



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year From France with love!

We walked to the edge of our neighborhood for a family photo with the French farm and Autoroute barrier in the background. (Photo courtesy of Noah!)

Ministry in the Calais Jungle

The UNHCR estimates that [1 million refugees](#) entered Europe in 2015. The numbers in Calais have swollen to more than four thousand people. The camp in Calais has expanded beyond recognition and the conditions are extreme with limited food, sanitation and power, as well as little or no security for the refugees.

I have made several visits recently to the refugee camp in Calais and to the local church that is helping to coordinate some of the efforts that Christians are making. I thank God that he has raised up this small church for ministry among the refugees in Calais. As local Christians, they are able to do in one day what

would take me a year!

This is the church that IAFR is trying to assist in their efforts to minister among the refugees. Already the church has helped to establish and support a refugee church in the jungle. The photo shows the French pastor Fabien (4th from left) together with Olivier (3rd from left) and Brigitte (3rd from right) who visit everyday among the refugees.



Pray for the Calais church team -for their strength and that IAFR would be able to give them more assistance including workers.

[IAFR's project for Calais](#) will assist with things such as tents and shelters against the wind and rain (like those seen in the background) as well as wooden floors against the mud and cold and fences to increase security.

Thank you to those supporters who have already donated funds to this project. We hope to expand the project as well to include some of the needs in other areas of the region such as in Lille.



The mud road through the Calais camp with latrines on the left and the wooden poles for security around the church area.

Meeting Refugees in Lille

Last week, I spent several nights with the refugees who live on the streets here in Lille. It actually was not as extreme as it sounds.

In reality, our church in Lille together with several other groups has been working to take care of some of the refugee minors in Lille who have nowhere to go. These refugees are waiting for the officials to decide about their cases which could take many months.

In the meantime they are living on the streets and our church has shared in the relief like providing food and housing. About 10 of us from the church took turns to host the group in our church for two weeks.

One teenager, David, (not his real name) lost his parents as a young child and then after having grown up with his uncle in North Africa, lost his uncle when they were separated during the current fighting. He's been in Lille for 2 months now and is working hard to learn French by spending most of his days in the city library reading books.



The photo shows me with David (name changed) a few days ago in Lille.



Organization & Financial Details

**International Association for Refugees
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If you would like to make a donation to our ministry you can [donate online here](#).

Or, write a check to IAFR for "the Sydnors" and mail it to the address above.

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