

# Greetings from the USA!

June, 2019

Wilson and I headed for the USA May 9<sup>th</sup>. God blessed us with an incredible vacation with our kids the first week we arrived. It was the first time in years I was able to celebrate Mother's Day with all three of our "kids" 😊! Right after our family time together, Ben, Jessica and kids returned to Brazil. So, besides spending time with family, what are we doing in the USA? As missionaries, one of our responsibilities is to periodically go on "furlough", "deputation" or "home assignment". We have already been very busy sharing about mission ministries throughout the Amazon and preaching in supporting churches and also visiting all of our ministry partners throughout the US (mostly in IL and WI). Before we share more about our time with all of you, we want to share what God did through your partnership in Brazil...

## Visiting the field...

Before we left for furlough, Wilson made pastoral visits to several of our church plants in Peru together with Pr. Maurilio and Pr. Edgardo. They visited from home to home in Álfaro and held a service in the home of one of the villagers. They also made house visits in San Pablo and four people trusted in Christ during the evening service.



There was an awesome service in San Juan do Camucheiro with Pr. José and his wife Maria. After explaining the significance of Baptism, four more people trusted in Christ. Afterwards, they baptized several people who had already prepared to be baptized.

## Baptisms



On their last evening of this trip, Wilson shared a message for the youth in Cavalo Cocha. What a blessing to see eleven young people come forward to give their lives to Christ!



One month later, Wilson and Pr. Maurilio went by boat with a crew of workers on our staff to finish building the church that was started with the mission team from Riverside Community Church in Peoria, IL. They were able to put up the brick walls and lay half of the cement floor. While they worked on construction, Wilson and Pr. Maurilio travelled by speed boat and held services in Santa Teresa, Japón and Buen Suceso. The presence of the Holy Spirit was so evident and powerful in Japón, where seven people trusted in Christ, and also in Buen Suceso during the baptism there with Pr. Edison.

## Church Construction



Hauling bricks anyone?  
This is how it's done!



## Weddings

Wilson and Pr. Maurilio took a small group of Christians to preach and conduct a beautiful wedding ceremony in Santa Luzia for four couples. Since the couples had no other immediate family present Wilson had the special honor of walking each couple down the aisle! 🥰



How precious to witness a couple who has been together for 35 years getting officially married alongside their daughter. It was hard to tell which of the two couples were younger (at heart) and more enthusiastic about celebrating their alliance before God and to each other!



This is how you get to church when your river village is flooded! The church in Santa Luzia just recently had a special celebration service in honor of Pr. Marciel and his wife, Gloria as they prepare to leave for the village of Indiana to plant a new church. A lot of tears were shed, but everyone was rejoicing to have a part in carrying out the great commission by sending their leaders to a new mission field! The celebration and "send off" ended with food and fellowship at the pastor's house. The chicken soup and manioc were delicious!

Dedicating Pr. Marciel (drum) and his wife Gloria (holding little girl) for their new ministry and church plant in Indiana.



## Celebrations



All the churches along the river banks of the Amazon and the Javari rivers have nurseries. See for yourself (left)! And what about the church kitchen? (below)

To the right is a typical cookstove for frying fish, making pots of soup... you name it! 😊



# Spending time with all of YOU!

Our trip to the USA started off with an amazing one-week vacation with our family. It was the first time in close to 15 years that I had the special privilege of celebrating Mother's Day with all our kids. 😊 It was a week filled with love, laughter and oodles of memory making moments to cherish forever.



The rest of May we hit the road driving from Texas up through Indiana visiting ministry partners and supporting churches. What a delight to see each one of you and exchange news, prayers and lots of hugs. We will be doing the same in Illinois in June and Wisconsin in July. We will be in touch with individual ministry partners soon to set a date and time for our visit 😊! If you would like to contact us, please do so anytime. We would love to hear from you. **Our number is: (417) 335-1999.**

Our special thanks to YOU for all your love, prayers and support,

Wilson and Lori

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