



We gather our team, head out to the lake and load the Asas de Socorro mission boat and Operation Amazon barge with water filters, material, baggage and food. **You're a vital part of this team!** This time we are partnering with Asas de Socorro staff, Operation Amazon (Dennis Sohn), Mill Swamp Baptist Church (VA), Woodridge Community Church, WI (Lori and Dave) Richwoods Church, IL (Pr. Tim and Lorrie), New Life Church (VBS) Central Church (Manaus), Ray of Hope and **YOU**. Just think, it's the maiden voyage of the OA barge to begin serving the people in river communities all throughout the Amazon and meet spiritual, health and educational needs through evangelism, medical/dental clinics and church and

school construction. We are so excited to have you with us through your prayers and partnership. Soooo... **LET'S GO!**

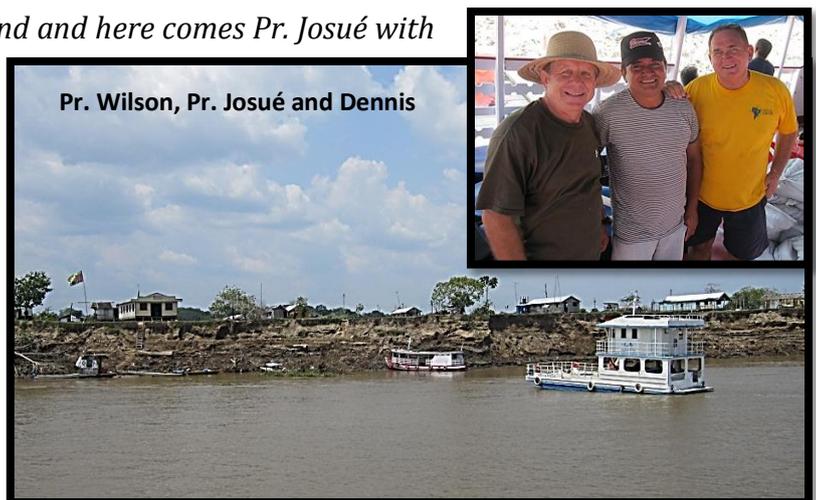
It's a four hour trip... time enough to organize the kitchen and materials, put up the hammocks and enjoy the sights and sounds of the jungle. It's incredibly **HOT** and **HUMID**. Do you feel it? Dry season is the hottest time of the year, but what a day... sunny and bright, blue skies and not a hint of rain.

Look, there's the village located on an island and here comes Pr. Josué with his wife Maria. After organizing the agenda for our stay the men began installing water filters provided through a special donation from Mill Swamp Baptist Church, VA. They share God's message of love and Salvation while pouring in the sand, gravel and water. The very first water filter is installed in a woman's house who doesn't know the Lord. A while ago she was very sick and the pastor felt led to go to her home and pray for her. She sent



him away. Now this

couple is skeptical and isn't sure if they want our help, but is willing to give it a try. By the time the team leaves this couple is so moved they gladly welcome not only the team but the pastor in their home any time. Lori begins cutting hair, lots of it, while we get to know the villagers. There are only three hours left to work and minister before the sun sets and families prepare dinner and head for bed. Their day begins at the crack of dawn. These are fishermen... experts in catching fish without scales (like catfish).



4:00 pm the team is faced with a special challenge. A few months ago, the largest flood in the history of the Amazon covered entire river communities and strong currents washed away large chunks of river bank and houses. The pastor's house and village church are precariously close to the edge and in danger of falling into the river. The men of the village made a suspended wooden track and asked the team to help them push the pastor's house the equivalent of one city block away from the river's edge. It is hard, grueling work. Team members and village men gather together as one and with lots of grunts and "heave ho's" the entire house



is moved with all the furniture and belongings inside! **If you want to see this incredible feat, access the following link or visit our website:**

6:00 pm and it's already dark. Millions of bugs flood the boat. One lone light is allowed so we can eat and get ready for bed. Everyone is praising God for the mosquito nets provided as a special gift by the children from VBS at NewLife Church in Morton, IL! Families are overwhelmed to receive the nets and filters. Some cry and most just don't know what to say. They express their gratitude with loving hearts and lots of hugs. We climb into our hammocks, under the nets and give in to a most welcome sleep... or NOT. The sounds of crickets and frogs serenade us. That gives way to the rumbles and roar of all the snoring which is interrupted by the extremely LOUD banging and thumping on the side of the aluminum barge by the tails of alligators who battle it out with each other.



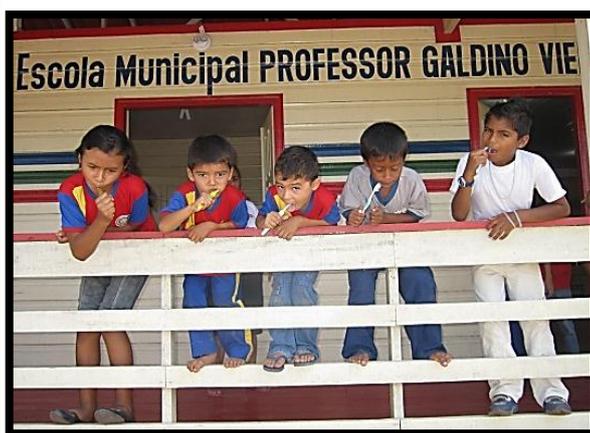
For two days the women work in the local schools while the men divide into three teams and install 50 water filters in two villages; Paraná of Parauá and Island of Parauá. The river is low and it's quite a trek up the bank hauling bags of sand, gravel and materials. The men of the village pitch in and give a hand. It takes one hour to install each filter which will serve an average of ten people. Many of these families do not know the Lord, but in every home the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the fountain of living water, is shared and the

families receive Bibles and mosquitos nets. They feel so blessed to have access to clean water which will help in their constant battle against diseases and sicknesses.

The children are absolutely precious... first and second graders bubbling over with curiosity and enthusiasm. How they love to stretch, sing, participate in the gestures and Bible story. They listen well and do a great job learning dental care and brushing their teeth with fluoride gel. How we love to hug them, play with them and show them just how much God really loves and cares for each one!



The 3 Lori's with Maria the pastor's wife.



They are masters at spitting!

It's time to say goodbye. We are all exhausted but tremendously blessed to have such fellowship with the people in these villages. Pastor Josué receives several more filters which he has learned to install, Bibles for his church, Sunday School materials and the love and friendship of everyone present. He can't say good-bye. He's too choked up but with glistening eyes he lets us know that this time will always be cherished, he can count on our continued prayers and we can count on his. Maria, his wife does not come down to the boat. She's had cancer twice and is too weak after teaching in the school all morning. But she sends her love to all and her gratefulness to God.

Pastor Josué, Maria and the people in the two river villages send their special thanks to you for joining us on this trip and blessing their families and village through your love and prayers, through water filters, mosquito nets, Bibles, flip flops, the ready hands to move the house and so much more. We thank you for obeying God's calling, being part of the team and helping make this trip and ministry possible.

FOR MORE PICTURES AND VIDEOS PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

Please continue to pray with us for the ongoing ministry of water filters. It meets a very specific need and allows us to reach unreached areas throughout the Amazon with the Gospel. As part of the board, Wilson was in meetings with the leadership of Operation Amazon and Asas de Socorro before and after the trip to determine who would head up this ministry in Brazil after we leave and lay out the specific responsibilities and requirements for this project.

*God Bless,
Wilson and Lori Kannenberg*

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