Summer 2025

Greetings from La Rochelle, France. We want to begin our prayer letter by once again thanking you for your faithful support of our ministry. As you will see in our prayer letter, the Lord has greatly encouraged us over the last few months.

In our last newsletter, we mentioned the opportunity to present a "traditional American Easter" to students at the University of La Rochelle. It was thrilling to see about 100 students come to this event. The Lord allowed us to present the true story of Easter (in English) to these students. Please pray for these students, especially that they would further inquire into the gospel message.

On Easter Sunday, we held another gospel-oriented church meal. Although we had fewer individuals attend this meal than at past events, it was encouraging to see a French-Iranian couple come to this event. Knowing how dangerous it can be to share the Gospel in Iran, we felt truly blessed knowing that in France we could freely share the message of Easter without any fear of persecution. Please pray that we will have more contact with this couple.

Since early last fall, we have had a French gentleman faithfully attend our church services. He has a wonderful testimony in that he discovered the Gospel all by himself while simply reading the Bible. After several months of attending our church, he asked to be baptized. In early April, we had the privilege of baptizing this man in the Atlantic Ocean. It was an extra blessing to see his unsaved mother and best friend attend this service.

A month later, we had another tremendous blessing when one of our international students asked to be baptized. Cristina is a young girl from Colombia, and while attending our student outreach ministry, became convinced of her need to follow Christ in believer's baptism. On a beautiful sunny day in May, our entire church was blessed to see this young girl give a touching testimony and then publicly declare her faith in Christ through her baptism.

The last blessing is something we do not see every day in France. After Cristina's baptism, we had a church picnic. Attending that picnic was the nephew of a dear lady who has attended our church over the last few years. Nick (the nephew) had just started attending our services, and during the meal, he shared with several of our members that he had recently been saved. What an amazing additional blessing to experience after seeing Cristina's commitment to follow Christ. Please pray for both of these young people and for their spiritual growth in Christ.

We close this prayer letter with one more request. Starting July 7, both Mark and our daughter, Alissa, will be teaching kids for two weeks at a French Christian camp. Please pray for both of them and for the children who will be hearing the Word of God.

Thank you again for your faithful support of our ministry. We praise God for all He is doing in La Rochelle.

Yours in Christ,

Mark & Denise Nelsen La Rochelle, France

