



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Visit to the U.S.A in
May and October | 1

Back in France | 1

Evangelizing
through books | 2



Addressing the RCUS Synod in
Kansas City

“ THE WARM FELLOWSHIP I ENJOYED WITH THE
RCUS BROTHERS WAS TRULY SPECIAL ”

Visit to the U.S.A in May and October

Dear friends,

After visiting South Africa earlier this year, I thought it was about time to visit the churches in North America in May, more specifically in the U.S.A. Due to travel restrictions, two and a half years had gone by since my last visit there. Michigan, Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri were on my travel program. One of the highlights of this tour was attending the Synod of the *Reformed Church in the United States* in Kansas City. The warm fellowship I enjoyed with the RCUS brothers was truly special. I was also given an opportunity to address the floor, and could report about the latest developments of both French and Armenian ministries.

A second visit to the U.S., this time in October, is already in preparation. The annual *RFL* meetings will be held DV at *Mid America Reformed Seminary* on Tuesday 4 September. We are always grateful to *Mid-America* for putting its facilities at our disposal to host our committee meetings. Shortly after that, I will head for California, having been invited to preach the Word of God at Trinity URC in Visalia (Oct. 9), and at Covenant RCUS in Sacramento (Oct. 16). I am eagerly looking forward to fellowship with my fellow believers there. Speaking of fellowship, I also plan to attend the *World Reformed Fellowship* convention in Orlando, Florida at the end of my visit (27-30 Oct.) *Foi et Vie Réformées* is currently considering applying for membership at the *WRF* to widen the circle of our Reformed connections.

Back in France

Does this mean that I am going to spend more time abroad than in France this year? Certainly not! During this hot French summer I am devoting more time to personal study. First on the epistle to the Colossians and its amazing Christological statement (1.15-20) which upsets all pre-conceived notions or propagandas about the ultimate nature of world order. Then on Jean Daillé (1594-1670), one of the exceptional French Huguenot pastors and theologians that marked the history of the Reformed churches in France during the 17th century, before the fatal Revocation of the Edict of Nantes by king Louis XIV in 1685. I am actually preparing a lecture for *Union Theological College* in Bel-

fast (Northern Ireland). UTC is organizing a conference (12-13 Sept.) around the publishing of Luther's German New Testament in 1522, and its impact on subsequent Bible translations in other European languages. But no more about it at this stage, for – as Henry Ford used to say –: “Never brag about what *you are going to do*” ...

“ WE ARE THANKFUL
FOR THE EXCELLENT
COLLABORATION WITH
OUR BROTHERS FROM
QUEBEC ”

Evangelizing through books

One of the projects initiated recently and about to see the light of day concerns the forthcoming publication of a book made of 30 short meditations (one for each day of a month) on the meaning of true worship. It is entitled : *In spirit and in truth* (John 4.24) and it ends with 8 meditations on the Lord's Prayer, using the Heidelberg Catechism to complete the explanations provided. It is intended to guide young believers, or even agnostics in search of meaning for their lives, towards the heavenly Father through Christ, by pointing to Him as the only way, the truth and the life. It is a kind of devotional to be handed to family members, friends or acquaintances in need of sound spiritual guidance. We are truly thankful for the excellent collaboration with our brothers from Quebec around this project (*Publications Chrésiennes, Editions La Rochelle, Bannière Réformée Francophone, Ressources Chésiennes*), and also grateful for the timely contribution of RFL-Canada to avoid unnecessary bank transactions. In total, 700 copies will be printed, some of them in Quebec, others here in France.

May the light of the Gospel shine everywhere in the world, at a time when the forces of darkness threaten to shut hearts and minds in an unprecedented way (John 1.9-13).

Rev Eric Kayayan

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