
Latest news – 106avEM

Dear friends,

It has been quite some time since we have written to you! Our last flash report was in December 2018, our last fuller newsletter in March 2018... Rest assured; our building project is still ongoing, and here is the latest news!

Construction work...

In October 2018, as soon as the objection deadline to our Building Permit had expired, we started into the renovation work with enthusiasm. Since then, more than 260 man-days of volunteer work have been contributed by around 60 different people, church members, regulars or friends, sometimes from a distance, sometimes in very cold conditions (early January), or in a heatwave (June).



After a week of interior demolition, we have been working essentially on constructing the new insulated internal walls and room layout. The new structure is starting to take shape: the main worship hall, the Sunday school rooms, offices, toilets etc. This summer we started the under-coat painting. Everyone who has participated in this work has been delighted, particularly those who thought themselves incapable of doing any DIY work. All have left thrilled to have made their mark on the new building.



... and some friction...

But the enemy has not been leaving us in peace – and it was within the project steering committee that the difficulties arose. After all the preparation work (the submission of the Building Permit application, the granting of the bank loan, the signature of the final purchase contract, etc.), we were unable to move on correctly into the organization of the construction phase.

The Church Council made the decision to take direct charge of the project management and to dissolve the steering committee. Far from laying the blame on any individuals, we believe that it is collectively that we have been unable to adapt to this new phase.

It is obvious that the Church Council does not have the necessary technical competencies, and is drawing on other people for the skills required. This results in an increase of the number of people on whom we rely – which is an opportunity to discover competencies we did not know about before.

God is with us, always.

In the midst of the difficulties that we have been experiencing, we have been able to see the Lord working.

- We received several visits from the Work Regulations Inspectors who were taking a close interest in our renovation project. However, following advice from the legal department of the CNEF and prayer, the replies that we provided to their interrogations seem to have satisfied them.
- In order to complete our renovation work, we are relying on the sale of our current building. Although we have a buyer, we also needed a bridging loan from the bank to cover the expenditure between now and the sale completion. After having dragged their heels, the bank has finally granted us this bridging loan. We believe that prayer has been an important lever in the resolution of this problem.

Forward together!

We are already starting to get to know our new building: with several prayer meetings, a celebration of the Lord's supper, and even the June meeting of the Church Council having taken place there! On Saturday July 13th, we also enjoyed a church barbeque in the parking area.



We are always very enthusiastic when we pass through the doors of the new building. We are impatient to welcome the public there, and in particular the people of Clermont who have never set foot in a church.

Our prayers

After much prayer and reflection, it is the Church Council who is, from now on, managing the project. We pray that “*we may live up to what we have already attained*” (Phil 3 v 16) and that each person might find their place in the realization of this building project in support of our church project: to make disciples!

We pray for the DIY part of the renovation work. That the good atmosphere might continue. That we may continue to make encouraging progress, and that the Lord will protect us from any accidents.

We are running late in the project, and especially in the sub-contracted work. We pray that the companies contacted will propose completion timings that will allow us to move forward without lost time.

In a project of this scale, the financial management is always critical. We pray that the Lord will provide, and that we will lack nothing.

We have a buyer for our current building with whom we have signed an initial sales contract. We pray that there may be no bad surprises, and that the sale will be completed as foreseen.

We will need temporary premises in which to hold our church meetings between the sale of our current building (foreseen in December 2019) and the end of the new building renovation work (foreseen in the spring of 2020). We have already started looking. We pray that the Lord will provide, in His time.

How can you help?

You can help us!

- Pray with us! We are convinced that our greatest asset in this project is our God!
- Keen to participate in the renovation work? Let us know! To see someone coming from a distance to help us is always an encouragement.
- Give! Each euro given will contribute to the progress of the project.



To contact us: contact@eeb-cf.org ; To follow us online: <http://eeb-cf.org/106avem>

Thank you in advance for your prayers and your support.

*In repentance and rest is your salvation,
In quietness and trust is your strength. – Isaiah 30.15*

If God is for us, who can be against us? – Romans 8.31

Yours in Christ,

Eric Le Guéhennec
pastor of the eeb-cf