hopeministries planting churches on the Amazon

Vacation Bible Schools

The month of July is vacation month for all of Brazil so we at Hope Ministries held Vacation Bible Schools at three of our river churches and our Castanhal church. Over 120 children attended the special programs of Bible Stories, games, activities and food. It is a wonderful opportunity to share Jesus with these children and opens their hearts as well as the hearts of their parents to receive salvation. The youth of our Castanhal church and the leaders of each base worked together to reach out to new children in the surrounding communities.

We were able to use our new church building in Açu for the VBS program for the first time this year. It is wonderful to have a place to meet out of the rain with all the children. We still need to plaster and paint and to install windows, doors and electric wiring but we have been using the building for church services since March of this year.



Update

July – September 2023

Vacation Bible School at new Açu church

Youth Camp

"Rooted in Christ" was the theme of our youth camp in August. The youth from our river churches of Açu, Bujaru and Parita joined with the youth from Castanhal.

The teaching emphasized developing an intimate relationship with Jesus through daily time in His Word and prayer. When we are rooted in Christ, obedience to His voice becomes our priority in life and gives us direction in all we do. The fruit of these roots in Christ brings the maturity and character that



Roberto from Bujaru baptized at youth camp

enables us to be effective witnesses for Him. We are also able to persevere through difficulties, disappointments,



pressures and temptations because our roots go down deep in Christ. Camp ended with baptism for ten young people from the four churches. **Elsie Schlatter** was the oldest camper at 90! She attended the last day to be there for the baptism.

Alegre Vamos Church



First service held at Alegre Vamos Church

The next day, Friday, we held a clinic for over 140 people seeing medical, dental and physical therapy volunteers. The people came from 12 different surrounding communities – the farthest was 2 hours away by small river boat. The river people are so thankful to have doctors, nurses and medical staff that care about their patients and take time to listen to their needs. Medications purchased with your donations are supplied to those who are not able to afford filling their prescriptions at a pharmacy.



Medical Boat docked in front of Alegre Vamos Church

Seven years ago, in 2016, we made our first contact with the river community of Alegre Vamos. Our first medical boat clinic was held there in 2018. Since then, we have been using the four-room local grade school to hold clinics and services every 2 or 3 months as we are able.

Last week we held our first church service and first clinic and in our new church building! The church had unfinished cement walls and a roof since last December but we had been waiting for funds to put in fill dirt and pour the floor. Donations came in this last month and on Wednesday our cement floor was completed! On Thursday our medical boat arrived and some of the brothers from our Castanhal team wired the initial lights and outlets. That same evening, we were able to hold our first service with 50 people from the nearby communities attending.



First clinic held on Friday at Alegre Vamos Church

"May Your way be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations." Psalm 67:2

God is working in such a beautiful way in these last days to give opportunity to each person to know Him and His salvation. These communities used to be the most remote and distant in the earth. Today they are accessible by river boat or rough

roads through the jungle. We are so thankful to be a part of reaching these precious people with the Word of God. There are so many children and youth along the rivers that need to know who JESUS is. There are so many older people slipping away into eternity that have never known Him personally. Now is the time that we have to reach this generation!

Thank you for opening doors to reach these people through your gifts for the medical boat and church buildings. Your prayers and support for us and for our family mean so much to us. Because of you, God's love is going further - reaching to the very ends of the earth!

Love,

Scott and Michelle Toth and family

Email – <u>hopeministriestoth@gmail.com</u> Website – <u>www.hopeministriesbrazil.org</u> Address for Donations: Hope Ministries P.O. Box 77 La Porte, TX, 77572-0072