

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

1 Corinthians 15:58

Dear Praying Friends,

# Wednesday, January 29, 2025

The last few months have been very busy as we abound in the work of the Lord. Our labor has definitely not been in vain. We are so thankful for our supporting churches and praying friends. Your prayers and support allow us to focus on God's calling for our lives. There is too much going on to try to put into a small letter but here are some highlights from the past few months:



## Pastor Rodgers and All Saints Day

It was a pleasure to host Pastor Shane Rodgers and his family from North Harrison Baptist Church in southern Indiana for a few days at the end of October and beginning of November. They helped us preach, teach, paint and canvass. They also came to help our ministry on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, which is All Saints Day here in Brazil. Thousands go to the cemetery and light

candles for their dead loved ones on this Catholic holiday.

Every year the whole church goes to the cemeteries for a day of soul winning. This time our church along with the Rodgers went to four different cemeteries in three different cities and passed out approximately six thousand John and Romans and tracts. Several people were saved as well as several folks contacting us afterwards via WhatsApp.





## **Pastor Hanks and Camp**

In mid November I had the privilege of preaching at a youth camp five hours north of Taubaté to over 100 teenagers. The teens were so receptive and responsive. The altars were full every service and many, many decisions were made for the glory of God! While I was there with my wife some of our church people were at a family camp in another city where Pastor Scott Hanks from Heritage Baptist Church of

Lawrence, Kansas was the keynote speaker. From that camp they came to Taubaté for a few days. He preached

Sunday night to our church and to our Bible institute students on Tuesday night. It is exciting to be able to host groups and pastors from the States and we are so thankful for their effort to come visit. Both groups were such a blessing!



## Christmas Cantata



The weekend before Christmas our church choir had the privilege of proclaiming the Gospel message through a narrative of the Christmas story. We presented on Saturday in Pinda (the neighboring city at Missionary Keith Putnam's church) and on Sunday at our church. They did a beautiful job. As a church we also found sponsors to "adopt" 56 kids. Every sponsor bought their child a pair of tennis shoes, a toy and a clothing article. For many of these kids this is the only gift they

receive for Christmas. We invite the sponsors, the kids and their families to participate for the cantata and give them their gifts afterwards. This is something we have done every year for the past three years. The auditorium was packed with many, many visitors and several decisions for Christ were made.





#### **Bible Institute Graduation**

On Saturday December 28th, we had a graduation for the Bible institute. Guilherme and Diego both graduated after years of hard work, perseverance and faithfulness to their studies! We are excited to see how God will continue to use the lives of these faithful servants. They are both on staff at the church and Diego will be assisting me with the church plant in Cacapava this year. We are also thankful for the good enrollment this semester and look forward to continue teaching and training servants for the Lord!

On a personal note, it was great to have our daughter, Abigail, visit us for two weeks over Christmas break. She is in her second year in Bible college. We are very proud of Abigail and

our son, Daniel. Thank you so much for your prayers.

#### **Salvation Story**

Mario, a fifteen-year-old teenager, visited our church because of an invitation from a friend. He got saved and started coming to church. He brought his mother as well as his twin sister but his father did not come. I went to visit the family and was able to meet and lead their father, Ricardo to the Lord! The family has been faithful to church since and it is exciting to see Ricardo along with his wife wanting to study in the Bible institute this semester!





In the service of the King,

The Ed Johnson Family Church-planting Missionaries in Brazil since 2008

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