

## Highlights 2023

**Toth Family, Brazil** 

# "The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad!" Psalms 126:3



Thank you so much for your giving this year that has brought medical and dental care to over 3500 patients on the rivers through the clinics held by the medical boat ministry. We are thankful for teams that have come from the US that have joined with our Brazilian volunteers. We are thankful for medicines and dental supplies that your gifts have purchased. Over 60 river communities experienced the reality of the love of JESUS this year though the medical ministry. The gospel of the Kingdom is preached during the days of the clinics. We are seeing lives transformed, families restored and many children given hope for a future free from the destructive cycle of sin.



Dental work on Medical Boat



Medical Team from Ohio in Alegre Vamos - March





Medical Clinic at Alegre Vamos - September

### Construction Started for Vila Aviva Safe Home



Scott staking out Vila Aviva Safe Home property

Fifty years ago, Scott worked in the Nepomuceno boys orphanage in Minas Gerais, Brazil. He has always had a heart to help the abused and abandoned children of Brazil and has passed that vision on to our family and our church here in Castanhal. In 2021 the mayor of Bujaru donated 1150 sq. meters of land to begin a safe home for children in this region. This year, through a donation from the ACCMB of Canada, we were able to build a property wall around the donated land. We now need funds for

building the actual safe home itself. In order to have the



Scott with Vila Aviva builder on wall going up around property



Scott and Michelle at entrance of Vila Aviva property wall around donated land

home ready for children by January 2026, we will need to build the basic house structure with the foundation, walls and roof by the end of this year.

Over the years since we started our church in Bujaru, we have done what we could through Vacation Bible Schools, weekly children's meetings and monthly clinics for health care. We have worked with many children that have experienced neglect and abuse. When reporting these cases to government authorities, the response from Child Protective Services is that they cannot help because there is no safe home for the children to be placed in. Now God is giving us Vila Aviva which will be the start of helping hundreds of children in need of a home like this. Please pray with us for God's provision in making this home a reality and give as God puts this project on your hearts!



One of the families in need that we have been working with



Castanhal Church team visits family near Bujaru

## New Outreach at Itabira



Michelle holds baby Jonathan



Scott with children at Itabira home meeting



Scott evangelizes at home meeting at Itabira



Children at Itabira home meeting with gifts on Children's Day

Jeferson and Nayane are a young couple in the community of Itabira, near Bujaru, who opened their home this year for us to hold outreach meetings. Two weeks after the first meeting, their third child, Jonathan, was born. He had no arms and one leg was malformed. When we asked if they would still be willing to continue the outreach, their response was, "Definitely yes! It is much better to meet and hear God's word than to sit and cry about our difficulties!" We have been going to Itabira every 2 weeks and there are about 30 people coming. We worship, pray, share the Word and serve a small meal. God is building His church!



Jeferson and Nayane celebrate daughter Saylas's birthday at home meeting

## Children's Ministries at Clinics



Children running to meet medical boat



Girls receive presents on Children's Day



Alegre Vamos children with Children's Day gifts

Jesus said, "Let the little children, come unto me." At every clinic we have activites for the children whose families are waiting to be seen by the doctors and nurses. Bibles stories, games, meals and snacks help the children feel how much their Heavenly Father loves them. In the summer months we hold Vacation Bible School and near Christmas and on Brazilian Children's Day we

bring small gifts for each child. This year we gave out 66 hand made teddy bears donated by a dear sister in North Carolina.



Children receive teddy bears from North Carolina



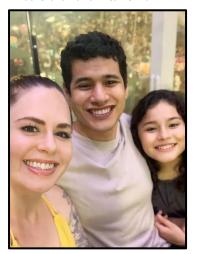
Waiting at Bujaru clinic



Sharing Bible Stories with children during clinic



Rachel and David in California



**Christina and Higor with Christian** 



Forrest and Havilah (married February 2024)



Bethany with 4 nephews- Jonathan, Christian, Benjamin and David



Bethany with Grandma Toth and Grandma Schlatter



Philip and Michelle coming home from hospital after stroke



Philip graduates from nursing school



Grandma Toth with Jonathan and Benjamin at their soccer game



Rebekah, Marçal, Benjamin and Jonathan





Grandma Wilma visits Grandma Elsie in Brazil



**Rachel and David** 



Deborah and Bruno at clinic on Guama River



Scott and Michelle with Scott's mother Wilma (96 yrs)



"Again, I tell you this: If two of you agree on earth about anything you pray for, it will be done for you by My Father in heaven."

Matt 18:19

God has answered so many prayers for us this last year! In February of 2023, we started praying together as a couple for about an hour each day, agreeing together as Jesus told us to do Matthew 18:19. We have seen God answer prayers for our family and children and every area of the ministry. Michelle had a severe cerebellar stroke in April, but God has healed her completely and we are believing God to give us many more years together to serve Him here in Brazil.

#### **Ministry Prayer Requests:**

- Strong leaders to pastor our river churches that understand what it means to be true disciples of Jesus and follow Him whatever the cost.
- A strong, united leadership team for our growing Castanhal City Church.
- Provision for building first phase of Vila Aviva safe home in Bujaru.
- Provision for ongoing construction of river churches and pastors' houses.
- Development of Bible School for training missionaries and river pastors.
- Continued development of retreat and training center in Açu.

#### **Family Prayer Requests:**

We are so thankful for answered prayer for our children as God continues to lead them into His plans for their lives. **Marçal and Rebekah** and their sons, Jonathan and Benjamin continue to serve as associate pastors and church planters on the river. **Deborah** is in her second year of med-school and she and her husband **Bruno** are leading both the Medical Boat ministry and the Vila Aviva safe home. **Philip** is working in the Castanhal Church in worship, teaching, organizing and filling in wherever there is a need. **Scott and Michelle** continue as directors of Hope Ministries, pastoring and working in the office administration.

**Christina, Higor**, and Christian are living in Salvador, Brazil, where Higor is now an ICU physician. **Bethany** has made a big move to Israel, and is living south of Gaza, near the border with Egypt. We are thankful for God bringing to pass His every plan and purpose in her life. **Rachel** is living and working in California with her son David. It was a blessing to have them visit here for in February for Havilah's wedding!

**Havilah** is now married to Forrest Billman. It was an absolutely beautiful wedding and God has a tremendous ministry for them both in Recife! Havilah is still working part time via internet with Hope Ministries and we believe that God has a purpose for them here as well as in Recife.

Thank you so much for your prayers!

"The steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children." Psalms 103:7



#### "Now he who plants and he who waters are one... but it is God who gives the increase." I Cor. 3:7,8

#### Your gifts in 2023 have provided:

- Funds for monthly health clinics in Bujaru and medical mission trips on Guama, Capim and Moju River.
- Floor for Alegre Vamos Church
- Foundation, walls and roof for pastor's house at Alegre Vamos
- Wall around Vila Aviva safe home property
- Monthly support for Toth family and mission workers.
- Bibles for evangelism and teaching new believers.

#### Opportunities for giving in 2024:

- Funds to complete Alegre Vamos church and pastor's house windows, electric and bathrooms
- Funds for medical boat dock in Bujaru
- Continued funding for medicines and medical boat trips on the Guama, Capim and Moju Rivers.
- First phase of construction of Vila Aviva safe home foundation, walls and roof
- Support for Toth family

# "And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You ... for You were slain, and with Your blood You purchased people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation." Rev 5:9

We wait with great expectation for the glorious day when Jesus receives all the praise and glory that He is worthy of! It is Jesus that has purchased the people of this nation with His blood. We feel so privileged to be a part of what God is doing – redeeming a people for Himself, to be his own special treasure. We are planting but you are watering with your gifts and prayers to bring before God the people that He has purchased.

There is a multitude that will stand before Him one day. But God looks at each individual. His compassion is for each abused child, each young person that feels alone, each woman that has been taken advantage of, each father that struggles to provide for his family. Thank you for your prayers that give us strength, energy and protection to go out to those that God is calling. Thank you for your gifts that make it possible to reach each one. Love,

Scott, Michelle and Family

#### **Address for Contributions:**

Hope Ministries P.O. Box 77 La Porte, TX 77572-0072

**Website-** <u>www.hopeministriesbrazil.com</u>

All checks should be made payable to: Hope Ministries



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