

NEW FACILITY, MENTORSHIP, CAMP, & MORE

An update from the Hatchers in Brazil.

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DELIGHTED TO SEE GOD AT WORK

John Mark Hatcher shares how God is working through Bible Studies France.

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PERSECUTION IN AFRICA

Roger Tate requests prayer for a student/pastor who has been threatened by a gang.

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SAVE THE DATE!

Join us in Lexington, Kentucky July 28-30 for our Summer Conference!

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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

INTRODUCING PASTORS TO BLUEGRASS BAPTIST SEMINARY



AJ & Barbara Hensley

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March 10, 2025

Dear friends and family,
Hope this letter finds each of you in good health. For us, the travel and the dental surgery in Brazil is over for a while. But during this time, Pastor Derek and I were in Fortaleza attending a conference of Brazilian Baptist pastors and, though it was tiring, it was successful.

We met many pastors and were able to get information about our Bluegrass Baptist Seminary in the hands of many of them to take back to present to their churches. We were able to schedule meetings with some of their churches and we are working on those meetings. It is just going slow, as all things do in Brazil. The bulk of these meetings will be in Paraguay and, at that meeting, the pastors hope to have 40 or 50 other pastors in attendance.

These pastors that we were



AJ Hensley sitting in their booth to promote the seminary.

able to talk to were very excited for the prospect of having the availability of a seminary in their town. Here we are looking for much interest and for the seminary to reach many more students. At this conference we did not have a speaking role, but as I said we were able to talk to many interested pastors.

Our semester is starting on March 10 and we will have four different classes in the Master's Program with an enrollment

of approximately 50 pastors! Also, the Doctor of Theology program for this semester has grown; we now have SEVEN students. God is AWESOME!! Going back to our upcoming meeting in Paraguay, it will hopefully be in June. We are waiting on our pastor friend, the pastor of the Bible Baptist Church in São Paulo, to set the date. All this will be decided around the dedication of their new church building.

We are trying to get as much done as possible in this time period as we can. We will have three more pastors complete their Master's Program. So, as you can see, we will be very, very busy so I ask for your prayers during that time.

While we were in Fortaleza, we had a Brazilian helper who helped us with some of the administrative paperwork. All the volunteers make this seminary program really work. The professors, the U.S. pastors with PhDs and doctorates, one Brazilian pastor professor, and our translators help get the classes to the online system which allows all those who want to learn more about God and His Word do so. We are now presenting these classes in THREE countries, and we are looking forward to adding the fourth country, Paraguay, in the future.




In His service,
Aj and Barbara



View more pictures
at bfmnow.org

**BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS
NEWS & REPORTS**

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@BFMNOW**continued from page 8**

threatened Solomon, telling him that if he did not pay the required money that the gang would burn his church to the ground, kill his wife and children, and then kill Solomon. Beloved, this is no idle or empty threat. This is a real threat and the danger is very real. All the students in my small group verified that these gangs exist and their threats can and often are carried out. Solomon was obviously distraught. He fears for the safety of his family. He fears for his own life. I told Solomon that his fear was legitimate and understandable, and all the students agreed. Solomon went to the police and reported the threat, but you can believe

that this does not give him any comfort.

Our group spent a great amount of time praying for Solomon and his family, but we all feel helpless to know what else we can do for him, besides prayer and advice. I remain impressed by Solomon's faith and fortitude in this situation. He himself says that we serve a mighty God and that like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace, God can protect him from the threats of the evil gang. While Solomon does not want to be afraid, he is still afraid. I would be too (terrified would be a better word to describe my feelings if I were in the same circumstances). He also does not want to die but says he is willing to die if that is the outcome that God wants

and will bring Him the most glory. Solomon is determined to not pay the gang (he couldn't pay their exorbitant extortion fee anyway) and to continue ministering to his people in Jesus' name.

Father God, I pray that you would continue to protect this good and godly man, Solomon. I pray that you would protect his family and keep them safe from harm. Make the threats of the gang empty. Remove any power that this gang has to threaten or harm Solomon or anyone else. Protect his church and his people so that they might be able to continue to proclaim the gospel and spread the love of Jesus in their community. Oh God, do this for your glory and for the good of your people in Kenya. Amen.

Blessings to all,

Roger, Julie & Chloe

A DELIGHT TO SEE GOD AT WORK

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March 19, 2025

Dear Fellow Disciples of
Jesus Christ,

We thank God for you and your participation in what God is doing here. The past few days have been extremely

windy here. It is a reminder of a verse that Judy and I quote often "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit." (John 3:8) God is at work in ways that are invisible like the wind, but the results are obvious.

Last night, we were at the regular Bible study meeting in Mazere about an hour and a half drive south of us. This is a group of believers who would have to drive an hour and a half to participate in a Baptist or similar church. We have been holding meetings in this city for about 20

years. Douceline, a believing young lady, moved to this city at that time. She was very discouraged because she knew no other believers in Christ with whom she could fellowship in that region. Judy and I decided to offer coming to her home weekly for Bible study and fellowship. Douceline loved the idea and soon began seeing herself as a light for Jesus in the area. She is the director of a History Museum in this city and has contact with many people. She began inviting people to the weekly Bible study we were having in her apartment. Over the years we

**HATCHER**
Continued on page 3

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.**

109 PROFESS FAITH IN CHRIST IN SOUTHERN BRAZILIAN VACATION TOWN + 79 REDEDICATE LIVES TO CHRIST



Bobby &
Charlene
Wacaser

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March 3, 2025

Dear Friends,

Everybody needs a little vacation time, of course, but I'm glad that Brazil's summer vacation has come to an end. Remembering that, south of the equator, the seasons are the opposite of those in the USA. Fall is beginning and students are returning to school, our main venue for evangelistic outreach. We did take advantage of the summer break, though, to host a volunteer missionary training seminar and the results were wonderful. After two weeks of study on the biblical foundation of missions and evangelism, we took our team of 17 full-time missionaries and

16 first-time volunteers to a vacation town on the coast of southern Brazil to minister in the public squares and parks. Our team had the opportunity to share the gospel to over 1600 people. Of these, there were 109 who made a public profession of faith in Jesus. There were also 79 more who rededicated their lives to Christ who realized that they had left their first love and were living in disobedience to God. Now that the summer break is over, though, we have the whole school year scheduled for gospel presentations to thousands of students and staff. Please pray that the Lord will use our teams to bring many of them to a saving knowledge of Christ.

Yago and Manoela are doing well in Portugal. Not without extreme trials, though. I shared last month

that they got the news that Manoela was pregnant and that they are both very excited about the coming of their first baby. A few weeks ago, Manoela experienced some strange pains and discomfort and sought medical attention. Not to go

into details, I ask that you pray for the Lord to miraculously heal Manoela and her baby. Both are in grave danger of loss of life. They were counseled to abort the baby, but they both refused to do this. May the Lord do what only He can do.

A group of our missions partners are scheduled to arrive in Curitiba this week for a week of evangelistic ministry with Projeto Vida,

our outreach team. We are excited to see all that God will do through them together as they share the gospel in several public schools and parks. We know that they will be both a blessing and be blessed as they allow the Lord to use them in this ministry.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support.

In Christ's love,

Bobby and Charlene
Wacaser

"...we have the whole school year scheduled for gospel presentations to thousands of students and staff. Please pray that the Lord will use our teams to bring many of them to a saving knowledge of Christ."

- Bobby Wacaser -

HATCHER *continued from page 2*

have had scores of interested people participate. The group now is mostly believers growing in the Lord and we meet in the home of a couple on a farm just outside the city. Just one example of how the many outreaches God has given us began.

Tonight, we will be in a Bible study hosted by Blandine, Douceline's sister, in a city about an half hour drive

north of us. We will be meeting on a Wednesday instead of the typical Thursday night meeting because this is the beginning of the New Year in Iran. Blandine's husband is Iranian and they will be celebrating the Holiday with Iranian friends on Thursday. God has saved individuals in this Bible study during the last couple of years. It is delightful to see God at work.

As I close, I want to tell you about two wonderful blessings among many for which Judy and I are especially thankful to our Heavenly Father. March 3rd was our 52nd marriage anniversary. We are so thankful for the children, their spouses and the grandchildren He has given us. What a delight it has been and is to serve the Lord in three continents and experience the

way He has worked around us and the great number of friends and brothers and sisters in Christ God has given to us. Judy had cataract surgery on both eyes during the first couple weeks of March and she is doing very well and can see much better. Thank you for your prayers.

Your sister and brother in Christ,

John and Judy Hatcher

AN UPDATE FROM THE HATCHERS IN BRAZIL: NEW FACILITY, DISCIPLESHIP, FAMILY CAMP, MENTORSHIP, & MORE



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São Paulo, Brasil

April 2, 2025

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Greetings from Brazil! We are excited to share how God has moved in our ministry over the past few months. Your prayers and support have been instrumental in these blessings, and we are grateful for your partnership in the Gospel.

CHRISTMAS EVANGELISTIC PRODUCTION

December was an incredible month. We hosted a Christmas evangelistic production that was attended by 406 people in two presentations. We rejoiced to see 16 individuals make decisions for Christ! Praise God for the work He is doing, and please continue praying for these new believers as they take their first steps of faith.

NEW CHURCH FACILITY AND FIRST WEDDING

In January, we had the joy of moving into our newly leased church facility! This was a milestone moment for our people and has already been a tremendous blessing. We celebrated our very first wedding in the new location—what a wonderful

way to maximize the usage of this space!—we received extended family members and friends of the couple with the opportunity to share the Gospel message during the ceremony.

DISCIPLESHIP CLASS FOR NEW BELIEVERS

After the big Christmas production, we continue to focus on spiritual growth and launched a discipleship class for those who have recently come to Christ. This has been a great time of grounding them in biblical truths and preparing them to walk faithfully with the Lord. Please pray for these new believers as they grow in their faith.

"ZEAL" FAMILY CAMP

We had an amazing two-day youth camp called "Zeal," which was filled with fun, fellowship, and most importantly, a deep dive into God's Word. The energy and enthusiasm of these families was contagious, and we are encouraged by their desire to live boldly for Christ.

SOCCER EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP

Our evangelism and discipleship efforts through soccer continue to thrive. The outreach is growing, and we are seeing lives transformed through the relationships built on and off the field. Please pray for endurance,

wisdom, and continued fruit in this ministry.

THE TOGETHERNESS NETWORK

Pastors and churches part of the Togetherness Network continue to grow and collaborate with each other on building projects and other evangelist and discipleship efforts. Pastoral mentorship and fostering relationships are a significant component of my ministry to these pastors. The church plant in Marilia is growing steadily and has partnered with Heritage Baptist Church in Lexington, KY, for prayer, support and mission trips.

FAMILY UPDATE

On the home front, we have much to celebrate! Our daughter Laura is preparing to graduate high school in June and will be heading to Liberty University in August. We are incredibly proud of her and excited to see what God has in store for her next chapter. We also had two birthdays recently, Sarah turned 20 and Benjamin 17. We thank the Lord for the blessings of family and the joy they bring to our lives. Melissa is in 7th grade and has grown tremendously in her academics and has become a key player in the sports competitions against other schools in São Paulo.

Raquel is actively train-

ing foster care parents, social workers, and childcare givers through online and in-person training modules and seminars. She also leads the fantastic children's team leaders as we work with kids through our current church plant.

Thank you for praying for and supporting us. We are grateful for your faithfulness and encouragement as we continue the work God has called us to do here in Brazil. May the Lord bless you abundantly!

PRAYER REQUESTS

1) Judson is recovering from left knee surgery and may have to operate on the right knee.

2) Laura twisted her ankle during volleyball practice at school, the MRI shows two torn ligaments.

3) Church growth, evangelism and discipleship.

4) Meetings with the Rawlings Foundation regarding camps in Brazil, networking and local church discipleship of kids who accept Christ during a camp.

5) Assisting with the translation of materials for the first Masters in Youth Ministry in Brazil that begins in August 2025.

Always grateful,
Judson & Raquel
Missionaries to Brazil

➡ See pictures on page 5!

SCENES FROM SÃO PAULO

Pictures from Jud Hatcher (Read his latest letter on page 4)



First wedding in newly leased church facility



The Hatcher Family



"For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God..." [Colossians 1:9-10]

View more pictures online!
bfmnow.org/faithworks-blog



Raquel and her dad



Laura & Benjamin leading a group of kids



Soccer Outreach in São Paulo



BFM SUMMER CONFERENCE 2025

Majesty & Mercy MAGNIFIED THROUGH MISSIONS



JULY 28-30, 2025
(Monday - Wednesday)






New Life Baptist Church
Lexington, KY

333 Redding Road; Lexington, KY 40517

Pastor Steve Wainright
859-983-9335
www.nlbclex.com

Stay tuned for more details coming soon!

The tract John A. Hatcher often used to share the Gospel:

<p>Nearly 2,000 years ago three crosses were raised in Jerusalem.</p>  <p>Luke 23:33-43</p>	 <p>Jesus died on the middle cross. He died to save sinners.</p>	 <p>One thief made fun and ridiculed Jesus. He died and went to eternal punishment.</p>	 <p>The other thief recognized that he was a sinner and asked for mercy; he went to Heaven.</p>	 <p>One the first day of the week Jesus raised from the cdead. He can save all who trust Him.</p>
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This is the message of Three Crosses that I heard as a young boy that transformed my life forever. I drew this tract and use it for evangelizing the lost.

REMEMBERING THE WITNESS OF JOHN A. HATCHER

APRIL 30, 1925 - MAY 14, 2022
MISSIONARY TO BRAZIL
1955-2015

"The greatest joy of the day is when there is an opportunity to tell someone about the Savior."



"Each day I ask the Lord to give me opportunities to tell the Gospel to someone. I have had great opportunities. I always remember: Every person who dies lost will spend an eternity in Hell. Jesus can save if they believe, BUT, no one can believe unless they hear. Lord, help us to be faithful in telling the Story!"

HAS SOMEONE IN YOUR CHURCH BEEN CALLED TO MISSIONS ABROAD?

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO WORLDWIDE MISSIONS?

LET'S GO!

► STEP 1

We come alongside of Baptist churches in sending God-called missionaries.

► STEP 2

We ask other Baptist churches to join us in financial and prayerful support.

► STEP 3

You take part in fulfilling the Great Commission and church-planting missions in the nations of the world.

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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All offerings should be addressed to:

BFM, c/o George Sledd
P.O. Box 471280
Lake Monroe, FL 32747-1280

If your offering is for a specific missionary or project, it should be so designated.

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



BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

NEWS & REPORTS

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

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April 2025 Issue

**ONLINE
EDITION**

PRAY & PRAISE

...IN THIS ISSUE

▶ JOHN MARK & JUDY HATCHER:

PRAISE GOD for how He is working in the weekly Bible Studies initiated by Douceline and Blandine! PRAY He will draw more people to Himself in these cities. [PAGE 2]

▶ **JUD & RAQUEL HATCHER:** PRAISE GOD for the work He is doing and PRAY for the new believers as they grow in their faith. [PAGE 4]

▶ **AJ & BARBARA HENSLEY:** PRAISE GOD for the opportunity to meet lots of pastors in Fortaleza and introduce them to the Bluegrass Baptist Seminary! PRAY as they make plans for seminary classes in Paraguay this summer. [PAGE 1]

▶ **ROGER & JULIE TATE:** PRAISE GOD for Solomon's faith and fortitude and PRAY that God would protect him, his family, and his church. [PAGE 8]

▶ **BOBBY & CHARLENE WACASER:** PRAISE GOD for the opportunity to share the Gospel with over 1600 people! PRAY for those who made a public profession of faith in Jesus and those who rededicated their lives to Christ. PRAY for God's miraculous healing touch in the lives of Yago, Manoela, and their baby. [PAGE 3]

**PRAY ALSO FOR OUR OTHER
FAITHFUL MISSIONARIES!**

MIKE & BEVERLY CREIGLOW

FAITH & FORTITUDE IN THE FACE OF PERSECUTION



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Tate

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March 10, 2025

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ,

I had somber news last month when I talked about the wars and conflicts in Congo and our students who are living and ministering there. I guess I will have to follow up last month's somber news with some additional somber news for this month. I'm not being somber on purpose, folks, believe me. Some things just strike me hard and those are sometimes the things I feel like I should report so that you all can know what life here in Kenya is really like and what it means to be a follower of Christ in other places of the world.

Here at the school, we have small groups where faculty have a number of students that they can meet with multiple times per week and they can mentor and disciple the students in life, ministry, and other practical areas. I have ten great guys in my group and we meet a couple of times every week to talk about...well...life, ministry, and other prac-

tical things. It is a good time for the guys to talk, ask questions, pray, and on occasion, eat. One of our past meetings was spent allowing just one of our guys to talk, express his fears and anxieties, and for us to advise him and pray for him. I will refer to him with a pseudonym (Solomon) in order to keep him safe. Solomon is one of our few "older" students who is already married with some children. He is already a pastor of a church and is attending school here to learn how to better minister the Word of God to God's people.

After last Sunday's service, Solomon received a phone call, a call no one ever wants to receive. The call was from a local gang of thugs, the name of which I will also omit from this report. After a few pleasantries, the gang leader informed Solomon that he knew all about him, that he knew Solomon's wife (which he named), his children (which he named and the names of their schools), his church (which he named), and his house (which location he gave). The gang leader then informed Solomon of the amount of money Solomon was going to give him. The gang leader then

 **TATE**

Continued on page 2

BFM SUMMER CONFERENCE 2025

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JULY 28-30, 2025 | Lexington, KY

[More details inside on page 6]




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