

LIVING OUT THE BIBLE

Believers in Curitiba are living out the Bible during the pandemic! Read more from the Wacasers.

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RECEPTIVE KENYANS

The Radfords are finding that Kenyans are receptive to the Gospel.

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NEW OPPORTUNITY

Odali & Kathy Barros are praying about a building opportunity in the community of Cacau.

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PLANNING FOR 2021

The Hensleys are preparing for seminary classes in 2021. Their goals remain the same!

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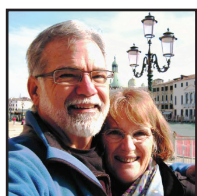
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bfm NEWS & REPORTS

Assisting Baptist churches to send God-called missionaries to fulfill church-planting missions in the nations of the world

CONNECTING WITH GOD'S CHILDREN AND THOSE HE IS SEEKING



John Mark &
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July 9, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Isn't it great to know that Jesus, the King of Kings, will one day retake and re-create the earth as the New Adam, head of a reborn humanity made twice in His image? Meanwhile, I find myself, a child of the King, in a world that is broken, still under the influence of the old man. All too often, I too, find myself living the old Adam instead of the new Adam.

One of the many daily delights I enjoy is watching the amazing birds, squirrels, rabbits and other creatures that testify to the creative genius, outstanding power and love of our Creator. It is a source of thanksgiving from my heart to God in my conversation with Him. The question arises in my heart, "Do I represent the Redeemer's beauty and voice as well as the beautiful birds and that little one, about the size of a thimble, whose melodious song I can hear a good block away, represent their Creator?"

I am including a picture of the past Sunday meeting of the church in Tournefeuille with whom we are worshipping using Skype. It is a delight

"We do not always understand what God is doing, but it is wonderful to know that even as He restrains the activities He has placed in the hands of humanity, He has allowed them to discover and build in His creation things that can be used for the movement of His kingdom in a fallen world."

John M. Hatcher

to be able to participate actively with our church from across the Ocean. We do not always understand what God is doing, but it is wonderful to know that even as He restrains the activities He has placed in the hands of humanity, He has allowed them to discover and build in His creation things that can be used for the movement of His kingdom in a fallen



The Hatchers joining the meeting of their church in Tournefeuille with whom they are worshipping using Skype.

world.

So, we are able to shepherd, encourage, pray with, counsel, witness to, teach, learn from, and commune with God's children and those He is seeking on three different continents. This week like the entire past month has already included several meetings with God's children and those He is seeking using internet, social distancing and masks. The circumstances of our world may discourage us, but

our Father is all powerful and uses for good what is meant for evil.

Thank you for your participation with us in what God is doing. May God use you in the present circumstances to be His witness to people with whom you can connect.

Seeking to connect for Jesus,
John and Judy



"And...they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how He had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles." -Acts 14:27

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May God give them wisdom and discernment
as they prayerfully make decisions.

KENYANS RECEPTIVE TO GOSPEL MESSAGE

Nathan &
Carrie Radford

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July 4, 2020

Dear praying friends,

Another month has come and gone, and we are now over halfway through 2020. Time seems to pass so quickly, and the days, months, and years just speed by. May we be busy in the Lord's work, putting Him first, and working faithfully for His kingdom. Also, a happy fourth of July to all of you in America at this time. I am reminded of Psalm 33:12a, which states *"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord..."* Also, Proverbs 14:34, which says, *"Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people."* May we continue to pray for our country and for God's leading in the future. This update will share current prayer requests and progress with the coronavirus in Kenya currently.

Currently, many restrictions are still in place in Kenya for the coronavirus. As of this writing, it seems the cases are spiking and increasing rapidly, with the capital city of Nairobi having the majority of the cases, although many are sick all over the country.

There is still a curfew from 9 pm, no public gatherings (churches, schools, etc), and a lockdown within the capital city of Nairobi as well as other areas. We recently heard that schools will not be resuming until next year, probably January.

As far as ministry projections, there is currently no way to tell right now. The President is expected to address the nation on July 6th, and there are different thoughts about what restrictions could be lifted, if any. We will just have to wait and see.

It seems many Kenyans are receptive to the gospel message at this difficult and trying time, and many are taking the Swahili tracts that I have been passing out while going around. Even in a difficult time such as this, God will use it to bring glory to Himself. He will bring the increase. I am reminded of 1 Corinthians 3:6, where Paul says, *"I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase."* That is still true today. We can plant the seed, but we have to trust God to bring the increase.

Obviously, with all the restrictions, prisons are closed at this time as well. The prisoners live in an enclosed space close together, which is easy for the virus to trans-

mit. Please be praying for the prisoners, and the staff there, for their health at this time.

Our daughters are really enjoying homeschooling and are able to keep up with their current schedule. We are so thankful they can homeschool and will not get behind in their studies. My wife, Carrie, has a degree in education, so this is a very good use of her education and a hands-on approach. God has been so good to provide this homeschooling opportunity for them. We are also very thankful that the new family in Kitale is reaching out to our daughters and they are able to play with another American girl their age. This has provided the much-needed friendships they have needed for so long, so God has been so good to them.

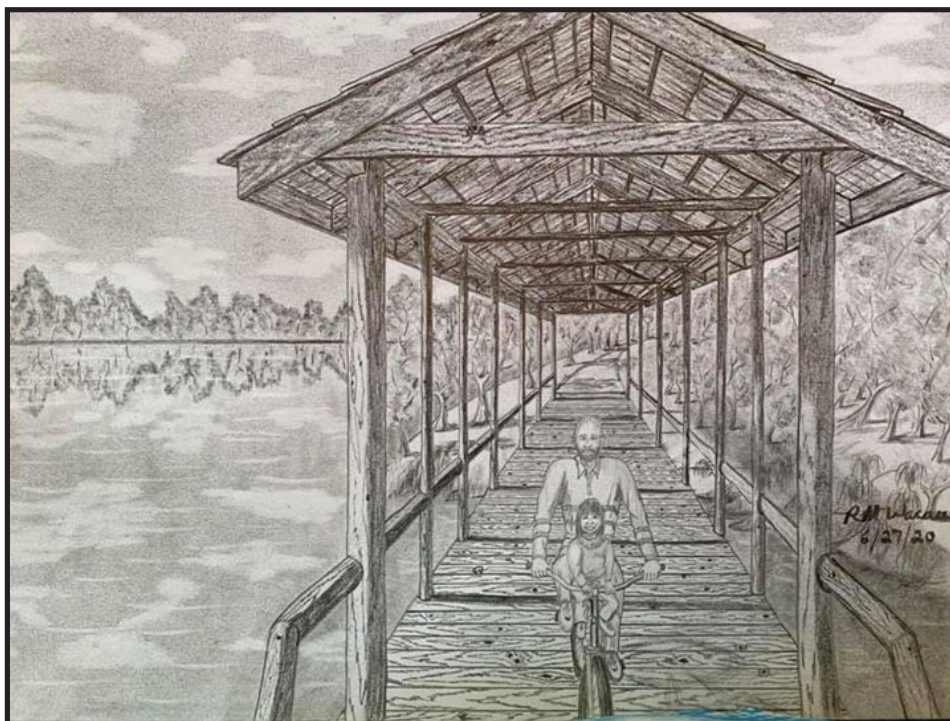
We will update each of you on the progress next month. Please pray for the many businesses that have been impacted by the virus, even tourism and transportation industries. We hope and pray things get back to normal soon. We are thinking of and praying for you all in America as well at this time of difficulty.

We appreciate so much your prayers, sacrificial giving, and thoughts for us. It means so much to us.

Blessings to each of you.

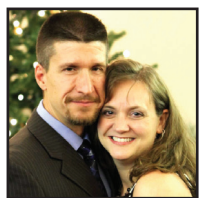
In Kenya,

Nathan and Carrie Radford

A New Sketch
from Bobby Wacaser

"Almost 29 years ago, the Lord gave Charlene and me the gift of our little girl, Jessie. When she saw some of my sketches, she asked if I would do one of her with me when she was a child. I was thrilled with the request and this one depicts me taking her on bike rides in a local park near where we live in Curitiba, Brazil."

SEEKING A PLACE TO MEET; UPDATE ON JOSIAH



Roger & Julie Tate

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July 20, 2020

Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ,

As you read through my newsletter for this month you will probably say to yourself "haven't I heard this before"? Well, even to me some of the things I will write about in this newsletter sound like a broken record - skip, skip, skip. I definitely feel like we have been through this newsletter before.

The reason for the broken record this month is because, once again, we are definitely looking for a new location to worship in for Upper Room Baptist Chapel. We started the Chapel in 2018, meeting in a room on the top floor (the "Upper Room") of a building in town. In August 2019, while I was in the States taking Amy to college, we encountered problems with another church that had moved in across the hall and greatly disturbed our services with their amplifiers and speakers and loud music and screeching preaching. Not being able to resolve the problems with this other church we decided to move out. In September of 2019 we moved into a house, sub-renting the place from a school that also met there. It was an excellent venue for the Chapel, and we all enjoyed meeting and worshipping there. The Chapel began to grow numerically and spiritually. Then, in March of 2020 the big boom hit

- Covid19. The Kenyan government shut down everything as I mentioned in previous newsletters - schools, churches, government offices, etc. This shutdown ultimately caused the school from whom we were sub-renting to financially implode and subsequently go belly-up and shut its doors for good.

The shutting down of the school left URBC in a quandary. Now we again needed a place to worship. Because we liked the location so much, we considered taking over the entire rent of the premises and just using it entirely for the Chapel. We approached the landlady proposing the idea. It would cost us a lot more money, but it would cause the least disruption to the Chapel and since the Lord's work is more important than money, we thought it was a deal worth pursuing. It turns out, however, that the owner of the building is a Somali lady. Now, I am not disparaging Somalis or putting them down at all, but the end result was not surprising. Somalia is 99% Muslim and the Somali owner is a Muslim. She

was not mean about her decision and she was not discriminating against us because we are Christians but she felt like renting her place to a "Jesus church" was against her Muslim beliefs. She thought that her Somali community here in Kitale would persecute her if they found out she was renting her property to a church and decided not to rent it to us. That is her prerogative. But this did

leave us in a familiar position - once again looking for a place to worship.

Since then I have been looking for a new place to worship but the available places are severely limited and expensive. I just looked at a place today that could meet our needs and be an OK place to meet but I feel like the property is overpriced. I hope to look at another place tomorrow but I'm not sure how that will turn out either. Please be in earnest prayer that God would lead us to the right place, a place that would meet our needs at the right price and that could be used to glorify His Name, spread His kingdom here on earth, and provide spiritual and physical growth for the Chapel.

"Please be in earnest prayer that God would lead us to the right place, a place that would meet our needs at the right price and that could be used to glorify His Name, spread His kingdom here on earth, and provide spiritual and physical growth for the Chapel."

Roger Tate

In other news, we were able to get Josiah on an evacuation flight out of Kenya and to the States. He needed to get back to the States in time to quarantine for 14 days before school starts but there have been no international flights out of Kenya since March, and none scheduled until sometime in August. This didn't give Josiah enough time to make it to school. Then on Friday, July 10th, we received an email from the embassy about the evacuation flight leaving on Monday, July 13th. Julie and I thought about it for two minutes and decided to get him on the flight. We booked the flight that day, Friday. Saturday, we spent getting everything ready for him to leave Kenya and get back to the States. Sunday, Josiah and I drove to Nairobi. Monday afternoon I put him on a plane leaving Kenya forever. This all happened very, very quickly, much too quickly for his mama and me. One day he was here at home with no idea of when he would be leaving and the next day, literally, he was gone - Flying from Nairobi to Qatar to the United States, flying for the first time by himself, and heading to America to start his new life without the help of mom or dad. Very hard for Josiah. Very hard for mom and dad. Please pray that God would be with him in a very special way, strengthening him, giving him courage, and filling him with His Holy Spirit. Pray for mom and dad too.

Blessings to you all,
Roger, Julie, Amy, Josiah & Chloe

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"We cannot sit still and see the dear Burmans, flesh and blood like ourselves and, like ourselves, possessed of immortal souls that will shine forever in heaven or burn forever in hell - we cannot see them go down to perdition without doing our very utmost to save them. And thanks be to God, our labors are not in vain."

-Adoniram Judson (1788-1850), missionary to Burma

SERVICES BACK TO NORMAL; OPPORTUNITIES IN CACAU



Odali & Kathy
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Iranduba, Amazonas
Brasil, S.A.

July 21, 2020

Dear brothers and sisters,

We hope and pray that each one of you are doing well. So many times we think that we are in control of our lives and we discover that a little invisible bacteria can change how the world moves! Thank God, who is invisible and the most powerful and loving, who gives us strength and wisdom to move forward and not give up! We are doing well and getting back into the swing of things. God has been wonderful to us and kept us safe. We do our part in keeping safe and encouraging others to stay safe and protect each other.

Our services are all back to normal. People come as they feel safe. Through all this we have had a number of visitors to come to church. Pray that God

will lead us as we minister to these newcomers.

The work we have in the community of Cacau is gradually growing. Many of the people from that church had left when the pastor who was there stopped and quit having services. Since we took over the ministry, the ones who had quit are gradually coming back. The church building is not in a real good location. We had been thinking about buying somewhere else and building a new church. But this week a man came and offered a building, and a businessman is interested in the old church building. Pray that God will lead and give us wisdom in this decision.

The work in Ubim is coming back almost to normal. The kids from the Indian tribe have not been coming because they have to cross a lake. But this week some of the older ones came! I had fun playing with the kids before the classes started. Since there is nothing for the kids to



Odali teaching a lesson to the kids in Ubim

do in the village, we always take things for them to play with.

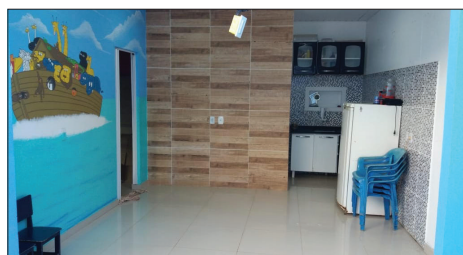
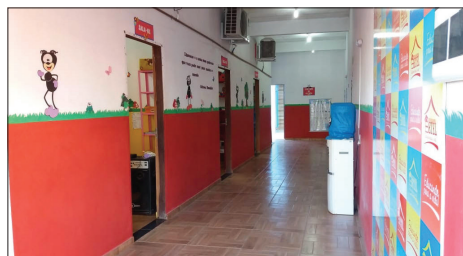
We are having some get togethers, but in small groups. It's been hard for some people who can't get around to have fellowship. In this area, so many people live far away from each other. This next Saturday we are going to have pizza night just to have fellowship. The way we are going to do it is this: Kathy and I have a small pizza oven which we are taking and making the pizza dough ready to use. Each

family has to take what they want on their pizza. It is going to be interesting to see what their tastes are! We already decided that our pizza is going to taste like fish!

Pray for us as we get back into safe situations, that we can go back to visiting people in the communities around the churches.

Love in our Lord and Savior,
Odali and Kathy

Building they are praying about in Cacau



View more
pictures online!
bfmnow.org/faithworks-blog



Fellowship
Dinner

THE WILD, WILD WEST OF BRAZIL



Mike & Beverly Creiglow

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July 22, 2020

Dear Brethren,

Four months and counting. Cruzeiro do Sul is still two months behind the rest of the world as far as the evolution of the virus is concerned. Last month the city and state went crazy doing all kinds of traffic stops requiring masks even inside your car. In one of these stops the city official opened the door to my jeep without my permission and the lady cop already had her hand on her gun and I was resisting or didn't even have a chance to resist. MY MASK WAS ON! It has gotten really scary here in the wild, wild west of Brazil. The state has finally rushed to finish a new wing of the hospital. There are 100 new beds, including 10 new intensive care units and 20 more semi-intensive care complete with all new respirators and equipment. All beds in all medical facilities are full. They have quit publishing data. No test materials are available, so no new tests are being run. The death toll continues to rise. We are New York (of 2 months ago) times X factor of chaos.

Then 2 weeks ago they let all the stores reopen and churches to meet. Well that ought to work out really fine! I called for a special meeting with the pastors to discuss what we would be doing. We are not opening any time soon. Other churches started

meeting, but with empty buildings. The people aren't as stupid as the bigwigs think. The rules for reopening were draconian. The most troublesome was the presence of government monitors (spies) to check for compliance. In the past we have seen that the media do not show up

"As for the Creiglows, we are trusting the Lord. We are being careful. We are still working though."

Mike Creiglow

to cover our mission programs, social programs, rehab programs or even our big Christmas or other events. I am sure that they would have been crashing the doors to check out our reopening. We don't intend to give them or the state the satisfaction. We will come back when we feel that the Lord has led us to, in His time and in His way. The church is solid and doing well. We have actually seen an improvement in our giving. Our missionaries are being taken care of in a timely way and we are still able to do some minor work on our buildings.

We have authorized our small groups to meet and the band/praise groups to practice. Hundreds of our people have had the virus already. Supposedly many are already immune. We sadly

did lose Brother José Nunes to this disease. We have many hospitalized.

Given the situation, most people don't even go to try to find a doctor or the hospital. Most are just self-medicating based on what they see on TV and the internet. Those medications that are most highly recommended are not available here.

As for the Creiglows, we are trusting the Lord. We are being careful. We are still working though. In fact, I have been keeping my grandsons busy working for me. Just a couple of weeks ago, Alec (one of Andrew's boys) got a full-time job. Andrew's wife Eline is still employed. She works for GOL airlines, but since there are no flights she is at home with the little ones. Andrew continues to work. Crissy's school is shut down for now. Dauro and I continue to work at camp. Actually, I have several construction projects going simultaneously. These are providing work for my grandsons and a couple of our church members. I don't know how long I will be able to keep this up. Staying busy helps me out, too.

We have had quite a bit of really good family time and this, too, has been helpful.

Well sorry to bring such a gloomy report, but it is how things are right now. I sure hope things are better for all of you. We pray for you all the time and hope that you will remember us often in your prayers. Thank you again for praying for us and continuing to support us financially.

In Christ,
Mike Creiglow

Ways to Pray for Our Missionaries

*adapted from SEND International
"Brethren, PRAY FOR US!" 1 Thessalonians 5:25*

Spiritual Life Sunday

Consistent times of prayer and learning from Scripture
Meaningful worship and fellowship times
Growing personal relationship with Jesus Christ
Commitment to the purpose of their ministry

Ministry Monday

A work of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of unbelievers
Boldness to share Jesus
Evangelistic contacts & ministry opportunities
Multiplication and health of the churches
Wisdom in the use of time, resources, & energy

Family Tuesday

Strong marriage
Needs of children
Support from family at home
An example for believers and unbelievers

Relationships Wednesday

Genuine interpersonal relationships
Willingness to listen
Wisdom to confront in a loving way
Accountability

Place of Service Thursday

Political and economic situation
Growth of God's Kingdom
Visas and continued residency
Safety

Ability to Communicate Friday

Diligence in life-long language study
Friends to help with language and culture
Willingness to engage with people even when language is weak
Cultural sensitivity

Physical Needs Saturday

Health, safety, medical care
Emotional stability
Housing, schooling, transportation
Contentment in all things

PAPERWORK & PLANNING FOR 2021



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July 18, 2020

Dear friends and family,

I have told you before how it is sometimes hard to get a letter started because I don't know where to start. Well this is one of those times.

I have been totally blessed in that I have been to all my doctors and done all the tests. So now all the results have been sent back to the doctors and here are the AWESOME RESULTS. My PSA is undetectable (for those of you who have not dealt with prostate cancer, that is excellent), my heart is good, just working a little slower because of my age, my sugar diabetes needs me to eat better, lose a little bit and add one pill that I had been able not to take earlier. Oh well, over all I am good. I am going to blame the weight gain on the virus (being cooped in and eating everything I see, how can a poor boy win?). But I am

blessed.

We are using this down time to get a lot of paperwork and planning done for the Seminary. Our goal is still the same for Blue Grass Baptist Seminary: providing the saints of Brasil with a solid understanding of God's truth in Scripture, also equipping them to evangelize, disciple, and build God's Kingdom in Brasil. We have been on the phone, the internet, and zoom with the pastors in Brasil looking at the schedule for 2021.

We had a couple in São Paulo who missed our first class there because of their first child. They asked when we would be giving that class again so that they could graduate with their origi-

nal class. We had been looking into virtual classes, so we will be using this as an experiment for doing just that. We are hoping to do this soon, but that means that we have to have our Portuguese website up and running

"Our goal is still the same for Blue Grass Baptist Seminary: providing the saints of Brasil with a solid understanding of God's truth in Scripture, also equipping them to evangelize, disciple, and build God's Kingdom in Brasil."

A.J. Hensley

so this can happen. Will you pray with us for all the hurdles we are having to jump through at this time will be scaled with ease? The other concern is to not do anything to impede o u r

accreditation status there in Brasil. Just lots more RED TAPE. Praise God we got the word that we can have 1/3 of our classes virtual this upcoming semester.

We have been working on the specific dates, assigning professors, and lining up the sites for the classes for this upcoming 2021 year. In doing this, we have run into a few things that we ask for your prayers for: two of our regular professors have accepted calls to new churches and they do not know if they will be able to teach in 2021. Pray these new churches will have the same hearts for missions that their previous churches had. If not, pray that God provides other Pastors to fill their places.

We have been able to accomplish all this planning with the great technology that is out there today. We have communicated with and have seen all those involved in this ministry through zoom and FaceTime. Our greatest need right now is to be able to get to Brasil to teach those faithful Pastors, Sunday school teachers and Church workers. Pray with us as we work for Gods Kingdom through Bluegrass Baptist Seminary and Baptist Faith Missions.

In His service,
Aj and Barbara

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"People who do not know the Lord ask why in the world we waste our lives as missionaries. They forget that they too are expending their lives, and when the bubble has burst, they will have nothing of eternal significance to show for the years they have wasted."

-Nate Saint (1923-1956), martyr & missionary to Ecuador



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Your June 2020

OFFERINGS

[Transacted in July]



Grand Total.....\$73,140.56

However, only \$36,107.27 of this total amount was given for the **Missionary Support Fund**. [While we are thankful for this amount contributed this month, it should also be noted that this amount includes some "catch-up" offerings from previous months. The average monthly contributions to the **Missionary Support Fund** has been averaging around \$25,000 monthly.]

The remaining \$37,033.29 of the total amount contributed was designated for various other funds [\$13,613.33] or to the missionaries by name [\$23,419.96]:

- \$ 5,233.96 = for specific work projects
- \$ 1,905.00 = for generic "As Needed" use
- \$16,281.00 = or for personal use

Please note that we don't use any of these designated funds for anything other than what they are designated for.

While we recognize and acknowledge that our missionaries need and can use ALL contributions given to them for whatever purpose, **we still want to emphasize that the only way we can fulfill the essential, bottom-line commitments we have made to them is for sufficient contributions be made to the Missionary Support Fund.**

The **Missionary Support Fund** is the fund that supplies ALL the commitments and services we disburse to your missionaries. We can't over-emphasize how essential it is that we maintain a solvent and viable **Missionary Support Fund** to provide for our missionaries' essential ministry and living needs, as well as continue to provide for the logistical services that are necessary

(continued in next column...)

OFFERINGS

(continued from previous column...)

to administer their support funds.

The way BFM works is that we make basic essential commitments to our missionaries that we disburse to them regardless of how much of that support they raise by their own appeals. ALL of those disbursements are supplied from the **Missionary Support Fund by those faithful contributors who give their offerings to it.**

For example: here in the month of July, we have disbursed \$37,370.23 for all missionary support purposes:

- + \$15,200 for their salaries
- + \$6,250 for their housing/ministry expense allowances
- + \$12,070 for their hospitalization premiums
- + the remaining \$3850.23 has gone toward providing for and administering all the ways we serve them!

Keep in mind ... going back to the top, we did all this with your \$36,107.27 contributions to our **Missionary Support Fund**.

If you would like to know more about how Baptist Faith Missions administers your missionary support contributions, you can read about it on our website: <<https://www.bfmnow.org/missionary-support-partnership/>> and especially read the Missionary Support Fund article in footnote 2.

And, as always, thank you for your partnership in giving to the Lord!

**"...for all things
come from You,
and of Your own
have we given You."
- 1 Chronicles 29:14 -**

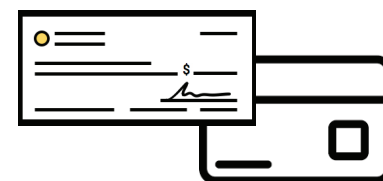
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Mail a Check



All offerings should be addressed to:

**BFM, c/o George Sledd
P.O. Box 471280
Lake Monroe, FL 32747-1280**

If your offering is for a specific missionary or project, it should be so designated.

The greatest need each month is for the Missionary Support Fund.



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NEWS & REPORTS

Assisting Baptist churches to send God-called missionaries to fulfill church-planting missions in the nations of the world

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August 2020 Issue

ONLINE EDITION

PRAY & PRAISE

...IN THIS ISSUE

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► **NATHAN & CARRIE RADFORD:** PRAISE GOD for the Kenyans who are receptive to the Gospel during this time! PRAY for the prisoners and staff. PRAY for the country of Kenya. PRAISE GOD for the girls' homeschooling opportunity and new friend! [PAGE 2]

► **ROGER & JULIE TATE:** PRAISE GOD for providing a flight for Josiah! PRAY for him, Roger, and Julie as they adjust to this new season. PRAY the Lord would provide a meeting place for URBC. [PAGE 3]

► **BOBBY & CHARLENE WACASER:** PRAISE GOD for the increase in number of people reached through their online presence! PRAISE GOD for their members stepping up to help those who have lost their jobs! PRAY for them as they continue to minister in Brazil. [PAGE 8]

PRAY for our other faithful missionaries also!

► **JUD & RAQUEL HATCHER**
Sarah, Laura, Benjamin, & Melissa
São Paulo, Brazil

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BRAZILIAN BELIEVERS LIVING OUT THE BIBLE



Bobby & Charlene Wacaser

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July 3, 2020

Dear Friends,

We are so thankful to the Lord for how He has both guided and blessed during these months of living in challenging times. As I mentioned in my last correspondence, we began posting our services live and recorded on the internet and our outreach has continued to multiply. We now have over a 1000% increase in the number of people reached than we had before COVID-19! God is great! We have also learned how to get more usefulness out of our audio/visual equipment than ever before. Before, we used it as a secondary aspect of our services, but now it is our primary way of preaching, leading in praise, staying in touch with our members and evangelism. Even when we return to having our congregation present, we plan to continue using these tools that the Lord has shown us how to use for greater effectiveness.

Some of our members lost their jobs due to the

virus, but so far, the rest of the congregation has stepped up to give assistance. No one has gone hungry or lost their homes for lack of payment, because their Christian brothers have pitched in to help them. I am so thankful for how the Lord has taught us how to live out in a very practical way the principles of His word.

I have continued to work on developing my sketching skills that I discovered a few months ago. I pray continually that God will show me the best way to use this medium to honor Him. I am very grateful to those of you who have expressed appreciation for the work I have shared.

Charlene and I have been blessed. She struggled with some allergy issues a few weeks ago, but has recovered fantastically, thanks to God. We are both doing well and are enjoying spending a little more time together since we can't have as much contact out in public as before. At least, I am enjoying being around her more. I'll have

to let her speak for herself. :)

We thank you for your faithful prayers and support so that we may continue to minister here in southern Brazil.

In Christ's love,

Bobby and Charlene Wacaser

"No one has gone hungry or lost their homes for lack of payment, because their Christian brothers have pitched in to help them. I am so thankful for how the Lord has taught us how to live out in a very practical way the principles of His word."

Bobby Wacaser

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