



NEWSLETT'EUPE

« l'Eglise Évangélique des Portes de l'Eure » COMMITS ITSELF TO JESUS

Our Church's new calling to follow Jesus

It's a real pleasure for us to send you the very first installment of our newsletter. For this first edition, I propose to go back in time to help you better understand where we are today.

We are a Protestant Evangelical Church based in a part of Normandy called «les Portes de l'Eure», that is to say at the threshold of Normandy, between Paris and Rouen, not far from Claude Monet's house and gardens in Giverny. We call ourselves «l'Eglise Protestante Évangélique des Portes de l'Eure», or you can call us by our acronym: the EPEPE.

This newsletter is part of our communication effort towards our dream goal: that of better reaching out towards our neighbours. We hope you may be of help in our endeavour.



“And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.” (Mark 16.15)



THE EPEPE : A TIMELINE

First, a little of who we are



Our church was legally founded in 2012 and named “L'Eglise Protestante Évangélique des Portes de l'Eure”. It is a member of the French Union

of Free Evangelical Churches (Union des Eglises Evangéliques Libres).

We have known each other and met as a group for longer than that. It has been several years already since our small group of Christians started to meet to pray and share in the “Portes de l'Eure” area, situated between Paris

LATEST NEWS

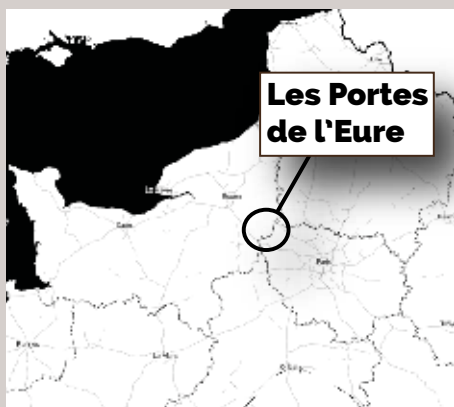
This beautiful project of welcoming a Church planter has evolved since it was launched last spring. The mobilization of everyone in the church has been very encouraging and made it possible to gather half of the necessary sum. All this in a very short period of time during the lockdown, with all the uncertainties that we know...

We are very grateful to all those of you who have supported us. The EPEPE is now in a position to welcome a part-time ministry. This is a real encouragement, and we know it is coming from the Lord.

Our community is determined to pursue its project. We still need your prayers to help us proclaim the Gospel around us. We do hope to welcome a Church planter to accompany and lead our community in this task, only we are now looking for a part-time minister. We still need financial support to achieve this aim.

«Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. [...] Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you.» (Joshua 3:4-5).

To God alone the glory.



and Rouen (<http://www.cape-tourisme.fr/en/presenting-the-area/>).

Most of us used to be members of the Free Evangelical Church in Meulan while living in the Normandy region and had to travel for more than an hour and a half each Sunday to attend service. The realization that we were not alone in our region, and that we lived in a place where the Gospel was desperately needed, made us want to start a new church in the Eure area.

A geographical path...from one place to another

We have switched locations quite a lot in our existence – as a group and as a Church. We started gathering with a family, first near Vernon, then in Houlbec Cocherel when the host family moved in a new house.



2009 : a moment of outdoor worship in Houlbec Cocherel

Later on we decided to rent a larger room in the Catholic presbytery in Houlbec-Cocherel, which we used until 2012.



2011 : presbytery of Houlbec Cocherel



2019 : our church in Corny

After the official creation of the EPEPE in 2012, we felt the need to meet in a more accessible environment. We found a place also linked to the Catholic Parish, in Aubevoye this time. We decided to

We stayed there for several years, forging warm relationships with our Catholic friends.

Settling in Corny

2017 marked a new turn in our project as a Church. With a strong will to dive further into our commitment to God and our region, we called upon our Church Union for help and coaching in order to better define our vision and project.

The first milestone of this new project was to find a more permanent place to stay, a home base to foster enduring relationships in the region. We decided to rent a building in Corny, a small village near Les Andelys. The building, in which the main room allows us to welcome up to 100 people, is surrounded by large gardens so that the location is ideal for children. We have already organized various meetings there: not only worship services, but also gatherings dedicated to children or festive meals such as “Le Noël du Coeur”.



2011 : presbytery of Aubevoye

step up from family gatherings into a full-fledged Church and started to organize ourselves accordingly. We structured our service and worshipping, we took on alpha courses and put on Christmas shows...



2013 : preparations for the Christmas celebration in Aubevoye

Planting a church

After several years aimed at building a



community, we have now clearly decided to live the Church as a place where one can be a witness and proclaim the Good News. Our team of about twenty people shares a common wish to develop a project oriented towards evangelization. We are now ready to take a new step in order to reach the inhabitants in our area, i.e. a place where people do not often hear about Jesus.

Our vision responds to our desire to touch the hearts of those who do not know Je-

sus, even if it means going beyond traditional patterns to do so.

It seems to be the right time – the favorable time now for local authorities are kind to us and our Church Union supports us in concrete ways : on May 20th, the Union of Free Evangelical Churches board unanimously decided to support our project to receive a Church planter, starting in September 2020, and to allocate us a yearly grant of 16000 € (1330 € a month). Our team is ready to continue

on its progress with the help of a Church planter.

We are convinced that our path over these years has not been trodden in vain and that our community is going to bear fruit – it has already begun to do so.

«You did not choose me, but I chose you, and I appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide. So whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.» John 15:16.

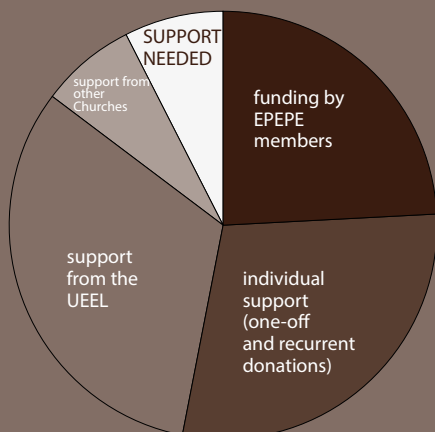
For the «Eglise Protestante Evangélique des Portes de l'Eure», Stéphanie BERNARD, President of the EPEPE



Our needs

The budget for the Church planting project is approximately 4000 euros per month to cover all costs (part-time salary and housing for the pastor, the church building, the actions to be undertaken...).

Part of this budget is covered by donations from EPEPE members, and part by the Union. Friends and churches are also committed to supporting us, but regular external support is essential to sustain this budget.



Support

To support this project, you can make a one-time donation or a regular donation :

- on the HelloAsso website: contact details on www.epepe.fr/soutien

- by transfer to the bank account of the EPEPE

IBAN :
FR19 2004 1010 1410 4225 2L03 579

BIC : PSSTFRPPROU BANK: LA POSTE

- by cheque payable to «Eglise Protestante Evangélique des Portes de l'Eure».

You can also and especially support us through prayer! Thank you to all those who already support us!

In France, all donations made are eligible for a tax reduction equal to 66% of the total payments in the limit of 20% of your household's taxable income.