

From: The Rasches <matt@paragonministries.org>
To: "1st Baptist Mt. Holly" <missions@fbcmh.org>
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Subject: Dizzy Discipleship

Baptisms bookended our summer, with Amine and Barbara both going full on for Jesus last Sunday.

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Dear 1st Baptist Mt. Holly,

As Summer fades into the background and Fall presses us onwards, we are hosting a team of 10 South Africans on mission. They will be wrapping up evangelism through arts and surveys and cultural awareness moments this Sunday the 24th. What an injection of joy and faith they have brought into the midst of our local community and missionaries on our team. Please pray with us that we will see fruit that bears fruit coming forth!

**** Baptisms**

Baptisms bookended our summer, with Amine and Barbara going full on for Jesus. Barbara is daughter of a Greek Orthodox father and a staunchly Catholic mother. After surrendering to Christ some time back, she made the bold step to be baptized publicly, inviting her unsaved friends and her parents (now divorced). Her mother refused to come, saying, "if I come, I will tear everything apart and make a big scene." Thankfully, her father and step mom were a little more supportive. Barbara shared her testimony boldly like we had never seen before, and it was as if she stepped into a new authority in Christ. Amazing!

BELOW: As you may recall from the beginning of summer, Rahni and Sara were baptized (on right). Amine, Sara's brother loves Jesus and is autistic, making his baptism complicated. After Barbara's baptism however, with fewer people around, he said he was ready. He was a little scared, but God is good, and now he's super excited to have been baptized!

One of the highlights of my trip to Chicago was spending quality time with my brother, Sam. He just happens to be working on a doctorate as well. Please pray for him and his wife Thelma, they are amazing.

Preaching in Second City Church Chicago with Pastor Rollan and Barbara Fisher was an honor and joy! Here's a link to the message I preached: "Redeemer God"
(<https://www.youtube.com/live/bYruRBRvIr0?si=o2FwXDspqQLudw5>) .

Stateside Overview

Our trip to the States was quite challenging this summer as I, Matt, have been battling Meniere's disease. The symptoms fluctuate from reduced audio ability, constant ringing, dizziness, and nausea. Focusing on family, ministry, support-raising, and doctoral studies has been, needless to say, a challenge.

We would really cherish your prayers. Thank you!

Our favorite moment together this summer was tubing down the Guadalupe river! Check out those roots!

Praise Reports

- * As we have been praying these last 6 months for more laborers for the harvest, both people locally and from around the world have been contacting us with interest to come to Marseille!
- * The Notaries finally have set a date to put the building for Every Nation (EN) Marseille under contract, ALLELUIA!!! October 11 is our signing date.
- * Since the beginning of the month, EN Marseille has added a second service (in the evening) to reach more young people.
- * Rasch kids are all back in school safely, and finding their bearings.

Prayer Requests

- * Mission Team from South Africa to finish strong this week
- * Health for Christy and Matt (dizziness gone!)
- * Matt's doctoral work (reading and writing caught up)
- * The church in Marseille to continue to grow and multiply at new levels (new leaders empowered)
- * Raise the remaining funds or find funding for building purchase (still need €165k = \$175 to pay in cash, God can and will do a miracle!) We could be the first Every Nation church in Europe to own its building.
- * Travel for Matt, Christy, Rylie, and Josiah to South Africa the 27 Sept. - 9 Oct. for EN World Conference
- * Finances:
 - + \$1800 in new monthly partnership.
 - + Special gift partners to meet key needs:
 - o new computer (\$1500),
 - o Matt's Fall studies (\$1750), the previous \$890 was for summer
 - o South African conference (\$1500)
- * Missionaries in Marseille, Paris, Lille and Nice to be refreshed and revived in God's presence.

Thank you 1st Baptist Mt. Holly for your continued partnership in finances and prayer. We praise God for you as we continue to bring the gospel to Marseille, France, Europe and beyond!

Hugs and kisses, or whatever is culturally & relationally appropriate,

Matt and Christy

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