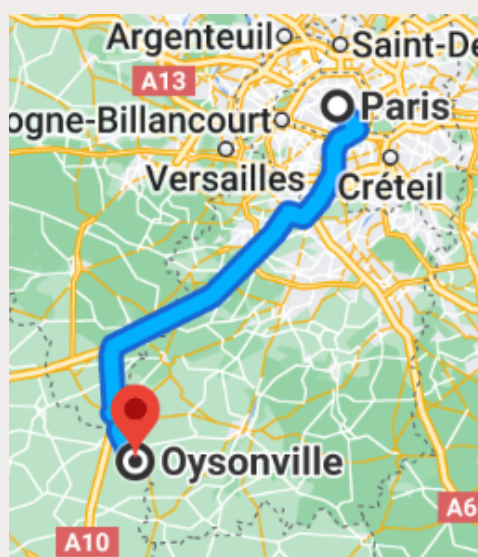




Inter-church Winter campus

CHATEAU MAINSON DU SALUT



26-29

DEC
YOUTH
RETREAT

2023

Introduction

This year's annual camp, welcomed Chinese international and local students & young professionals from various churches in France. It had a great turnout with 90+ attendees aged 16 to 28. For the first time, it was hosted at the chateau Maison du Salut, making it a memorable event for everyone.

The debut



The campers met up in Paris (XVIIIe) to take the bus together to Oysonville, which is about 1h30 ride away. Many had to catch really early trains or planes to get to the meeting spot on time set at 9:00am.

This camp featured a diverse group of speakers, including pastors and doctorates from Taiwan and the US.

While the majority of the event was conducted in Chinese, there were some barriers for the second-generation FBC (French born Chinese) attendees who were not as fluent in the language. However, various participants stepped up to translate the message into French, making it easier for the FBC's to follow and gain a better understanding.



法国第十五届 2023 12/26-29
圣诞青年学生福音营

疫后再行 进击的突破者
森林古堡 讲座 游戏 炉火晚会 诗歌 才艺表演

逆风的方向，
更适合飞翔。
不怕万人阻挡，
只怕自己投降。
唯有“突破”自我，
思维定势，
才能遇见生命，
遇见更美的2024!

讲员信息：

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法国时间：
2023/12/26-29
普世宣教神学院院训



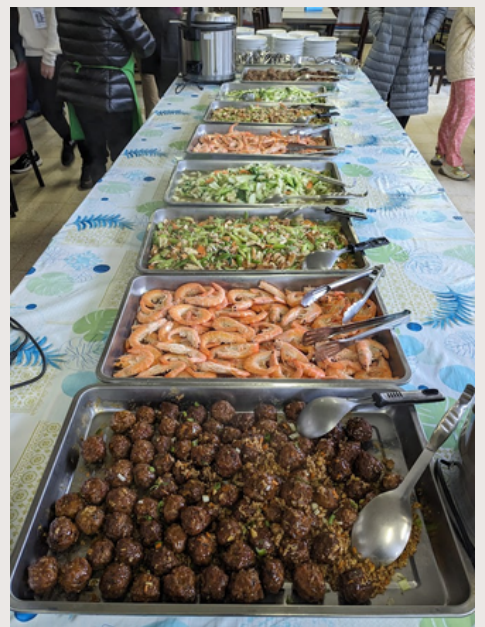
Meet Eva, a 16-year-old young girl born in France, featured on the bottom right. During the camp, she served as one of the volunteers who translated Chinese to French for the speakers. Many attendees were impressed by her effortless fluency with technical Chinese terms.

When asked how she became so proficient in Chinese, despite being an FBC, Eva revealed that she spent hours watching C-dramas during the COVID lockdown. I should maybe do that too...

UNITY

The day started with a worship and prayer session at 8:00 AM, followed by breakfast and multiple seminars before a hearty lunch prepared by church members from Paris Grace church, now retired and serving at the Maison du Salut.

Afterward, Professor Li organized fun games that helped build bridges between French and Chinese-speaking attendees, fostering a sense of unity and friendship.



Over those four incredible days, I made friendships that I'm sure will last forever. It was amazing to share and learn about each other's life stories and backgrounds. Although many of us have Chinese heritage, we're all really different. Some of us, like me, don't speak much Chinese because we've grown up with French culture, which feels more like home. Then there are others who have their roots in Taiwan or China, each with its own unique culture. So, even though we might look alike and speak the same language, our individual stories and backgrounds show just how diverse we are. Our shared faith is what really brings us together, creating a strong bond that overcomes all these differences.



These girls are from Taiwan and Mainland China. They came France (Paris, Toulouse, Bordeaux) 1-2 years ago to study.

PRAISE & PRAYER

(1) **Praise** God for Maison du Salut – Although more donations/funds & prayer support & volunteers are still needed, the Retreat Centre has already hosted many workshops, conferences, camps, retreats, etc.



(2) **Pray** for Maison du Salut

a. We need many volunteers to sign up for –

- I. regular cleaning of rooms and centre (after a ministry event),
- II. clearing of the forest (to make room for flower gardens, vegetable patches, park-play space for children, outdoor fellowship space, basketball court, walking paths, prayer labyrinths, team-building recreational space, washrooms, picnic areas, parking lots, animal space (for chickens, etc.), etc.

b. We have hired architects to apply for additional building permits needed.

c. We need to raise more financial funds for Phase 2 of renovations; to hire a chaplain, cook, and other full-time staff; to install a better heating system (since the current system is not sufficient to heat the whole space at an economical cost.

PRAISE & PRAYER



(3)

Praise God for this year's camp speakers (from France, Taiwan, and the United States).

(4)

Praise God for the over 90+ young people who attended the camp (many non-believers; mainly students) – some French-speaking (only) and some Mandarin-speaking (only).

(5)

Praise God for the 5 campers who accepted Christ; and for the 8 campers who dedicated their life and made a commitment to serve God full-time in the future.

PRAISE & PRAYER



(6)

Pray for the follow-up ministry work in the various host churches of this inter-church camp – to care and support the 5 campers who accepted Christ; and for the 8 campers who dedicated their life to serve God.

(7)

Pray (already) for next year's camp (this camp is held every winter after Christmas, as an outreach inter-church/inter-denominational ministry) – A committee needs to be formed to start planning for next year's theme, speakers, games, workshops, transportation, etc. Pray for volunteers to commit their time and energy to plan and prepare.

(8)

Praise God for all the participating churches – for their generosity to subsidize the fees/costs of each camper (since most campers are non-working students with no financial income); for their unity to partner together to organize and promote this camp.