



**EGLISE PROTESTANTE
UNIE DE FRANCE**

communio n luthérienne et réformée

Secretary for International Relations

Paris, 05 June 2025

To the sister churches
and Ecclesial Communions

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In this time of preparation for Pentecost, when we are going to celebrate the Holy Spirit as the creative breath and the birth of the Church from all nations, I address my fraternal greetings to you from our United Protestant Church of France.

I am writing to give you echoes of our last National Synod which was held from Thursday, May 29 to Sunday, June 1, 2025 at the protestant vacancy village "Le Lazaret" in Sète (34).

**Dr. Christian Baccuet, pastor,
is the new president of the United Protestant Church of France**

This assembly renewed the national bodies: National Council, Coordination of Evangelization and Formation, Commission of Ministries, Commission of General Affairs among others. It was also an opportunity to express her gratitude to Pastor Emmanuelle Seyboldt, who will end her term as President of the National Council.

To contact the president:
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The Council appointed Pastor Christian Baccuet, 61 years old, as President of its Bureau. He has a solid theological training and a pastoral career rich in 34 years of commitment.

Doctor of theology, his thesis in 2017 focused on *"The ministry, Gordian knot of ecumenism? The question of ministries in international theological dialogues between the Lutheran and Reformed Churches and the Catholic Church."*

Specialising in ecumenical issues, he has been a member of the Dombes group since 2006. He exercised his pastoral ministry in the parishes of Nevers and Moulins, Le Vésinet and Paris and was president of the Commission of Ministries.

A few points of reference

The United Protestant Church of France, co-founder of the Protestant Federation of France, is one of the main Protestant churches in France.

3% of French people say they are close to Protestantism.
In Europe, Protestants represent 25% of the population.
There are more than 500 million of them worldwide.

- 250,000 people use the services of the EPUdF
- 430 pastors, 38% of whom are women
- 400 parishes
- 900 places of worship

Church Mission and Ministries

This session was particularly important because it finalized the work of reflection on "*Church Mission and Ministries*." Since 2022, the National Council has initiated this synodal process.

Thus, [three axes](#) have been deployed:

1. **To reform formation with a view to its mission**, initial and continuous formation of future ministers (pastors).
2. **Creation of a new ministry of deacon** and initiation of a pedagogy to support the local Churches in discernment and its implementation
3. **Develop collective intelligence and cooperation tools** to facilitate all initiatives.

The discernment of its ministries and the deployment of new types of formation and accompaniment are the first step towards a change of culture in the Church to be "witness of the Gospel" in society, as required by the ['Charter of Witnesses'](#) validated at the National Synod in 2022 in Mazamet.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in faith, that you may overflow with hope, by the power of the Holy Spirit!" (Rom 15:13)

Please accept my sincere greetings, Shalom,



Dr. Théol. Pasteur
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