Thrall Newsletter October 2022

We will be in the US in November The purpose is to attend meetings with our mission, then to visit family, supporters and potential supporters. We are working out specifics, but in general we will be in the South during the first part of the month and in New England in the second half.



Photo from our Normandy church retreat. If you look closely you will see Miki in the middle. Steve is in the back, hidden by a raised hand.

La Pommeraie In the past few months we have had a variety of guests at our artists retreat in Normandy. Anne-Laurence, featured below, came in July to write the script for her first one-woman show. She returned with her props to rehearse for the show that will begin this month in a Parisian theater. We first met her over 20 years ago when she was in college. She joined our church in Paris and began studying mime with Marcel Marceau at that time. Over the years she worked on stage as a mime and theater actress, does voice-over for television and teaches public speaking for business leaders. It is a joy for us to continue to support this talented Christian artist. Her love for the Lord comes through in all her work and interactions with people.







First visit, writing her script in July

Advertisement for the show

Rehearsal at La Pommeraie

Fundraising update

We are grateful to the Lord and for you who have helped us raise \$34,000 of the amount necessary in order to receive the \$50,000 matching gift which our friends offered us. They have already matched the \$34,000 and have graciously extended their offer to match the other \$16,000 if we can raise it before the end of the year. We need to strengthen our personal support as well. Would you consider giving an end of the year gift? Here is how to give:

To Give Gifts through the Mission (with tax receipt): Click this <u>link</u>, scroll to "select Fund" and select La Pommeraie Project (7146), **OR** send a check made out to: Artists in Christian Testimony International PO Box 1649 Brentwood, TN 37024 with a note saying it is for "Steve and Miki Thrall, La Pommeraie Project (7146)"

To Give Gifts Directly (no tax receipt): You can wire the money directly to our account. Contact us and we will send you our bank information. Or, you can send a gift via PayPal using Miki's email address: mikithrall@amail.com.

Newsletter Format Change We will be trying a new form of communication between now and the end of the year. We will send a weekly or bi-monthly news note with a photo and a paragraph. The goal is to make it quick and readable. The change will coincide with our stateside visit while we are raising new support and finishing the matching fund.

Teaching, Preaching and Advising

Steve's teaching online and preaching in the church planting network continues. We have had an increasing role advising missionaries, and potential missionaries. One particularly encouraging conversation happened recently with a young man, a very talented artist, who contacted us for advice and prayer. For at least ten years he has had a deep desire to come to France as a missionary and is now is preparing to come with another mission.

Conferences Covid may not be totally behind us, but the fear of Covid is. In early September Steve attended a meeting, in Sofia, Bulgaria, of **Arts Plus**, a European Arts ministry network. About 50 people were in attendance, half were leaders of various arts ministries around Europe, and the other half were pastors and artists from Bulgaria.



This month there will be a meeting of <u>Hope for</u> <u>Europe</u>, organised by the European Evangelical Alliance. Again, Steve will be there, along with others, representing arts ministry. Then we will both attend a gathering in Alsace of the members of our mission, Artists in Christian Testimony, who work in Europe.



Conference in Bulgaria: Concert and then prayer for Bulgarian Christian artists

Family News Our Son-in law, Julien, was appointed to a tenured track post as full professor of medicine in Paris. He will continue to direct the Paediatric Nephrology department of the Childrens Hospital. We are very proud of him!

With hearts full of gratefulness we thank you for your love, prayers, support and encouragement.