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## Hendrix Guadeloupe May14

1 message

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Special edition about our Guadeloupe mission trip.

That Caribbean island is part of France (like Hawaii is part of U.S.), but what a different world!

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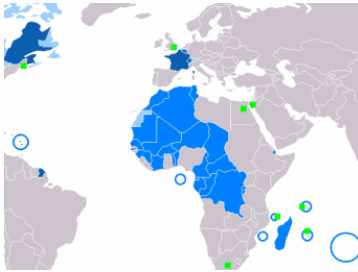
FRANCE

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# GUADELOUPE SPECIAL EDITION

This year Pamela & I had a 6-week mission to this island in the **French West Indies**. Our trip was made possible by a special contribution of the Memorial Road Church of Christ, a businessman who gave us frequent flyer miles, and another friend who covered the advertising expenses for our marriage seminar. Also many prayed and their prayers were answered. We thank God for you all.



A global outreach touching all parts of the French-speaking world



Fisherman's catch



All kinds of fresh fish

Cost of living in Guadeloupe is 15% higher than in France (and food even more), which is why we need your help especially for these missions. For example, at Walmart Folgers coffee (34 oz) costs \$7.98. In France the same amount of coffee (national average) costs \$8.72, and in Guadeloupe \$14.21. (Source: *Que Choisir*, March 2014.) Once again, **MERCI for supporting these mission trips.**

This was my **21st trip** to Guadeloupe, Pamela's 13th time. The pace is slow and people are friendly. They enjoy cooking for us, and yet we give them little in return other than some teaching, love and a listening ear. Guess they think that's important!



## ISLAND CULTURE

We stayed with Alex & Elise who are of **Indian descent** (13% of today's population; most of the rest are of African descent). When slavery was abolished in 1848, 45,000 coolies worked the cotton & sugar cane fields. Today most of the farmers are Indians like our hosts. We were so close to their other family members that it was like a small village with everyone a few steps away.

We feasted on fresh fish, seafood, salads & fresh fruit.





Octopus fricassee,  
1st potluck dish to disappear



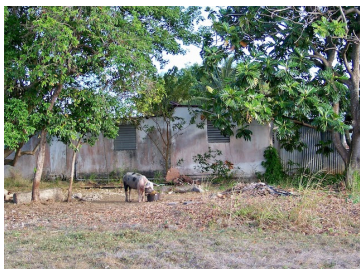
How many roots can you  
identify?



Coconut vendor with machete



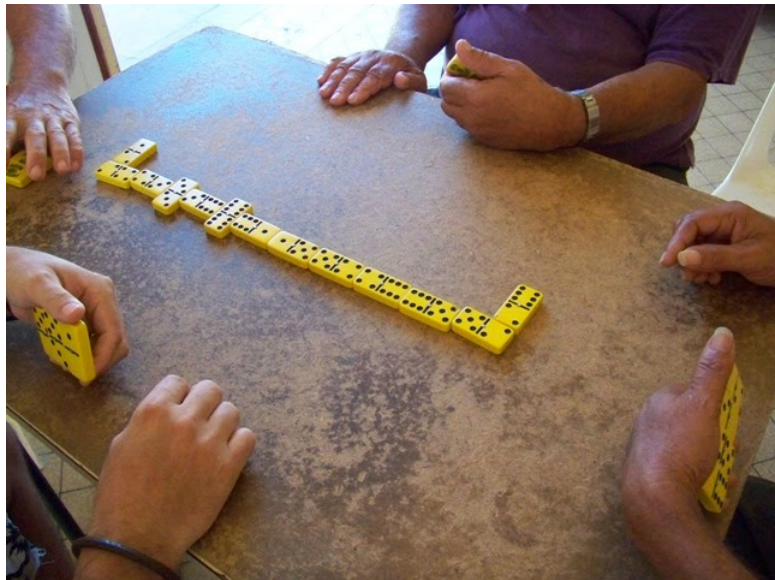
Homemade coconut ice cream



Pigs are tied up near houses

Indian dishes (curry) as well. The homemade coconut ice cream is great, but we **tried to not eat too much** of that! We got up by 6 a.m. to walk as much as an hour before our day started. And we headed to bed about 9 p.m. – just like the islanders.

**Guadeloupians are open** if you are friendly & respectful. Pamela even joined 5 locals in a café for a game of dominoes (similar to “42”), she won second place, and a good time was had by all.



## GOD'S CREATION

We love the warm climate of Guadeloupe. It's relaxing to hear the waves and see the sea blues change hue. We enjoyed the sunrises & sunsets. It sure is easier to get regular exercise where the temperature is **75-88 degrees Fahrenheit** (24-31 Celsius) year-round.

We saw whales & flying fish. Five-foot iguanas abound in arid areas. Little birds like canaries hung around our porch, hoping for a treat. Hummingbirds fun to watch, too. Skinny cows & pigs & goats tied up near people's houses. Chickens roamed everywhere. At least it's **free range**!





And chickens are everywhere



Going to Sunday mass



Hindu temple



Cemetery in Guadeloupe



Church of Christ in St. Francois



## FUNERAL

Most Guadeloupians are **Catholic, often incorporating animist beliefs and Hindu practices**. While we were there, Christiane's father died. He was Catholic but of Hindu origin. For the wake the family received and fed over 300 guests at the house & under tents in the yard. There were Catholic songs & prayers, and island music with drums. The next day, the hearse broadcast Indian songs on the way to the Catholic church. The funeral mass was in French, except when family members spoke in Creole. Then on foot we all followed the coffin 1/3 mile (500 meters) to the cemetery.





Guadeloupe marriage seminar



Eglise du Christ de St.  
Francois



Arlin playing dodgeball with  
church kids

## Prayers

- Thanksgiving for those who made this Guadeloupe mission possible
- Praise for the diversity of God's creation and of human cultures
- For seminar visitors, especially those who were first learning about God
- For the Christians in Guadeloupe
- That Nicole will continue her quest to know God

## MARRIAGE SEMINAR

This year we gave our marriage seminar in Guadeloupe. It went great and we had **78 participants**: 54 visitors, more than twice the number of local church members! They had done an excellent job of advertising and extending personal invitations. Just like Jerry & Lynn Jones' seminar, our audience grew with each session so that's a good sign. Too bad you couldn't come, but it was in French so you'll have to check out "Marriage Matters" in the States: [www.marriagematters.ws](http://www.marriagematters.ws)

## EDIFICATION

One goal of our annual trip to Guadeloupe is to **inspire the Christians**. Being on a small island, they don't have the means to fellowship with other churches, a luxury that most of us take for granted. Pamela & I were able to visit in the home of almost every church member. They say our visit is a highlight of the year for them. But as always, WE were encouraged as we sought to encourage.

## TEACHING & OUTREACH

I did a lot of teaching, at least 20 lessons this visit. The St. Francois church doesn't have a regular preacher, so I like to provide a break for the local brothers who have full time jobs and do all the teaching. Pamela also spoke during our seminar and taught a ladies' class. Our presence prompts the Christians to **invite family & friends to church services and potlucks**, and gives Pamela & me the opportunity for one-on-one Bible studies.



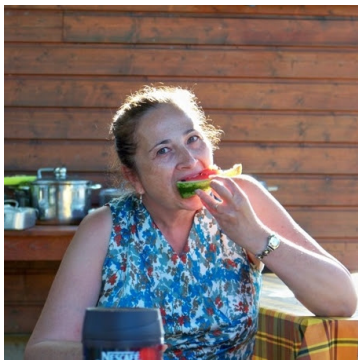
better

- That we all bring much glory to God
- For a new meeting place for the Lyon church of Christ

**2 Chronicles  
16:9 - "The  
eyes of the  
Lord range  
throughout the  
earth to  
strengthen  
those whose  
hearts are  
fully  
committed to  
him."**



Xavier



Nicole

Sponsor Information:



One Friday a lady called and asked to be baptized, but we couldn't find anyone to guide us to her house until the next day. None of us realized how very sick **Dany** was, and when we got there she was too weak to get out of bed. She flew to France 2 days later for medical tests and cancer treatments, and it doesn't look like she'll make it back home to Guadeloupe. Cases like that, we can only pray and leave her in God's hands.

Two of our close friends in Lyon, **Xavier & Nicole**, joined us in Guadeloupe. Xavier was a help to me in teaching 3 lessons at church. It was nice for Pamela & me to be able to consecrate time to them and continue our studies with Nicole, who is not yet a Christian. She & Xavier discovered the simplicity & joy of a Christian way of life that thrilled and enchanted them. A number of families shared their meals with us, and love was shown in a myriad of other ways.

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Hospitality is a way of life among the Christians, and we were the constant beneficiaries. **God blessed** us, Xavier & Nicole, the St. François congregation and hopefully many others. We believe that there will be people we taught who'll be standing before the throne someday because of those who gave financially and because of those who prayed. May God be praised!

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## LYON

We already told you about the recent visit of **Erik TRYGGESTAD**, editor of the Christian Chronicle. If you'd like to read his article and see his pictures of Lyon, click on this link:

[www.christianchronicle.org/article/road-notes-a-four-course-church-potluck-in-france](http://www.christianchronicle.org/article/road-notes-a-four-course-church-potluck-in-france)

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