

“I will declare Your faithfulness...” Psalms 89:1



Medical Boat on Guama River at São Sebastião

If there ever was a year to declare God’s faithfulness, it was this last year of 2020!

Our year started out with a fantastic medical team from Ontario Christian Fellowship spending a week with us in February. Two newly equipped dental rooms on the medical boat were used for the first time by dentists that came on the trip. Dr. Brian and Dr. Anil from Ohio along with their team of nurses, dentists, physical therapist, nurse practitioner, psychologist, pastor and assistants saw over 300 patients on the Capim and Guama Rivers!

The team held clinics at three different communities – Livramento, Alegre Vamos, and Bujaru. We rejoice in each community reached and each person that received much needed medical and dental care. And above all we are thrilled for each person that experienced the love of Jesus and received the Gospel message.



Kasia from Alegre Vamos receives Bible Story Coloring Book from Ohio team



Michelle and Kasia on medical boat



Dr. Tim with patient from Alegre Vamos

Reaching New Communities on the Guama River

In spite of almost 4 months of lockdown in our state of Pará, God enabled us to reach out to two new communities on the Guama River this year. The first is the community of **Mocajuba**, which is about 45 minutes down river by medical boat from our Bujaru Church. At the beginning of the year, we started a home church group in Mocajuba where we held meetings once or twice a week. In October we were able to hold a clinic for the community of Mocajuba where 70 medical and dental patients were treated. Since it was Brazilian Children's day, we also held a meeting for the community children. There were Bible stories, songs, a prayer time and gifts for the children.



Medical Boat distributes food baskets at Mocajuba



Mocajuba children come to meet Medical Boat on Children's Day



Elderly man from Mocajuba comes to clinic



Mocajuba children receive gifts from team on Children's Day



Medical Boat team next to giant Amazon hardwood tree at Mocajuba



Philip attending patients at Mocajuba clinic

The second new community that we visited is called **São Lopes** and is three hours upriver from our Bujaru church. Our medical boat stopped twice at the community of São Lopes where we gave out food care packages and medicines and got to know some of the community families. They have invited us to come back and to share the gospel in their homes.

This next year of 2021, we are planning to go back to both of these communities and hold clinics and church services. **God has already blessed us with the funds to build a church at Mocajuba!**

Youth for Jesus – 2020

In February the youth from Castanhal Church held a camp for youth and preadolescents in Bujaru. Time was spent in Bible study and teaching the youth and children about prayer and evangelism. After times of prayer each day, the Castanhal youth took the Bujaru young people out to the surrounding neighborhoods and communities to evangelize and pray for the people they visited.



Prayer at youth camp



Deborah with Bujaru youth and children



Victor sounds the shofar at the youth camp in Bujaru



Bujaru Youth Camp

In November the Castanhal youth held another camp near Castanhal with the purpose of winning friends and acquaintances for Jesus. The camp ended with baptism for 14 young people from the Castanhal Church. It is a tremendous encouragement to us older ones at Hope Ministries (Scott and Michelle) to see our children and church youth being able to organize the camps with so much commitment and consecration to the Lord. Scott was one of the preachers at the camp, but



Rebekah teaches at November youth camp

the young people from our Castanhal Church did all the planning, organizing and serving at the camp.



Left – Philip baptizes at youth camp



Above -Lucas teaches at youth camp

Youth in Missions

In August of this year, the Castanhal Church sent out their first full time river missionary to the Guama River churches. Lucas Melo, 25, came to our church because he felt a call to the river ministry that we were involved in. Lucas has a degree in production engineering but for years his desire has been to work full time in church planting on the river tributaries. After 4 years of missions training, Lucas was sent out this year to supervise the church in Bujaru as well as the church plants and outreaches in Itabira, Conceição and Mocajuba.

Right – Lucas leads evangelism group on Capim River



Visitors and Family

Rodney and Celeste Evans and their daughter, Sofia, were our first visitors after the international borders between the US and Brazil opened in September. Laurie Petroff, our dear friend, guesthouse staff, schoolteacher and prayer intercessor came back with them. She had gone to the US in March and had not been able to return because of the pandemic. **The four of them made up Team 24 from TEXAS** – the 24th team sent to us from Fields of Harvest Church in Texas. Pastor Rodney and Celeste came to support and establish Laurie in her move back to Brazil. They also made trips out to Bujaru and Paritá to minister in the churches there as well as preaching for three Sundays in our Castanhal Church. Their preaching and teaching was life changing to many of the couples in the churches here.



Back - Laurie, Celeste and Rodney – Front- Sophia



Tim and Michelle lay the tombstone at Mike's grave

As many of you know, Michelle's brother, **Mike Schlatter**, went to be with the Lord on August 21 of 2020. His going was unexpected. Mike spent his last 6 months here in Brazil during the worst of the pandemic, passing out tracts, praying with people to receive the Lord, going to hospitals and praying for covid patients. He was last seen cheerful and healthy on a Friday afternoon and it seems his heart just stopped in his sleep that night. Mike left a wonderful legacy here in Castanhal and we rejoice that he is with the Lord. **Daniel 12:3**, a scripture he shared with the family two weeks before he died, is the verse we chose for his tombstone. **“Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament and those that turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever.”**

Tim Schlatter, Michelle's brother, also came to visit us for the first time in the 30 years we have been here. It was a great honor to have him. He came to help take care of his parents (Vic and Elsie Schlatter) for a month. He also ministered in the Castanhal Church and shared about his work with missions around the world. Tim was here to put the tombstone on his brother's grave – a very special time for Michelle.

Our last visitor for the year was our nephew and cousin, **Josiah Comeau**. Josiah spent two weeks with the family here in Castanhal and with Christina, Higor, Christian and Bethany in Belem. For years Josiah has been a blessing and a help to the ministry here and we were so happy to have him visit again. We don't have individual pictures of all the family but are including this one taken with Josiah when he was here.



Christina, Higor, Christian-9



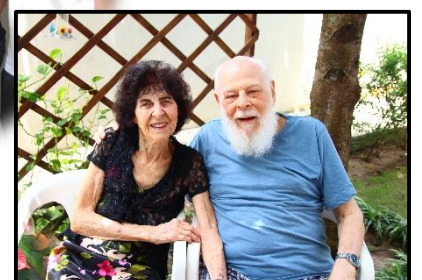
Jonathan - 8, Benjamin - 6



Rachel, Marcos, David - 4



Family Picture with our nephew Josiah Comeau.
Higor is missing from the picture because he was at work.



Elsie and Victor Schlatter

Pray with us...



“The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.” James 5:16

Pray for the Toth family.....for health, strength and wisdom to complete what God has called us to in the year of 2021!

Scott and Michelle, pastors, directors of Hope Ministries.

Marcos and Rachel, son David. Marcos is working in the church office, Rachel is working to start the children’s home project.

Marçal and Rebekah, sons Jonathan and Benjamin, working as pastors and church planters on the rivers.

Bethany, working, studying, traveling and volunteering in the ministry.

Higor and Christina, son Christian. Higor is starting his residency this year in the city of Salvador, Bahia. They will be moving in a few weeks. Pray for God’s direction as they resettle their family in a new city.

Deborah is directing the medical boat ministry and health clinics. She is also working with ministry to women and youth in the river churches and here in Castanhal.

Philip is finishing his 5th year of nursing school and is working in the Castanhal Church with youth, evangelism and worship ministries.

Havilah is in her second year of law school and working part time with a law firm. She also works in our Hope Ministries office with accounting.

Pray for the Vic and Elsie Schlatter, for Vic for health and cognitive ability, for Elsie for strength and joy in caring for Vic.

Pray for missionary Laurie Petroff that she would be able to get her permanent visa for Brazil and learn the language quickly!

Pray for the Castanhal Church. Pray for strong marriages and families, for young people with a focus on God’s Kingdom, and for God to send out missionaries and pastors to the new church plants on the rivers.

Pray for our Four River Church Bases at Betel (Bujaru), Açú, Paritá and Alegre Vamos. Pray for God to give us pastors of His choice for the churches in Paritá and Alegre Vamos. Pray for revival and a great harvest in each area where we minister!

Pray for the Medical Boat Ministry. Pray for funding for medical trips, safety as we travel and for doctors, nurses and dentists to serve as volunteers on the boat trips. Pray that with each trip many would receive Jesus and be born again.

Pray for the Children’s Home Project, for financial resources, staff for the project, and for government approval at every step.

Behold He comes....



“The harvest is abundant...” Luke 10:2

Your gifts in 2020 have provided:

- Funds for monthly health clinics in Bujaru and medical mission trips on Guama, Capim and Moju River.
- Funds to build our first river church on the Capim River at Alegre Vamos.
- Funds for building the Açu Church.
- Monthly support for Toth family.
- Bibles for evangelism and teaching new believers.
- Funds for land purchase for children’s home.

Opportunities for giving in 2021:

- Construction of pastor’s house at Paritá, Moju River.
- Construction of pastor’s house at Alegre Vamos, Capim River.
- Small boat for evangelism ministry at Alegre Vamos.
- Funds for maintenance and painting of medical boat.
- Dormitory for church camps and training river missionaries at Betel.
- Continued funding for medicines and medical boat trips on the Guama, Capim and Moju Rivers.
- Support for Toth family

2020 was a year in which the whole world experienced times of great uncertainty and despair. Schedules were discarded, economies disrupted, plans were all set on hold. But the clock marking the end of the age has continued ticking and we are one year nearer to His return. **The cry of our hearts is that these last months, days and hours that we have here on earth, would count for God’s eternal purposes. That one more would hear. That one more would know His love. That one more would receive eternal salvation.**

Love,

Scott, Michelle and Family

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