

## SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH TEENS

A young man in Brazil boldly shared the Gospel with teens and the Lord opened their hearts!

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## PRAYING FOR GRADUATES

Pray for recent graduates in Kenya by name as they enter ministry.

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## A "GOLDEN" OPPORTUNITY

How the Lord provided for a need in a most unusual way...

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## 3 SURRENDER TO SERVE AS MISSIONARIES!

3 in Brazil recently surrendered to the call to serve as missionaries!

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# BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

## bfm NEWS & REPORTS

Assisting Baptist churches to send God-called missionaries to fulfill church-planting missions in the nations of the world

## ENCOURAGING BRAZILIAN PASTORS, EVANGELIZING STUDENTS, YOUTH CAMP, GRADUATIONS, & MORE!



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São Paulo, Brasil

July 15, 2024  
FAMILY NEWS

Everyone successfully completed their school year and was promoted to the next grade. Sarah graduated from high school and two weeks later was accepted into ESPM, a Brazilian university. She plans to study communications and publicity. I (Judson) celebrated my birthday with dengue fever. The fever lasted for almost a month. Thankfully, the cold sweats, brain fog, and constant itching are over! Raquel is in excellent health and is actively engaged in serving others.

### EVANGELISM, FIVE DECISIONS AT CAMP, AND MINISTRY AT LARGE

The soccer school allows us to evangelize students every week and build bridges with the parents. Our teams participated in a one-day tournament, winning half of the matches against other teams.

Through Rede Convivencia (Togetherness Network), under



Devotions at Youth Camp



Rede Convivencia (Togetherness Network)



Sarah Hatcher's Graduation

the leadership of Pastor Eliezer, we had a youth camp with 40 students, which rendered five salvation decisions. Benjamin (my son) traveled 6 hours to join the camp and also made important decisions during the camp.

Last week, I visited several pastors and their families in our Rede Convivencia. We made stops in São Paulo state in Pompeia, Marília, Vera Cruz, Alvaro

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# PRAYING FOR GRADUATED STUDENTS



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July 10, 2024

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ,

We graduated some beloved students this past week. It was a crazy, hectic week that left me running around like a chicken with my head cut off, not to mention that I had to take Julie to the airport and was thus left alone with Chloe (more on this later). But graduation is so much more than just walking down the aisle in fancy regalia and receiving a diploma... and much more than the week leading up to it... and much more than the big celebrations following it. No, graduation is the culmination of years of Biblical, theological, and practical study and work put in by both student and teacher. It is so awesome to see the change in students from when they arrive to when they graduate, and they all change so much. They don't leave perfect, but I pray they leave better. They

still don't know everything (neither do I), they still aren't the best preachers (neither am I, and most are better than me), they still make mistakes (so do I), and they still have a long way to go (and, yes, so do I). It is very satisfying to see their growth and to know how appreciative they all are when they leave for what they have learned. For me, I have

only one goal for these students. OK, it's one goal that leads to one result (is that really two goals?). I want them to know and love Jesus more, and as a result that they might minister the gospel better to believers and unbelievers. My goal for them is not more Biblical knowledge (although I do want this for them and they do get it), nor is it better theological understanding (although I also desire this for them and they do get it), nor is it more education (and, yes, they obviously leave with that). No, my goal is that they know and love Jesus better and can minister the gospel to people better because of it. I remind my students of that goal in every class whether it is hermeneutics, basic theology, or financial management. And now this graduating class is moving on to other things and my prayer remains the same: Lord, make them better ministers of Jesus, for the glory of Your name and for the good of Your people. I am sad to see this class go because I will miss spending time with

them, but I am happy that better ministers of Jesus have graduated. I ask you to pray for these beloved students by name: *Simon Wakaba, Stephen Kamau, Rachel*

*Gatobu, John Victor Okawa, Kanaiyo Arem, Yoyce Wangari, Margaret Ngeiryo, John Gitonga, Gideon Kithuka, Augustus Mwanthi, Asifiwe Precieux, Jiresse Kabala, Rachael Mbithe, Steven Kasereka, David M u n d e k e ,*

*Christine Njoki, Joshua Mutuku, Joel Mwangela, Winrose Echelel, Samuel Mwangi, David Ndungu, Robert Amisi, and Abednego Muluki.*

Julie is in the States for a month visiting our children and parents. Oh, no, what am I going to do without her? Chloe and I are left here alone in her absence. I'm sure Chloe will be getting very tired of me very soon. Every day she asks me, "Is mommy coming home tomorrow?" I keep telling her, "No, it's going to feel like a very long time and then, all of a sudden, she'll be back." You all can pray for Chloe and me as we face the long month together and you can pray for Julie as she faces the rigors and strangeness (yes, after being away for sixteen years it can feel strange to us now) of visiting the United States without us.

You know, after reading back through this newsletter, I realize I am the King of Parentheses (something should go here but I cannot think of what).

Blessings to all,  
Roger, Julie & Chloe

*"My goal is that they know and love Jesus better and can minister the gospel to people better because of it."*

*Roger Tate*



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## PRAY FOR OUR COUNCIL OF DIRECTORS

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Jonathan Turner • Steve Wainright

*May God give them wisdom and discernment.*

## BLUEGRASS BAPTIST SEMINARY PREPARES FOR GRADUATION



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July 5, 2024

Dear friends and family,

As we here in the USA are getting ready to celebrate the 4th of July, Barbara and I are making our final plans and travel arrangements for the First Pastoral Graduation. This graduation will have 11 Pastors receiving their Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministries. This is such an accomplishment! These Pastors have been in class since before the Covid pandemic, which is the reason for the delay in this graduation. The first master's class graduation was this past year and it was for the Master of Arts in Biblical Studies. In this graduation we had many church leaders and others who just wanted to extend their personal Bible knowledge. AWESOME!!!

These Pastors who will be graduating in July have had additional classes they were required to take for the Pastoral Ministries Degree, those being: thesis writing, Greek and Hebrew, and the completion of their chosen thesis. I send a hearty congratulations to them and thanks to all who helped sponsor, and for the many prayers sent up for this ministry. AWESOME is the God we serve!!!

I am trying to keep this letter short because the next one will be filled with pictures of this labor of love and the Pastors who have stuck to the plan. Bluegrass Baptist Seminary has many things planned for the rest of this year and the next! So as you go to your prayer closet, remember us in your prayers—the students, the professors, the translators, the volunteers, the facilitators, BFM, the many supporters of BFM, the AWESOME God and prayer warriors who make all this happen.

Barb and I ask for prayers as we go. There will be many challenges on this trip. Also pray for our health as we are no longer in the spring of our youth. Pray for connections as we travel over the country of Brazil. There is one more request regarding our travel: we have just been informed that there will be a change in the cost of additional baggage. It has always been \$100.00 for each additional suitcase but now they will be charging \$400.00. And if you know how Barbara packs, you can just imagine that she has three we will be needing to carry and pay for—things the churches need, Seminary needs, and personal requests from Pastors and our family. This will add a great cost for this trip, but we know that God is in control.

Thank you in advance for the prayers.

In His service,  
AJ and Barbara

## DISCIPLES MAKING DISCIPLES IN FRANCE!



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July 15, 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your faithful support and prayers. Judy and I hope that your summer is going well. Shortly after I wrote the last letter, two of our Bible study groups met together for a picnic at a park that is home to many unusual birds. It is interesting to see this delightful part of God's creation.

Even more delightful is a conversation that I had during this picnic with a young lady. She is the granddaughter of Marinette, the oldest participant in the Group that meets at Mazere. The granddaughter is in her early twenties and it had been a dozen or so years since we had last seen her. She was very interested in the fact that I had been a biology and chemistry teacher. She informed me that she used to be an atheist but now believed in a God that she described as “unknown”. This opened an excellent opportunity

to discuss the one “I Am” God who is Spirit, but Who came to reveal Himself to us and save us.

Another blessing is the news shared by a young lady, Roxanne, who trusted the Lord and followed the Lord in baptism about a year ago. She is the only believer in her family. She faithfully participates in our church fellowship and has already read a good part of the Bible. She meets with two other young ladies, our granddaughters, for Bible studies on a regular basis. They are all college students. A couple of weeks ago, Roxanne, shared the blessing that she had just started having Bible studies with two of her friends who were interested in knowing about her faith. They are studying through the book of Romans. Disciples making disciples just as Jesus commanded.

It delights us to see our Savior at work in those who participate in church and Bible studies as well as stirring the hearts of those who are lost and drawing them to Himself.

Your fellow servants in France,

John and Judy Hatcher

## VETERAN MISSIONARIES PENSIONERS FUND

*Please prayerfully consider helping us support our faithful veteran missionaries in their senior years by giving a recurring generous offering designated for “VETERAN MISSIONARIES PENSION FUND.”*

You can do that by simply making your contribution to Baptist Faith Missions and designating it for “Pension Fund” or “Veteran Missionary Pensioners” or by anything that says “Pension.” We will know what you mean, and your offerings will go directly toward honoring our **Veteran Missionaries Pensioners** who have served our Lord and us so faithfully and sacrificially.

You can mail your contribution to our Treasurer, George Sledd. Or you can give online by going to our website and clicking on the gold “GIVE” button.

When you make your transaction online, you will be given the “Recurring option: Yes! Please register me for the recurring program!”

We pray and hope you will.

**GIVE ONLINE**  
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## (CONTINUED) 3 IN BRAZIL SURRENDER TO THE CALL TO SERVE AS MISSIONARIES

versary on May 12th. We also had our missions conference at that time. We had all our missionaries come in from the bush for this major event. We treated all the missionaries and their wives to 2 days at a local resort before the conference. Many of them had never had this experience. Of course, we had some good teaching and sharing during those 2 days. Our guest speaker was Pastor Edward Luz who is also president of New Tribes Missions Brazil. The preaching was great and our people responded well. The crowds were really big for all three nights. The last night we had 850 people at First Baptist Church. That was all home folks since it was a Sunday night and people from other churches were at their own churches. We had 3 more people called to serve as missionaries. On Saturday morning we had our annual pastor/missionary meeting for fellowship and training. There were over 200 workers present for that event and lunch.

Many more people have been saved and added to the church over these last 3 months since my last report. We have had 2 baptisms. 38 baptized and then last week another 23. We have also added several by church letter.

I have intensified my teaching at the home church. One highlight was our last membership course. We graduated just under 150 new members. That coursed is 8 lessons, which I taught over 2 weeks. Sunday



*Some of the missionaries and their wives listening to Pastor Edward Luz in the conference hall at SESC resort before our missions conference.*

night they received their certificates.

Bev has been with me as I have visited several of our works. I held meetings for our churches at São Pedro and Santa Rosa. These are both “First Baptists” organized out of our church. We have also visited our congregations at Cruzeiroinho and Guajará for either morning or night services, multiple times.

I have much more to report, but this report is already too long. I will send more news soon. Just so you know, I work long hours all day every day building “stuff” and almost every night teaching or preaching. It just seems so hard to



*Some of the members with Mike at First Baptist São Pedro after services.*

“stop” to send you the reports that I know you all deserve.

Thanks for all of your prayers and support. God bless you as much as He has us.

In Christ,  
Mike Creiglow



# FIRST TEENAGER HELPED BY A&O HOME SHARES TESTIMONY WITH UBIM KIDS & CHURCH



Odali & Kathy Barros  
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July 17, 2024

Dear brothers and sisters,

Time is flying so fast it's hard to believe it is July already. We hope and pray that each church and all our friends who pray and support us are doing well. We are doing great and are being blessed by our Lord with His wisdom in our life.

We have gone back to helping one of the missions that was being taken care of by a group. The leader moved, but thank God, three of the ladies who helped with the teens and children are still helping! So, we go there to preach. They do a great job.

We were blessed this month with two visits. One was Debbie who used to go to the Alpha and Omega Home. She wanted to visit where we live and work now. She came with a friend and we had a great time. Also, the first teenager we helped when we started the home came with his family. He is now a lawyer and takes care of the music ministry in Garça. We have had a fantastic time. **He gave his testimony at the church about how God changed his life from a drug kid to serving God. We were glad he gave his testimony because there are lots of drugs in the communities where we work.** For those of you who help in this ministry, that is a blessing for you also.

Sunday for lunch, we had a get together with several people who had been to Alpha and Omega and some other friends. We had 30 here. What a wonderful, blessed time of fellowship.

Love in Christ,  
 Odali and Kathy Barros



Luiz Brito giving his testimony to the teens in Ubim



Luiz Brito giving his testimony to the teens in Ubim



Multirão Mission



Luiz at the mother church



Debbie

View more pictures on our FaithWorks Blog!  
[bfmnow.org/faithworks-blog](http://bfmnow.org/faithworks-blog)



 *Continued from  
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de Carvalho, Fernão. In Paraná state, we visited pastors in Cornélio Procópio, Assaí, and Uraí. Pastor Elieser joined me on this journey to minister to pastors and their families.

The one-year-old church plant in Marília, which meets in Américo and Paula Pinotti's garage, celebrated three baptisms and their first Lord's supper last week. Américo was mentored by Pastor Gilberto Steffano during his formative years. Recently, Américo requested my mentorship for pastoral ordination and guidance in organizing the new work.

Pastor Raimundo Pinto, the lead pastor for the church plant in Aracajú (Northeastern Brazil), inaugurates the new building at the beginning of August.

Our student ministry evangelism gathering drew several new students and made new connections. We played volleyball, indoor soccer, and foot-volleyball.

#### FOSTER CARE

Raquel actively works in recruiting, training, equipping, and networking couples and families to serve as foster care parents to attend to the immense need of at-risk children in São Paulo city. She is a strong advocate and voice in one of the world's largest metropolises - São Paulo city is still learning what foster care means and how it benefits children and society. The court system recently inspected Raquel's foster care intake facilities, which received high marks from the city officials. We are grateful to Jason and Nikki Estes for their encouragement, mobilization, and partnership in significantly impacting the lives of precious children in foster care.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

- 1) The purchase of a car.
  - 2) Finances for Sarah's first year in a Brazilian university.
  - 3) The new school year is starting soon for Laura (12th), Benjamin (10th), and Melissa (7th).
  - 4) Family health.
  - 5) Evangelism and church growth
  - 6) Judson's doctoral studies and dissertation on pastoral succession in Brazilian churches.
- Grateful always,  
Judson and Raquel Hatcher

## A "GOLDEN" OPPORTUNITY

by David Mitchell

*The story I am going to relate to you is true—only the names have been omitted because the generous donor does not want his name to be mentioned. It is an account of a most unusual way the Lord chose to supply a need for one of our missionaries, and how one person listened to the Lord about that need, and how the Lord provided in a most unusual way.*

In the January *News and Reports*, in his monthly letter, Jud Hatcher shared a prayer request regarding a pressing need: “We humbly reach out to you, our faithful supporters, with a pressing need: to purchase a car. Would you be willing to give for this urgent need? Due to the increasing demand and rising expenditures on transportation, we urgently need to acquire this vehicle. The estimated cost for this much needed resource is \$10,000. As we step into the new month, we ask for your continued prayers and support. The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Let’s continue partnering in this kingdom work.”

Well, in Jud’s July report, he listed several requests for prayer—first on the list was “the purchase of a car.” For seven months, nothing had been done to supply the need. An elderly gentleman in our church (Calvary Baptist Church in Hurricane, WV) had asked me several weeks before the July report if the need that Jud had shared had been met. When he learned that it had not, I found that the need had been weighing heavily on his heart. He had expected to receive some money from a source that he had hoped to use to help with the need, but it had not come through as expected.

Let me jump ahead to Monday, July 22. I received a call from this dear brother saying that he had been “looking around in a drawer and found over \$10,000 in gold!” He and his wife were going to a broker to get cash for the gold to buy the needed car for the Hatchers. He asked if I would meet them at the bank the following day to make sure that the bank draft was properly made out, and would I send it on for Jud? You can imagine the skepticism of the banker at first—here was an elderly couple who had come in wanting to send a large amount of money to someone in a foreign country—a fairly common scam these days. Fortunately, I was able to verify that, as a member of the pastoral staff at Calvary and member of the board of directors of BFM, I could validate the need and have known the missionary personally for many years. On July 23, I was blessed to be able to post a certified letter containing the funds for the Hatchers to our treasurer, George Sledd, to be sent to the Hatchers. God does, indeed, work in strange and mysterious ways to fulfill His purposes.

Perhaps this account may challenge many of us regarding helping meet the special needs of our missionaries. The Apostle Paul wrote in II Corinthians 8:1-5, *“Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God on the churches of Macedonia; that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality. For I bear witness that according to their ability, yes, and beyond their ability, they were freely willing, imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of ministering to the saints. And not only as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God.”*

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# JULIO BOLDLY SHARES THE GOSPEL WITH TEENS



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July 2, 2024

Dear Friends,

Julio is one of our missionary volunteers who travels with Projeto Vida, our evangelistic travel team. Julio is a quiet man, usually not speaking unless spoken to. This changes, though, when he gets a chance to talk about Jesus. Recently, after our drama team performed some gospel skits in a public school, Julio was talking one-on-one with a teenaged boy. In just a few seconds, a whole group of the boy's friends circled around to listen to what they were talking about. Julio saw the opportunity and sensed that the Lord was leading him to share with them all what Christ had done for them. He presented the gospel clearly and persuasively for several minutes. When he finished, he asked the whole group if any of them was willing to surrender their life to Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. Fourteen teenagers' hand shot up and they each confessed Christ as Lord right there in the school gymnasium! I am so thankful to have a part in Projeto Vida's ministry and for young men like Julio for the boldness and spiritual insight to follow the Lord's leading in presenting the gospel.

Pastor Cledson continues to lead the church in Curitiba in growth and outreach ministries. He has shown tremendous wisdom and awareness of God's leading through some tough trials. There was an influential young man in his church who attempted to lead several other youth in an erroneous direction doctrinally, but Pastor Cledson was able to exhort the youth group as a whole using the Scriptures to show the fallacy the young man was trying to spread. The young man

refused to repent of his error, but thankfully, the error was stopped from spreading on to the group through Cledson's mature handling of the situation.

Yago and Manoela are still ministering faithfully in Portugal. Manoela still hasn't received notice about her permanent visa, but they have Bible studies weekly with several believers and share the love of Christ through their daily contacts with the Portuguese people.

Charlene and I will be heading to Brazil in a couple of weeks to minister alongside Projeto Vida with a group of youth and their leaders from Virginia, USA. A couple of our old friends from Brazil, Rodrigo and Carol, have been teaching these young people some pantomime skits that we use in our public-school presentations. They have been practicing for several weeks and, when they arrive in Brazil, they will have the chance to perform these skits before the student body in several schools. Charlene and I will serve as translators, among several other functions, for this fine group. We ask that you pray the Lord will open hearts to turn to Christ.

Thank you so much for your faithful prayers and support.

In Christ's love,  
Bobby and Charlene Wacaser

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**Lake Monroe, FL 32747-1280**

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The greatest need each month is for the Missionary Support Fund.





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Assisting Baptist churches to send God-called missionaries to fulfill church-planting missions in the nations of the world

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**bfm**

August 2024 Issue

**ONLINE  
EDITION**

## PRAY & PRAISE

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## 3 IN BRAZIL SURRENDER TO THE CALL TO SERVE AS MISSIONARIES



Mike & Beverly Creiglow

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July 2, 2024

Dear Brethren,

It has been a long time since I reported to you. News I have a plenty, but I have not stopped long enough to report it to you.

After the long trip to Peru and the big flood it was time to go back up the Moa River to finish some work on the building at the mountains. I had intended to go in my boat, but the bottom dropped out of the river and I had to get our itinerant missionary, Gever-ton, to take me in his canoe. It took us 12 hours as opposed to 5 hours, but it was pretty nice to have somebody else at the helm for a change. I loaded up the little Honda generator and a bunch of power tools and in 3 days was able to finish up the windows in the front of the building. We also held services with the congregation there.

Shortly after that we had the huge privilege to have Pastor Mark Pyles and wife Valarie with us for a far too short visit. We were able to let them get a little sample of what the Lord is doing here in Cruzeiro do Sul. Perhaps the neatest thing we were able to do was visit our work at Gama. We all



Building "stuff" at the mountains on the Moa River.

piled into my Jeep and went out there for an afternoon baptism service and the regular service at night. The folks there treated us royally including a great meal. We don't get many visits out here in the middle of nowhere, so it was such a blessing to have the Pyles with us.

Our church celebrated her 95th anni-

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