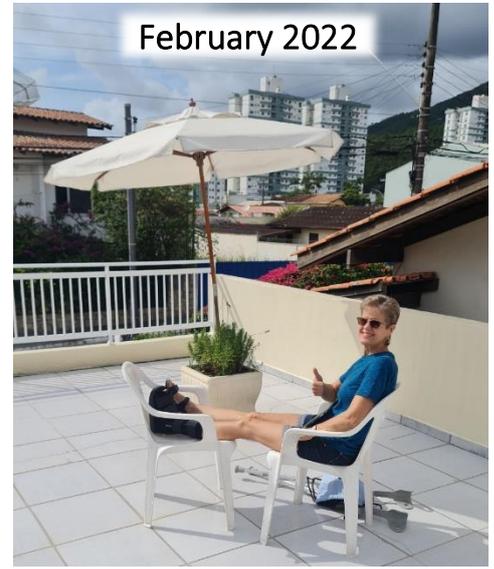
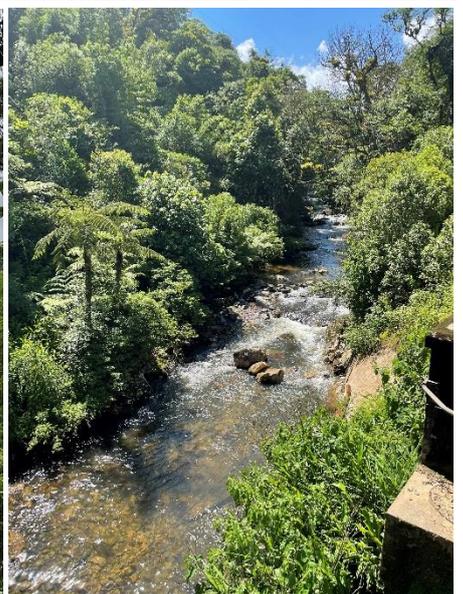




**Greetings  
from  
Itajaí,  
Santa  
Catarina,  
south  
Brazil!**



Wilson and I were delighted to welcome our son Joshua and Leighann, two of their friends and our daughter Julie through the holidays and into the New Year. Because of my broken ankle, we were not able to accompany them much but LOVED spending time with them in between their comings and goings. It was a special treat for us to be able to go to Curitiba with them and take the famous train ride through the mountains (3 ½ hrs.) What an amazing day. The scenery was incredible! See for yourself...





The last two days the gang was here I actually got to spend those mornings at the beach with them! 😊 It was hard to say goodbye. We were so thankful that no one got sick other than one of them having a cold for a few days.



It was also a tremendous blessing that all five of them tested negative for COVID, so they were free to fly home. Several family members recently tested positive for the virus. We are thankful that so far Wilson and I, along with his mom, are COVID free and in relatively good health.

Wilson’s mom has a daily battle with her sciatic nerve and has received injections off and on for the pain. We are praying for solutions for her health issues and for ways to better care for her and her needs from now on. She’s such a joy to be around and is our most fervent prayer warrior! She LOVED spending time with her grandkids! 😊



Now that a few weeks have passed since I broke my ankle, Wilson and I have enjoyed early morning outings along the ocean. We “walk and roll” along the oceanfront sidewalks and pathways to and from the lighthouse enjoying the salty sea air, beautiful scenery, and cooler breezes. It has been extremely

HOT this month, so we have also thoroughly enjoyed strolls along the riverfront and marina located a few blocks away. The pure sugar cane juice (made on the spot), pastries and other delicacies from the curbside food trucks have been an extra special treat from time to time.



I have had to be creative to find things to do to pass the time while recuperating. I help Wilson fold laundry, work on correspondence, cook (hobbling back and forth in the tiny kitchen here), etc. The latter has been a real help to Wilson’s mom. We enjoy having our meals together. I LOVE to go grocery shopping so I can careen up and down the wide aisles to shop and enjoy the air conditioning.



January 21<sup>st</sup>, we celebrated our 38<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Wilson's folks' anniversary is the day before ours. Even though Wilson's Dad has been with the Lord for a few years already, we were excited to honor his mom and celebrate together with her and his sister Marlí. We went out for lunch at a little buffet restaurant so we all could pick and choose the foods we like as well as enjoy the simple desserts that were included with the meal.

Brazil is all about FAMILY and most families have very close ties. When we visit south Brazil, we spend most of our time with family and ministry partners, who have truly become family to us over the years. Such awesome times we shared during:



One of Wilson's uncles, who lives nearby, went to be with the Lord this month. Uncle Rui was a humble, hardworking man who did all he could over the years to care for his wife and family. He loved the Lord dearly and although he will be greatly missed, we praise the Lord he is now enjoying an eternity with Christ. Life comes from the Lord. He wants to use us, fulfill us with His perfect plans and help us make every moment count for Him!

We also spent time this month calling our ministry partners here in the south. We had planned on visiting supporting churches (3) and visiting individual supporters, but the Omicron variant has been spreading like wildfire. One of these churches still has services on-line and most everyone else is wary of receiving visitors still. It was great having the privilege of connecting with several of them and having the chance to share in some wonderful fellowship over the phone. We praise the Lord daily for each and every one of our ministry partners! YOU are in our hearts and prayers!

The Spicers will be coming to visit for a short time the middle of February. We can't wait for great grandma to meet Tomas and see how Lucas and Choe have grown. Ben has been administering the Firm Foundation course to local and indigenous pastors and leaders, he taught at the indigenous seminary in a village called Sabonete and both he and Jessica have been preparing the mission boat, hiring the crew and arranging for food and supplies for an upcoming boat trip with a mission team from TX. Jessica was also busy taking care of sick kids the month of January and spends part of each day home schooling both Lucas and Chloe. We are looking forward to our time with them as well.

In Genesis 17:1 God said to Abraham: **“I am El-Shaddai— ‘God Almighty.’ Serve me faithfully and live a blameless life.”** This is something we strive for every day. God then made an alliance with Abraham and because he obeyed, God kept His promises. Thank you so much for serving God through your love, prayers and partnership! May God continue to bless you for your obedience and faithfulness to Him.

Sending you all our love and hugs,

Wilson and Lori

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