



The MARINERS

CHURCH PLANTERS IN SURINAME

FEBRUARY 2025

A New Addition

Thank you for your prayers on behalf of Emily's pregnancy. Hope Amelia Mariner was born in Suriname on February 7th! She is now at home and doing great. Emily is recovering very well, and we are all adjusting to having a new baby in the house. A special thank you to those who purchased gifts off the baby registry! Each has been a help and a blessing.



Evangelism Training

I was very excited to help facilitate the hosting of a Good Soil evangelism and discipleship training seminar. The focus was to equip local believers to more effectively share their faith with those of differing world views. The emphasis went beyond evangelism to the first steps of discipleship. The training emphasized the personal responsibility of each believer to be a faithful witness and the central role of the local church in both evangelism and discipleship. Since Suriname is a country of many religions, this worldview gap is a constant obstacle to evangelism. Eight local believers attended the 4 day event. I was personally edified by the teaching of fellow missionary Chris Christensen, who taught the course. I know that those who attended were blessed!

Evangelisatiefeest - "Gospel Party"

[Photos](#)

For several months, we have been working closely with Baptisten Gemeente Clevia. Mark preaches there regularly and has been training another young man to preach and lead in the church. We also have held group Bible studies at our home. One opportunity we have worked towards for several months was the **Operation Christmas Child** shoebox outreach. This event required months of prayer, planning, and preparation. 49 children and many parents attended our "Evangelisatiefeest". They enjoyed the fun games and snacks we had prepared like popcorn and cotton candy. In addition, each received a gift box. More importantly, they all heard the gospel clearly presented and were invited to attend our new Saturday children's Bible club. We are praying that a good number will return regularly to complete the 12 lessons we have planned to further explain the good news of the gospel.

Gospels of John Progress Report

Thank you to everyone who has given to help purchase 10k special copies of the Gospel of John in Dutch. These copies will have a beautiful Suriname-themed cover design and include links to helpful gospel resources. The cost was originally quoted at 6,000 USD, but the printer was able to offer a reduced price of \$4,500 dollars because another ministry also ordered 10k copies. When we heard of this opportunity, we decided to move forward in faith by ordering the gospels to capitalize on the reduced cost. So far **\$3,400** of the needed amount has been given! Thank you! \$5,000 will cover the printing and leave \$500 towards the shipping costs. Please pray with us regarding the remaining need of \$1,100 USD.

Mark and Emily

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