

P.O. Box 191, Springfield, MO 65801 USA

Autersonsnfrance@gmail.com

November/December 2021

"Why don't you just do it like we do in America?"

This is a question that pops up often in regards to *our need for a new church building*, so we thought we'd do our best to explain some of the differences and difficulties we have encountered here.

"Why don't you just rent a store front or a (school) gymnasium?"

To rent a store front in our town would cost us about 14x the amount of rent we are currently paying for a smaller space. Store fronts are considered commercial spaces and are priced as such. Most schools here do not have their own gyms, but rather use gymnasiums owned by the town (in separate buildings). All the gymnasiums (and town halls) are booked up to a year in advance. In general, when we do want to organize an event for more than 40 people, we have to plan for it well in advance and reserve it ahead of time. All the available buildings in our town are booked every weekend for diverse events by different clubs and associations. We are therefore unable to rent a bigger building for every weekend.

"How much does it cost to build a church?"

We currently have about 30 blue-collar members who give faithfully and sacrificially. Unfortunately nearly half of a typical salary here is drained by healthcare and other socialist programs and taxes. After putting money aside for over 10 years, we now have about \$160,000 saved towards a new building. Where does that leave us?

The cost of a modest church building for 100 people is roughly \$400,000. That leaves us with a balance near \$240,000. French banks are hesitant to loan to churches, however we can count on a small loan for a growing church like ours. So how can we make up the difference? We do so with God's provision through His people. That's right, with *your* help we can make up the financial difference in order to help make an eternal difference.

Thank you for praying for a new church building for God's people here in Lieusaint! Thank you for purposefully considering giving and investing in the French harvest!

Lance, Amy, Kirianna, Aliyah, Cannon & Kayne Auterson