

# Creation of a New Parish Center of East-Lyon France

Centre paroissial de l'Est-Lyonnais





## If we don't announce Jesus Christ, no one will do it in our place!

In the past 10 years the number of French Protestants hasn't stopped growing.

Today Protestants represent between 3 and 4% of the French population. That is better than 10 years ago when they represented only 2 to 3%. But this growth is nothing when compared to Islam, which has massively settled into France. Today, in France's large cities, Muslim communities are constructing mosques and are becoming very active in the public sphere.

If the French Protestant Reformed/Presbyterian Church doesn't mobilize to modernize, to expand by building churches and announcing the gospel of Jesus Christ where new dwellings are being constructed, no one will do it in our place!

## We want our church to radiate the Gospel!

That is why the Lyon Reformed/Presbyterian Church is planting a church in the East Lyon urban area to spread the Word of God.

With an ambitious project and the conviction that "where

two or three come together, Christ is in the midst of them," pastors, men and women, the young and old, will share the hope of the resurrection with the largest number possible in East Lyon. They will make known the teachings of Christ and thus give an opportunity to those who will discover the Christian faith to follow Him.

To do this, the Lyon Reformed/Presbyterian Church must provide a radiant, joyful, dynamic and welcoming place in the heart of the city. A place where newcomers can discover the true face of the good news of Christ: joy, confidence and hope. That is the East Lyon parish center's plan!

With the Lord's help, we are convinced that the Protestant community is going to grow in East Lyon, as it has already grown in West Lyon. This is our goal for the next twenty years.

## We are going to make a considerable investment: we also need your help!

This conviction is so strong that Lyon's Protestants are ready to make a considerable and long-term financial investment. The required investment for the creation of a new parish center in East Lyon will represent an average 35% increase in gifts per family. Furthermore, the Reformed/Presbyterian Church is selling three buildings in order to invest in this new parish center.

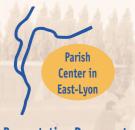
# When a church grows in Lyon, it is the whole Church of Christ that grows!

This effort ought to be accompanied and supported by brothers and sisters in Christ around the world who believe in the liberating message of the gospel and hope, as we do, that this message can still liberate human beings and give meaning to their lives.

The Lyon Reformed/Presbyterian Church desires to grow: Rejoice! It is also your church! Christ's Church, in which, in spite of frontiers we are brothers and sisters.

Lyon Reformed/Presbyterian Church Council





**Presentation Document** 

# The Gospel in the city

I am delighted to see the
Lyon Reformed Church construct a new parish center in East Lyon. I see this as the sign of a Church that is growing and cares about offering the gospel of Jesus Christ to the largest number possible.

My best wishes accompany this plan for the future that will contribute to the local extension of French Protestantism, but even more so to the spread of the Gospel in the city.

Pastor Jean-Arnold de Clermont, President of the French Protestant Federation

## Creation of a Parish Center in East Lyon

Greater Lyon has considerably developed these past years towards the east. It is a growing tendency: 100,000 new inhabitants are expected in the next 25 years. Both residential neighborhoods and commercial sites have been created in this area.

This is a missionary challenge supported by the entire Lyon Reformed Church, convinced of the necessity to enlarge our witness as we combine active service and proclamation. It's a question of being of service to people who may have need of our Church and proclaiming the Gospel in partnership with other Christians in the area.

# The mission of the East Lyon parish

#### We have as objectives:

- To be witnesses of the Gospel
- To take the initiative to meet the East Lyon residents
- To be an actor in the life of local suburbs
- Continuing partnerships with : Scoutism, Chistian humanitarian associations, Foreign Protestant Churches.

#### The Lyon Reformed/Presbyterian church: some statistics

- Number of Church Centers: 6
- Number of known Lyon Reformed Church households: 2,000
- approximately 6,000 individuals
- Number of Lyon
   Reformed/Presbyterian Church households who financially participate:
   1,109 in 2000.
   1,200 in 2005
- Total offerings:536,000 euros in 2000 (643 000 \$)609,000 euros in 2005 (730 000 \$)
- Budget: 700,000 euros (840 000 \$) (apart from exceptional operations)



The East Lyon parish center will be built in a very important development zone within greater Lyon's first ring. The future parish facility will be very rapidly accessible from all parts of East Lyon, whether by auto or by public transportation, and from the entire city thanks to its perfect link with the center of Lyon and its proximity to the ring road.

The church's central area will be furnished with pews seating 150 people. Movable partitions can be opened to create a sanctuary for 300 people. A raised vertical signal composed of a large cross and a bell will symbolize the use of the place and permit immediate recognition from the road.

The two pastors' homes will be built on the most eastern part of the land; two individual two-level identical homes.

## Financing the parish center

### Balance Sheet (total cost)

#### **Expenditures**

1- land

300,000 euros (360,000 \$)

2 - construction 1,900,000 euros (2,280,000 \$)

3 – secondary expenses 100,000 euros (120,000 \$)

Total Expenditures 2,300,000 euros (2,760,000 \$)

#### Receipts

1- Internal Contribution of the Lyon Reformed/ Presbyterian Church :

1,600,000 euros resulting from the sale of property (1,920,000 \$)

200,000 euros financed by Church members. This (240,000 \$) represents a 35 % increase asked

from each household. (The annual average gift being 500 euros)

2 - External contribution: 500,000 euros (600,000 \$)

Total Receipts 2,300,000 euros (2,760,000 \$)

Contact: Thierry Koechlin, treasurer of the Lyon Reformed/Presbyterian Church,

Phone: 00 33 (0)6 65 22 66 06 - Email: koechlin.thierry@free.fr

Pastor Daniel Martel - 18, rue Constant - 69003 LYON - France

Phone: 00 33 (0)4 78 54 88 26 - Email: daniel.martel@protestants.org

Internet site: www.erflyon-est.org