

3 rue Flora Tristan
03400 YZEURE
France
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Dear Friends,

Hello from Yzeure, where we're enjoying the wonderful colours of autumn, as perhaps you are too! Here are some of the changes that have affected us this year.

Allan has handed over the responsibility for the gospel calendar *Vivre Aujourd'hui* to a French Christian, although he still helps with corrections and is of course on hand to help when needed. He also regularly leads worship and preaches in the local assembly. One project which he and another Christian organised was a week of prayer in September, which was much appreciated. Now it is hoped to have more regular “seasons of prayer” apart from the weekly meetings held in different localities and by Zoom.

The big change for Anne was a cancer diagnosis in early February, after several months of feeling unwell. She had treatment first in Lyon, then in our neighbouring town of Moulins. (The hospital is only ten minutes' drive from our house!) Future treatment may well be at the university hospital in Clermont-Ferrand, about 60 miles away.

We are thankful for good care. The main side-effect from chemotherapy has been extreme tiredness. But friends and family have rallied round, and Allan has been able to take on more responsibility in running the house. It has meant too, of course, that Anne has had to stop helping to teach children in church, and seeing to the church library.

Another change came in September, as Anne's mother Mina passed peacefully into the Lord's presence. She was 95, and weary, and often talked of eternity as being “far better”. Anne wasn't well enough to travel to Scotland for the funeral, but many friends and family members were there.

Our family here in France continue to be well and busy. Léonore, our oldest grand-daughter, is actually now at university in Scotland! Our youngest grand-daughter, Abigaëlle, who's almost 4, started nursery in September. After some hesitation, she is thoroughly enjoying it. The other grand-children are at various stages of primary, junior and senior high school. Some are as tall if not taller than us – even Sarah, who's not quite 13, is taller than Anne!

While there has been a lot of uncertainty over the past months, God's presence and His peace have been very precious, and we have been very conscious of much prayer support.

May you also know His peace and His presence in your lives.

Yours in Christ,

Allan and Anne