



The Benbrooks

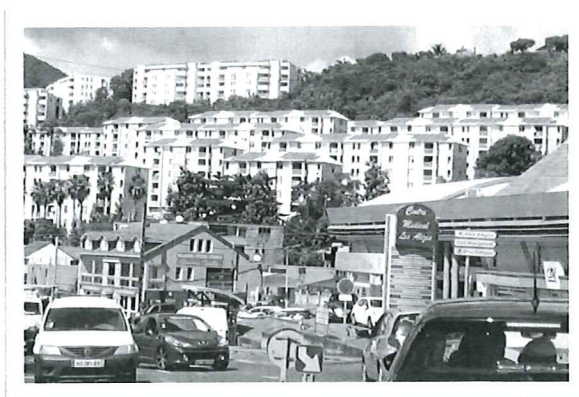
Serving in Martinique



January 2020

Dear Friends,

The city of Le Marin has a population of 9,000 people, but the population within a ten-minute driving radius of the city is 30,000. Le Marin is a strategic center of population, commerce, and government in the southeastern area of Martinique, yet this area has been largely overlooked when it comes to Gospel outreach. There is not a likeminded church in Le Marin or the greater area, and only around 2% of this population attend any type of evangelic church, a term used very broadly in the available statistic. For these reasons, we believe that Le Marin is a perfect location for this church plant. **We invite you to visit our website to view a downloadable video update about this church plant (BenbrooksFamily.com/interact).**



While the conditions seem to be perfect, finding a location in which we can start the church has been very difficult. We dealt with this same issue when looking for a house to rent—demand has outpaced supply. Thus far, we have been unable to locate a single option, good or bad, for the church. We have several people who live or work in Le Marin helping us look, and we are trusting that God will open the right door at the right time! **Please pray with us regarding a location for the church to meet.**

In December, my co-worker, Jim White, and I were able to meet with two Martiniquais pastors who graciously answered many questions about finding a church location, the local perception towards Baptists, things to do and not to do in starting a church, and much more. We're also looking forward to meeting all of the Baptist pastors on the island next month.

During this time of waiting, we have been working to build relationships with those around us. We've been so blessed by patient friends who have treated us with kindness as we learn a new culture and place. Most importantly, we've been able to share with them why we are here, and our prayer is that these relationships will one day yield spiritual fruit.

We are beyond grateful for your faithful prayers and support during this time of waiting. Though it may not appear that we are involved in much "ministry," we know that God is using this time to prepare us for the time ahead. Again, please continue to pray specifically for a location in which we can start the church in Le Marin.

By His Grace,
Jeremy, Mattie, Nate, and Theo

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