’t see anything to worry about.

We’re encouraged that Richard’s hair, eyebrows and eyelashes are still growing back (though very slowly). What’s important now is that Richard watches over his general state of health and not get over-tired. Which is why in June and July Richard will be taking time out to rest and stay at home and work on several upcoming projects.



Good news: answered prayer!

In our last letter we asked prayer for several of Valérie's non-Christian friends. Florence, one of these ladies, has already attended several activities in our church. A few weeks ago she told Valérie that next September her youngest son should start catechism in the Catholic church in Bracieux. She asked him if he would like to do it instead in our church in Blois. He said yes, apparently because "it's too cool in Blois".

Before making such a big step, she wants to ask us a few questions first. We know that she is very open; once she said that she feels more Protestant than Catholic!

Since moving to Bracieux over 6 years ago, such occasions have been few and far between. Please pray that the Lord give us wisdom in answering her questions. Pray too for the convicting work of the Spirit in her heart.

A special request

On **May 16 & 17th** Richard will be teaching in a small church in Montreuil-Bellay on the theme of "The Occult: how to recognize it, how to combat it and how to be freed". Invitations are going out to churches in the area and we're praying for a good attendance.

Please join with us in praying for this very important week-end. Ask the Lord to bless his children, and that a great number find a new freedom in their spiritual and personal lives.

Come and visit!

Would you like to experience first-hand missions in France? Discover local Protestant history dating back to the Reformation? Visit several of the famous Loire river valley castles (there are only 20 or so in our area)? Taste French cuisine? If so, then read on; for we've got it all!

From **September 11-18th**, we're offering a special occasion to meet French Christians, hear and discuss with missionaries working in several different ministries in France, go on pray walks in several nearby towns, eat great food, and learn about Protestant history in our area.

We'll even visit some of those famous castles while you're here – like Chambord (picture), only 5 miles from Bracieux.

As the number of places are limited, reservations are on a first-come basis. For more information (housing, costs, etc), feel free to call, e-mail or write us! We're looking forward to your visit!



Something to pray for

The following survey results are worth thinking about. They were published the day before Easter in a short article in the pages of *Liberation*, a national newspaper. Italics are added for emphasis.

While Easter, for *Catholics*, celebrates Christ's resurrection, 43% of those surveyed claim *not to believe in God, nor in Santa Claus*. 32 % desire *nothing* after death.

Here in Bracieux, on Easter Sunday, the local soccer club organized a public "vide grenier" (attic sale). Not only did the number of sellers exceed their expectations, so too did the turnout. So much so that the event will be held again next year on Easter Sunday. Do we need to say more about why at times it's difficult to share our faith? Do we need to say more about the need for intercessory prayer?





The kids' corner

Due to his heel problem, Jonathan is still on forced rest. He has a strong desire to get back to playing tennis and moving and playing without pain.

He needs patience (not one of his strong points) as the next visit to the specialist is on June 24th.

We're praying that the doctor will give a green light for sports, but at the moment it's not sure that he will. We appreciate your prayers for Jonathan's heel and the upcoming doctor's visit.

Marie-Anne continues filling our home with singing. The current playlist is dominated by Miley Cyrus and Hannah Montana. She can sing all of Cyrus's/Montana's songs by heart! Life is good!

Timothy is getting even more into soccer. On May 8th in a regional tournament, he played 6 matches as goal for his team, and then another 6 for another team!

The next day his team won a departmental (or county)-wide tournament played out over several weeks. They now get to compete in a regional tournament on June 21st.

We really don't need to tell you that he's excited about that, do we?

May our Lord and Savior bless you abundantly

Richard & Valérie

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