

YOUR WORK WITH US

John Mark Hatcher shares how God is working through your work with us in France.

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PRESENTING BGB IN BRAZIL

The Hensleys have a wider audience to present the seminary to in Brazil. Pray for more students!

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18 NEW APPRENTICES

New volunteers from 4 states in Brazil recently trained with Projeto Vida for evangelism.

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VOL. 85 | NO. 2

FEBRUARY 2025

BFMNOW.ORG

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

VISITING CHURCH PLANTS + 8 SAVED AT CHRISTMAS MUSICAL



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January 23, 2025

Dear Brethren,

Well it's about time! That slacker missionary of yours hasn't reported to you since some time last year. Here is a little bit of what has happened though, even if not in much detail.

In November, Bev and I went to Rio Branco (the state capital) to hold a meeting with our church there. The building was packed and folks were standing for every service. It had been quite a while since we last visited them. Frankly, we were very concerned about their well-being. They have turned the corner though and are growing again. They are still VERY slow at missions, but on Sunday morning they got an ear full. Pray that they will get back on track. Great visit.

In December, I held a meeting with Faith Baptist Church. Also an incredible reception. They asked me to refresh them on Baptist heritage and doctrine. Did I have fun, or what? It has



The 217-person cast of the annual Christmas Musical at First Baptist Church in Cruzeiro do Sul. Over 350 church members participate directly. Bro. Mike is in the bottom left corner and he preached 4 of the 6 nights.

▶▶ You can watch this musical on YouTube! ◀◀
See the link on page 4 along with more pictures.



now been over a month and the buzz is still happening all over town. Pray for Pastor Carlinhos. His wife is in very poor health. Also, we had a long talk a few

months ago about his future and the future of the church. He has not prepared anyone to take over. He is ready to retire, but hasn't done his "homework".

The church is in good shape, but has suffered a number of splits in the past few years. The church has several problematic members. Put them on your prayer list.

I also held a meeting for our chapel at Cruzeiroinho. They are doing well and we had good crowds and results from that meeting.

Thanksgiving was a huge success. We have had our Thanksgiving celebration in our small groups for several years now. The last one that we held with the church all together on the third floor of our annex we had 930 present. Since then, we had to go to smaller meetings in homes. Although not all of our groups reported back, we still have well over one thousand members participating. The group that Bev and I are part of had 14 couples.

You didn't notice, but I had to stop to talk to the pastor of our church in the city of Thaumaturgo. He wants me for a meeting in July. Talk about a missionary machine: First Baptist Church of Thaumaturgo is just that. We organized that church

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on page 4 - CREIGLOW

**BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS
NEWS & REPORTS**

(USPS 353-140)

is published monthly by Baptist Faith Missions
Baptist Faith Missions, c/o David Pitman
PO Box 286; Addyston, OH 45001


Periodicals Postage Paid at Lexington KY
and at additional mailing offices

POSTMASTER:


Send address changes to
Baptist Faith Missions News & Reports
736 Berry Lane, Lexington KY 40502


To receive this newsletter free of charge,
please send your name and mailing address to:
wainright50@gmail.com

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You can also contribute online at www.bfmnow.org using the "Give" button. If it is for a specific missionary or project, it should be so designated. The greatest need each month is for the Missionary Support Fund.

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RECOVERING FROM SURGERY; NEW TERM STARTED



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January 10, 2025

Greetings in the name of
Jesus Christ,

First, let me give you all an update on Julie and her health. If you remember, Julie had to be rushed to the emergency room last month and, after being admitted to the hospital, ended up having surgery to remove her gall bladder. She came home a couple days later and spent the majority of December recovering from her surgery and from having an organ removed. She is recovering nicely, although with Chloe around she wasn't able to rest as much as we would have liked (Chloe can be a little demanding). Anyway, Julie is mostly recovered from her surgery. I don't think she is experiencing any more pain, but she still is getting tired quickly so she's not quite at

100%. But we thank God for watching over her and that she is almost back to full strength. Thank you all for your prayers.

In other news, we have started a new term at the school. I am still the Finance Manager of the school. I find this position challenging because most students constantly struggle to pay their fees. To a westerner, their fees are small, but to them, their fees are large and overwhelming. As Finance Manager I have to balance helping these beloved students stay in school and continue their Bible education with also ensuring that they pay their fees. It is definitely stressful for both them and me. To date, I have never made a student leave the school because they couldn't pay their fees. God has always helped us to together come up with a plan to cover their fees. This term has been a bit different, though.

Way too many students are not able to pay and it is causing me a lot of grief and heartache. I stress over and over to them that my goal for them is to mightily serve the Kingdom of Christ and God's people. How can they do that if they drop out of school because of finances? God, please help us.

In Class news, I am teaching Pauline Epistles and Basic Theology 1. Pauline Epistles is a new class for me to teach but what a joy and privilege to teach these beloved students the things that Paul taught his first century churches and believers. Basic Theology is a course I have taught before. Why teach these students theology? It is not just to fill their young minds with information even though Peter did say to "grow in the grace and KNOWLEDGE of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18) and Paul instructed Titus to "teach sound doctrine" (Titus 2:1).

Blessings to all,
Roger, Julie, & Chloe

PRAY FOR OUR COUNCIL OF DIRECTORS

Terry Adkins • Harold Draper • Philip duBarry
Benton Glover • Paul Hatcher • Dan Hillard
Kenny Hurst • Randy Jones • Darrell Messer
David Mitchell • Dave Parks • Mark Pyles
David Pitman • George Sledd • Sheridan Stanton
Jonathan Turner • Steve Wainright
May God give them wisdom and discernment.

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.

OPPORTUNITIES TO PRESENT BGB SEMINARY AT BRAZILIAN CONFERENCES



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January 10, 2025

Dear friends and family,

I hope all is well with our families and friends and that a wonderful time was had by all during the Christmas season. Now, we're looking forward to the new year of 2025. We were blessed this year to have our family all together for the first time in two years, both from Kentucky and from Brazil. God is so good and AWESOME.

So, to all: I hope your New Year's resolutions come to the conclusion you have wished, dreamed, and prayed for this New Year!

With these celebrations and holidays behind us we can say this has been a wonderful year for the B.G.B. Seminary also. We have been in Brazil 3 or 4 times this year with Mission Conferences in São Paulo, Brazil and in Manaus, Amazonas, with the Bible Baptist Fellowship. In those two conferences we had over 300 in attendance at each conference. We were able to present the B.G.B. Seminary to those who were present. And through them, we have been able to increase the number of students interested in our

seminary.

Now for January 2025, we are invited to participate with perhaps the largest convention of Baptists in all of Brazil. There will be more than 2,500 (YES, 2,500) pastors in attendance, many of whom are interested and desperate for affordable theological education. As of now, we have been invited to set up a kiosk with literature about Bluegrass Baptist Seminary. At some time during the conference, we will have a slot to speak to the group about our goals and objectives for the seminary. This will be the 104th assembly of the Brazilian Convention in Fortaleza, Brazil. The dates are January 29 to February 2. I will be traveling on the 28th of January with Dr. Derek Coleman, one of our principal professors, and we covet your prayers.

While there, we will be interviewed by 3 different Brazilian seminaries about our seminary. These seminaries are interested in our Masters Programs to help them with advanced degrees they do not have. Please pray for this trip, as with the other conferences, we have seen an increase in the numbers of students in our seminary. So with this being the largest conference we have participated with, we are in high expectations!

"Please pray for this trip, as with the other conferences, we have seen an increase in the numbers of students in our seminary."

"So with this being the largest conference we have participated with, we are in high expectations!"
Aj Hensley

GOD IS AWESOME!!!!

This year we have 37 students for our March semester. This is our rebuilding after COVID. Keep the seminary in your prayers. With this conference there is great potential for more students for B.G.B. Seminary. GOD IS GOOD.

Remember in our last graduations we had 9 students (pastors) who received the Masters of Arts in Pastoral Ministries and 13 others received Masters of Arts in Biblical Studies—AWESOME!!! And we have 6 students in the PhD program. Within these 6, we have one student who is two years into the program. He is a missionary to the Jews in São Paulo, Brazil, so keep him in your prayers along with myself and Barbara, our professors (there are 5 of them, all of which are volunteers), and the students. Pray also for the traveling we will be doing this year, and for our health and finances.

In His service,
Aj and Barbara



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CREIGLOW
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CHRISTMAS MUSICAL & MORE!

Watch the musical online!

 YouTube

Search for "PIB_CZS Musical de Natal 2024"



*Note: Everything is in Portuguese, but the storyline is easy to follow.

in 2008. They have started new works all around and send out missionaries in a steady stream. Now back to the report.

Here at home we have had 2 more baptism services. I Baptized 31 in November and Pastor Benjamim baptized 23 in December. We continue to have a constant flow of people being saved, baptized and new members coming from other places. Also, newborns are being introduced to our family almost weekly.

Our missionaries have been very active. We have been very busy on the Boa Fé River. Pastor Ezi baptized several for our congregations at Gama and Generoso. We have 2 teams working to share the gospel with every person along the river. One team is working from Gama downstream to the where it flows into the Juruá river. The other team is working upstream from Gama to the last house near the mountains in the far west of Brazil.

The Christmas Musical was just wonderful. My daughter Crissy, who writes the script and directs the whole production, went way beyond the call of duty again. The theme was "Christmas: As told by Jesus". She even included the ascension

of Jesus and the second coming. We had well over 1,000 present every night, but one. At least 8 people were saved. I will include a picture of the cast, 217 people. This doesn't include all the folks who work as ushers, parking lot, etc. Over 350 church members participate directly. If you look closely at the lower left hand corner you might see the old guy who preached 4 of the 6 nights.

Let me add a couple of things before I close. First, my health has been much better for the past several months. I had surgery in the US in July to remove 2 squamous cell cancers from my head. Two months ago, I had a non-malignant removed from my right arm. I finally found a cancer specialist in Rio Branco in November and he is a Baptist and ready to follow my case.

Then a word of thanks to those who have given toward the new canoe. Some have designated funds and others gave to be used as needed. This has made it possible to purchase the motor and the aluminum for the boat. We start the build next week! Thank you so much.

This report is way too long, but it had been so long since I wrote. I have been working long hours and have not been in my



office much at all for months, but no excuse. I must report more regularly. My fault. Please forgive me.

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

In Christ,
Mike Creiglow





GRACEXTENDED!

GracExtended is a new initiative where the BFM directors will identify other ministries to support in a strategic way, further extending our mission efforts. Some of this support will go to current BFM missionaries as they seek to train and encourage local pastors and engage in new opportunities. Additional support will go to selected ministries outside our normal outreach, as we seek to partner with like-minded church-planting organizations. Below is one of the projects our support assists.

Bethersden Baptist Church, England



From Grace Baptist Partnership:
"We are delighted to announce that Bethersden Baptist Church has issued an invitation to Gavin Peacock to become their Locum Pastor for a period of 12 months commencing in February 2025. Please pray for Gavin and his wife as they prepare to return to the United Kingdom early in the New Year. Please pray for

Bethersden Baptist Church to be revitalised to Biblical health and enabled to appoint a new Pastor. Please pray for Grace Baptist Church in Bexleyheath and other churches in our Partnership as they seek to assist in various ways. Above all, pray that the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified through this endeavour."



Ways to Pray:

- ▶▶ Please pray for the churches in the United Kingdom that are part of Grace Baptist Partnership.
- ▶▶ Pray specifically for Bethersden Baptist Church in Kent (Southeast England) to be revitalized to Biblical health and enabled to appoint a new pastor.
- ▶▶ Pray for Pastor Gavin Peacock and his wife (pictured, left) as they return to the United Kingdom to assist at Bethersden Baptist Church for one year.

18 NEW APPRENTICES IN TRAINING & SHARING THE GOSPEL



Bobby & Charlene Wacaser

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February 2, 2025

Dear Friends,

I was in Brazil the last couple of weeks training a new group of missionary volunteers for this new year. Our traveling evangelism ministry partner, Projeto Vida, tries to put together at least two training seminars per year: one in January and one in July. This past month we had 18 new volunteer apprentices coming from four different states. A couple of other veteran missionaries and I were the speakers/mentors for this conference. We spent one week in the biblical study of missions and evangelism and then the students accompanied our experienced team of missionaries on a 10-hour trip to the southernmost state of Brazil, Rio Grande do Sul. There in a coastal city called Canoas, they spent the final week in one-on-one evangelism and outreach. The Lord blessed tremendously in at least two predominant ways: Lost listeners heard the gospel message and surrendered their lives to Christ and, also, our new volunteers were overwhelmed with how much the Lord used them to share the love of Jesus to the lost and are excited about getting out there and participating more.

While in Brazil, my former co-pastor, now senior pastor, invited me to speak to my former church. The good folks gave me such a warm reception. It was very encouraging to see how well Cledson has taken up the reins and how well he and his wife, Fabiane, are leading the church. One of the impressive details about Cledson's leadership is how he guided

the church through a very difficult and painful move to other facilities. I know how hard that can be since I've done it a couple of times throughout our ministry. It was clear that the Lord was doing the leading, because of the better location and lower costs. The former building was located quite a distance from a major road or street, but their new location is right in front of a main city bus terminal and a neighborhood park. During the course of a week, tens of thousands of residents pass right in front of the new location. The park also offers ample opportunities for evangelistic outreach through social interaction with the visitors and residents. And, as I mentioned, this better location also comes with a better price. God is so good!

I spoke with Yago and Manoela, our missionaries to Portugal this week. They shared the news that Manoela's pregnancy is going fine. Yago got some good news about his "tent-making" vocational income as well. Microsoft Portugal has handed him a new set of working orders which assure that they will continue to receive a good portion of their financial support for an extended period. He had told me a couple of months ago that they had not received any contract information, and they were concerned that their income might cease. Yago conveyed to me, though, that he and Manoela were certain that the Lord was not finished using them in Portugal yet, so they were prayerfully seeking His leading and sustenance. With this new work order information, they can rejoice now that the Lord has confirmed their presence there for some time. We continue to pray for them to win lost Portuguese people to Christ and to build the church there.

On a personal note: After nearly three

months, Charlene and I were able to move out of the hotel back into our home. The repairs after Hurricane Milton are nearly done, lacking only the kitchen cabinet tops and a little bit of electrical work. We still have not had much success getting our insurance companies to pay their due protection, but we will continue to appeal the process and pray that the Lord will lead us to a viable solution.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and kind support. We pray that 2025 will be a year full of ministry opportunities and results.

In Christ's love,
Bobby and Charlene Wacaser

HATCHER *continued from page 8*

as Savior. They were married in 2018 and lived in Paris until last year. When they moved back to our area last year, they began participating in the church here.

A young lady about 20 years old was saved and baptized about a year and a half ago. She is active in church, youth meetings, ladies' prayer meetings and Bible study with our granddaughters Camille and Emily. She also meets regularly with two friends who are interested in Christ for Bible study. She does all of this while going to Engineering school and working.

It is a delight to see what God is doing! We are glad to have you as part of our team.

Your brother and sister,
John and Judy Hatcher

*"It is a delight to see what God is doing! We are glad to have you as part of our team."
John Mark Hatcher*

Quotable Quote

But so live, that when you hear the funeral knell, for a neighbour even, you may be able to say, "Poor soul, whether he is gone to heaven or to hell, I know I am clear of his blood." And with double earnestness be it so with your children. "Yes," says one "but I have thought of teaching my children more of Christ, and being more earnest in prayer for them bye-and-bye," but what if they should die to-morrow? "Yes," says the wife, "I have thought of speaking to my ungodly husband, and trying to induce him to attend the house of God with me, but I was afraid he would only laugh at me, so I put it off for a month or two." Ah! what if he dies before you have cleared your conscience of him?

Oh, my brothers and sisters in Christ, if sinners will be damned, at least let them leap to hell over our bodies; and if they will perish, let them perish with our arms about their knees, imploring them to stay, and not madly to destroy themselves. If hell must be filled, at least let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let not one go there unwarned and unprayed for.

{Charles H. Spurgeon}

"The Wailing of Risca", December 9, 1860

LEGACY GIFTS - PLEASE CONSIDER REMEMBERING OUR PENSIONERS IN YOUR WILL

Ever since our Traditional Pension Fund was established years ago, that Fund has been supplied by numerous generous gifts that have been given to BFM. Some have donated properties to BFM and the sales of those properties have been allocated to our Pension Fund. Others have bequeathed Legacy Gifts to BFM in their wills.

These gifts have sustained the on-going ministry of helping to support our Veteran Missionary Pensioners in their senior years after they are no longer physically able to continue their active on-the-field service.

This is just another way you can perpetuate your partnership in missionary support for years to come. We pray you will consider helping our missionaries in this way.

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P.O. Box 471280
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designated.

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



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NEWS & REPORTS

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February 2025 Issue

ONLINE EDITION

PRAY & PRAISE

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▶ ROGER & JULIE TATE: PRAISE GOD for Julie's successful surgery and continue to pray as she recovers! PRAY the Lord would provide for Roger's students at school. [PAGE 2]

▶ BOBBY & CHARLENE WACASER: PRAISE GOD for 18 new volunteer apprentices training with Projeto Vida & sharing the Gospel with the lost! PRAY for Yago and Manoela as they seek to win lost Portuguese people to Christ. [PAGE 6]

PRAY ALSO FOR OUR OTHER FAITHFUL MISSIONARY FAMILIES!

ODALI & KATHY BARROS
JUD & RAQUEL HATCHER



www.bfmnow.org

GOD AT WORK IN YOUR WORK WITH US



John Mark & Judy Hatcher

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January 14, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for your prayers and generous support. Judy and I are doing fine and are thrilled to see God at work. Yesterday afternoon we left Galen, Tammy and Holly Gerig at the Toulouse airport to begin their return to Ohio after having spent a wonderful five days together. They have supported us for years and we enjoyed their company as we were able to introduce them to some of those whose life God has touched.

Your work with us enables us to have regular Bible studies in six different locations as well as the regular Sunday meetings here in Plaisance du Touch. Judy and

I also spend time counseling believers to help them learn and apply God's principles to their personal and family lives. There is also regular pastoral work such as visiting the sick. Our Savior often uses human difficulties to lead individuals to understand their need of Him.

"Your work with us enables us to have regular Bible studies in six different locations as well as the regular Sunday meetings here in Plaisance du Touch..."

John Mark Hatcher

We are delighted with those that the Lord has added to our congregation this past year. Among them is a couple who are believers with a two-year-old son and another child on the way. The husband started Bible study with Judy and me about 12 years ago.

After studying the Bible together for about a year, he trusted Christ as Savior and followed the Lord in baptism. He later moved to Germany and met a girl there from El Salvador. She started going to church with him and trusted the Lord

HATCHER

Continued on page 6

"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ..."

- Philippians 1:3-6 -