

WORLDWIDE WORSHIP

Singing, studying God's Word and fellowshiping with church family in France.

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Introducing an ambassador for our missionaries.

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RESUMING SERVICES

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Our most commonly asked questions about the Thanksgiving Offering.

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BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

bfm NEWS & REPORTS

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

SPECIAL PROGRAM AT PEDRAS VIVAS



Odali & Kathy Barros

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Brasil, S.A.

September 20, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are all well and hope that each of you are doing great. This month was a little different here at home. Kathy went to the US to help with her dad. Paul had messed up his arm pushing his dad in the rain coming from church. So, they asked her to come to help with him. She is back now and had a good trip and visit with her dad and Paul and Wanda.

We are doing a special program at the mother church, Pedras Vivas. We invited a team of 20 young adults to help with Sunday School and teach

music to those interested. We want to make an emphasis on fellowship with other churches and get more people involved in the ministries in the church and show the importance of each one serving in the church.

The church in the village of Cacau is really doing great. We are excited that soon we will be back in the church building with more space. We have put the ceiling in and an air conditioner. The members that had scattered are returning. Praise the Lord!

We are still limited with all the different activities and being careful with everyone's health. We have had the virus in 2 families from our church. They stayed out of church for over 2 weeks. Thank God they are all well.

Today the last things that we had left in Garça arrived here in Manaus at our home. Thank God that the

trip with the things went well. The driver was raised at the Alpha and Omega Home. What a blessing. Pray that God well lead us in the new project of getting people involved and reaching out to more places. Thanks for your prayers and support. God bless each of you!

In Christ,
Odali and Kathy



"We want to make an emphasis on fellowship with other churches and get more people involved in the ministries in the church and show the importance of each one serving in the church."
- Odali Barros -



"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.

RENEWING WORK PERMITS & PLANNING FOR FURLOUGH

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September 5, 2020

Dear praying friends,

Another month has come and
gone, and we are entering the last
part of 2020. Time really does pass
so quickly, and may we be busy
serving where the Lord has us. This
update will share current prayer
requests as well as current updates.This past month has been very
busy. So many things to do. We
made a big "to do" list, and you
never really realize what a job it is
until you start shutting down for
furlough. Various insurances to be
paid, trying to find someone to stay
in our house while we are away,
arranging for paying bills here while
we are in America, and the list goes
on and on. It can be overwhelm-
ing and you have to take one thing
at a time. We are thankful to have
neighbors now so if there are any
urgent matters, they can inform and
assist us.We also were working on our
work permits that expire next April.We did get the documentation
done, and there are just a few
minor items to send in soon. We
are thankful for the progress that
we made on the permits, and ask
that you would pray with us that
they will be renewed without any
issues.In health news, I (Nathan) had
to see a dermatologist recently and
she recommended the removal
of seven different moles. There
is a history of melanoma in the
family, so I need to be seen regu-
larly and need to be careful with
sun exposure. I did have all seven
moles removed and have been able
to recover well, for which I am
thankful. The sun is strong here in
Kenya and you need to take pre-
cautions. Thanks for your prayers
in regards to not only my health,
but the health of the entire family.Speaking of health, the coro-
navirus cases as of the date of
this letter are nearly 35,000. We
are thankful that Kitale has been
spared the brunt of the cases, and
please be in prayer for various
areas of Kenya which have seen a
spike in cases, mainly Nairobi, the
capital city. It is still advisable towear a mask, sanitize, social distance,
and avoid large gatherings as much
as possible. All of these are the stan-
dard health precautions. We know
it is similar in America as well, and
you are in our thoughts and prayers
regarding the coronavirus.There is still more to do, even
working on my missions presenta-
tion, trying to get the missions video
done in the near future, etc. In all
these duties, I am reminded of Eccle-
siastes 9:10a, which says "Whatsoever
thy hand findeth to do, do it with
thy might." Also I like the verses of
Colossians 3:23-24, which say, "And
whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to
the Lord, and not unto men; Know-
ing that of the Lord ye shall receive
the reward of the inheritance: for ye
serve the Lord Christ." May these
verses remind us of Who we serve,
and the proper attitude for service.We appreciate each of you so
much. Thanks so much for your
prayers, sacrificial giving, and
encouragement. You are such a bless-
ing.Until next month,
Nathan and Carrie Radford

WORLDWIDE WORSHIP

John Mark &
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September 13, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Praise the Lord with me. My heart
overflows. During our walks the last
couple of days Judy and I have chatted
about the Beatitudes. We are blessed!
Our church meetings during the past
month have been quite a blessing. The
church is able to meet again in person
with masks. The Sunday before last
there was a houseful including four or
five visitors. One lady, a relative of one
of the church families, was there for
the first time. Judy and I have known
her for many years.Today the house was full and the
attendance was from Indiana to Aus-tria. Besides the group meet-
ing in Tournefeuille, there were
members in 5 other locations in
three countries participating.
These are young people from
our congregation who are work-
ing or studying elsewhere. Two
of them could not be around
others because of their contact
with people who have tested
positive with the Covid virus.
What a joy to sing, study God's
Word and fellowship with the
folks from our church family
in France.We thank God for your
faithful support and partner-
ship with us in the Kingdom of God.
We thank God for the ability to fel-
lowship with our home church. We
thank God for the way He is working
in the lives of the young adults who
have come to Christ and grown up
in our fellowship of believers. Wethank God for many opportunities to
minister (at a social distance) to folks
in our temporary neighborhood. We
thank God ... and our hearts are over-
flowing.Praising God from Whom all bless-
ings flow,
John and Judy

CHAPEL RESUMING SERVICES; CELEBRATING CHLOE'S BIRTHDAY



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September 17, 2020

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ,

It has been an interesting month to say the least. For the last few weeks Julie has been in the United States on a much-needed trip to visit family. Since we haven't had a furlough since 2013, we do not get back home very often to visit parents and children. So, it is good that Julie be there for a little while to see our very missed family members. So

that means that I have been here in Kenya alone with Chloe. That, I guess, is what is making this month so interesting. But Chloe and I have been surviving and getting along OK. I have learned to pick my battles with her. The day I am writing this update is actually Chloe's birthday. She turned six years old today. That is hard to believe! She didn't come home to live with us for another month after her birthday but I was contemplating this today: Six years ago today an unknown Kenyan girl, from an unknown Kenyan village gave birth to a 2 pound baby and this event would change my life forever. I didn't know it yet, but God knew it and His plan

was to bring her to our home. Chloe would change our lives, we would change hers, and we would be linked together forever. All according to God's plan (which he would unfold for us in the weeks following her birth).

Ministry at the Chapel has started up very slowly. Our first week after restarting from the Covid shutdown we had 5 in attendance.

The second week we had 6. The third week 7. The fourth week 8. Seeing a trend here? Well, we were

going in the right direction as far as attendance is concerned but then we hit the fifth week. On the fifth week we had 2 - myself and Victor. So, I thanked God for Victor. Victor faces some mental challenges but he loves Jesus, is a humble and loving man and he rarely misses a service at the Chapel. In fact, he usually shows up an hour early to clean and help me get everything set up. As far as I know, Victor has no job and no income but I have on multiple occasions seen Victor take a loaf

of bread or a bag of chips that I have bought for him and immediately open it and give half of it to people on the streets. He has a big heart. So, on week 5 I thanked God that Victor was at the Chapel, even though there was no one else

there. Victor and I sang a few songs together, talked about God and some things in the Bible, prayed for a while, and finished our service. Week 6 we then had ten in attendance. We will see where the trend goes from there. My goal is to get back

to where we were before Covid hit. I am not referring to numbers in attendance but to closeness, to relationships, to spiritual growth, to glorifying God together, to the Kingdom of Jesus, and to the overall desire to see the ministry develop and progress.

Please keep our Chapel in prayer and pray that my wife gets back here soon.

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

"My goal is to get back to where we were before Covid hit. I am not referring to numbers in attendance but to closeness, to relationships, to spiritual growth, to glorifying God together, to the Kingdom of Jesus, and to the overall desire to see the ministry develop and progress."

- Roger Tate -

PLANNING CONTINUES FOR 2021 CLASSES



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September 17, 2020

Dear friends and family,

This has been a month that went into our history books. So for a moment let's ALL remember the lives that were lost on 9/11, and pray for their families and others affected on that tragic date. This is especially close to me as I served with the Lexington Fire Department for 23 years before I surrendered to the call to be a missionary to Brasil. God is AWESOME, we do not always understand all but one thing never changes, God is God. It is He who is in control!!

It has been another month for planning and preparation, but before I get into that I need to tell you about an interruption that has happened to me this month. While doing some clean up on the property here in Lexington I had an accident. I was removing some tree limbs from a trailer and lost my balance and began to fall. So I jumped and landed wrong and broke my ankle. Now I am wearing one of those boots and looking to be wear-

ing it for 6 weeks. But the good part of this is that I did not have to have surgery.

As the planning continues, both here and in Brasil, we are zooming with our pastors there, working with leaders and professors here, and we are confirming dates for our 2021 classes. This planning involves choosing the locations, the professors, the translators, and the tech support people. We have completed our first virtual class. There were some minor glitches but we are getting them corrected. So, we have the first of many under our belt and looking forward to many more.

We request your prayers for this ministry and all our involved partners and volunteers, students, and most of all—YOU—our financial supporters and prayer partners. It is with much appreciation and gratitude that I express our love and prayers to all of you who sponsor, support, and loyally give to BFM. During this pandemic we appreciate even more your financial support as we know you have families and it gets harder to continue your outside giving. So, one more time THANK YOU for your financial support and prayerful intercession for our ministry.

In His service,
Aj and Barbara

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INTRODUCING OUR NEW FIELD REPRESENTATIVE: PASTOR DAVID PITMAN

William Carey preached his famous sermon from Isaiah 54:2,3, and summed up its teaching in these two important statements: (1) "Expect great things from God," and (2) "Attempt great things for God." Carey appealed for a mission to India but also proved his sincerity by volunteering to be a missionary to India. Andrew Fuller, likening the souls of sinners to hidden treasure, had said, "There is a gold mine in India; but it seems as deep as the centre of the earth; who will venture to explore it?" "I will go down," responded William Carey, in words never to be forgotten, "but remember that you must hold the rope."

My ministry, deeply embedded in pastoral and educational work nearly 50 years, has always moved me to be a "rope-holder" for missionaries. And now at my request, the Directors of Baptist Faith Mission have asked me to serve as our Field Representative. It is a voluntary, unpaid position; but a vital one -strengthening the hold on that rope in every pastor's hand who sends and in every missionary's hand who goes.

The field representative serves as an ambassador for all our missionaries. He promotes through church, conference, and media services, the resources for the missionaries and the reports from the missionaries. What his ministry actually looks like will depend on your requests and your encouragement.



Pastor David Pitman

Let's begin by communicating.

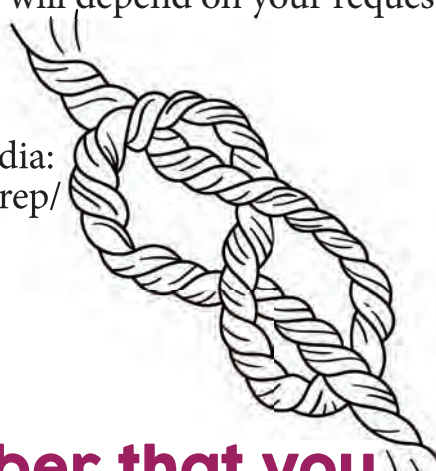
You may reach me by text: 513-708-5607; social media:

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Will you help us "hold the ropes?"

"I will go down, but remember that you must hold the rope." -William Carey

Will you help us hold the ropes?



Pastor David Pitman with his wife Kym

THE 2020 THANKSGIVING CONFERENCE HAS BEEN POSTPONED...

The New Hope Baptist Church in Dearborn Heights MI has arrived at the painful conclusion that they need to postpone the 66th Annual BFM Thanksgiving Conference until November 2021.

This decision has come after weeks of much constant prayer, agonizing uncertainty, constantly changing health conditions and concerns, state and community guidelines, and all the other considerations that all of us are dealing with on a daily basis.

They have held out hope up until this late date that there may still be the possibility that they could host it at the usual date. But, as we all understand, there is simply no way to make plans for a few weeks

from now with the ever-changing conditions. And, they have no way of knowing what the restrictions will be during the scheduled week for in-person gatherings, serving open meals, obtaining hotel accommodations, travelling to get there, health concerns and comfort levels of those hosting and those attending – we all get it. All of us are dealing with all these questions and more in our own contexts.

So, with much regret – they are announcing that they are postponing the 66th Annual Thanksgiving Conference until November 2021. And, you are invited and encouraged to attend then!

LIFE & MINISTRY DURING A PANDEMIC



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September 22, 2020

Dear friends,
FAMILY

Praise the Lord, the six of us remain in overall good health during this pandemic lockdown. Not that we have not encountered a few occurrences during the last few weeks. About two weeks ago, Benjamin suffered a muscle trauma in his right foot while playing basketball. Based on the pain, we suspected he could have a hairline fracture in his foot, but the x-ray confirmed otherwise. The doctor prescribed painkillers, and no running or jumping until it heals. Melissa underwent an infected tooth treatment at the dentist. I have faced a couple of acute allergy attacks during this last month. The intense sneezing left me feeling mulched and beaten by day's end - as if I had been through the meat grinder a couple of times. Thankfully, this was about it during this month.

As a prevention remedy to COVID-19, we are taking a what was once an "over the counter" medica-

tion. A childhood friend (who holds a doctorate in biochemistry and is a university professor) suggested we take this specific medication after his research team reached empirical research results indicating its efficacy against the virus. We truly are grateful to the Lord for caring for us. We have multiple encounters with infected people, but none of us have caught it (or, if we have, it has been asymptomatic).

EXERCISE

All of us have gained a few pounds during this COVID "stay at home" season. About 8 weeks ago, I was challenged by my son (Benjamin - 12 years old). He asked for us to wake-up an hour earlier each day to go running. I agreed to the challenge. We often take Maggie (our Golden Retriever) with us, as she is also needing the exercise. There is a large pond not far from our home that is a popular destination for runners and exercise enthusiasts. The first few days of running were the toughest, but we have gained momentum with the "new" routine. Benjamin and I get a chance to talk about all kinds of topics. He is not running now, at least until his foot fully heals.

SCHOOL

The new school year is up and running for all four of our children,

albeit it continues as distance-learning via online classes. Sarah is a freshman in high-school, Laura is in 8th, Benjamin in 6th and Melissa in 3rd grades. Government authorities keep postponing the return dates for school to resume on-campus classes.

Our kids are ready to get back to "normal" at school and regular activities. Unfortunately, getting back to "normal" may take its own good time.

MINISTRY

This last Sunday was a full one. I preached at the morning service at Maria Virginia Baptist Church and went to a luncheon/afternoon gathering at our home. Pastor Helder is doing a great job as the new lead pastor of the "Maria Virginia" Church. Just last month a couple surrendered to Christ. Everyone was excited with the great news! We definitely celebrate new life in Christ.

We continue to follow-up with people through social media plat-



forms and personal in-home visitations with folks. There are a lot of high-risk people we minister to within our ministry. Although, a lot of people we connect with have already caught COVID and have returned from self-isolation.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

1. Our children's education.
2. Ministry expansion and new leadership.
3. Discipleship of new believers.
4. Our health.

Thanks for reading, praying, and supporting us!

Grateful always,
Judson and Raquel Hatcher

*View more pictures at
blog.bfmnow.org/*

CHALLENGES IN RESUMING SERVICES



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September 22, 2020

Dear Brethren,

Greetings from the lockdown in the rainforest: Cruzeiro do Sul. My days alternate between "frustrated" and "angry". Our timid (spineless) governor has tightened the shutdown even against the data that show we should be moving toward normal.

We had already authorized our congregations out of town and our chapels in town to resume services, as I reported last month. Three weeks ago, we had our first (limited) Sunday school. After our weekly pastor's meeting, we had decided to have a Sunday morning service of just an hour (9:00AM), but without publicizing the first one. If the

news leaked and folks showed up, then fine. It did leak and we had 191 present. We followed the state rules as close as possible. The next week we had a 20% increase. The third week another 44% increase over the previous week. There were 329 for that service.

Then the state brought down a new law requiring ALL citizens in the Acre to wear a mask in all public and PRIVATE places. It is now illegal to eat or shower without a mask if you follow the law as written. The next Sunday morning we had only 225, a 30% drop in attendance.

For the past 2 plus months I have been getting data on the state of the pandemic in Cruzeiro do Sul. The daily cases have dropped way down. Hospitalizations, which had been in the hundreds is now down to 7. There have been 4 deaths in over 2 months. There had been as many as 6 deaths weekly 3 months ago.

The "tyranny of the mask" as I call it, has kept me oscillating between frustrated and angry. I called off the livestream of our services until this is past. The livestream could bring the authorities down on us, if they saw anyone without a mask in the auditorium. I refuse to comply and certainly refuse to preach in a mask. Now I am back in the studio recording messages and lessons for all those who are afraid to come to church. We continue to have live services, but I must also prepare duplicate lessons and sermons for those too timid to get out or for the few who are hindered by some other high-risk factor.

One of the pastors wants us to follow the letter of the law, which is impossible. He comes to staff meetings in a huge cannister mask, face shield and gloves. The other 6 pastors take it in stride, even though we can't understand a word of what he says during the meet-

ings! All of us get along fine though and do the best with all of this mess around us.

To end on a better note: We have added some new members by letter. Then on Sunday we presented a new baby that was born during the pandemic. Of course, that too is illegal as no children are allowed (according to the law) to be present. Someone more important than the governor once said, "Let the little ones come unto me." I think letting them come to His house counts, too.

Pray that we will be able to be faithful and continue to do our best for Christ and His kingdom.

Thanks for all of your prayers and support. God bless you as much as He has us.

In Christ,
Mike Creiglow

BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS THANKSGIVING OFFERING FAQ

(Frequently Asked Questions)

Will you please take the time to read this appeal for a much-needed generous Thanksgiving Offering? Maybe you have not given in previous years. May we explain the importance of the Thanksgiving Offering for the continued support of your missionaries? And may we invite you to join us this year in giving to supply the benefits and services we have committed to our missionaries?! *Thank you!*

1. "WHY DO WE HAVE A THANKSGIVING OFFERING?"

We have a Thanksgiving Offering because WE NEED IT for the coming year to supply the financial commitments we have made to our missionaries for the services and benefits we provide from a common contribution receptacle account called the "Missionary Support Fund." The monthly contributions we receive for the Missionary Support Fund are not sufficient to supply ALL of the benefits and services we commit to provide for our missionaries. So, we NEED the Thanksgiving Offering to supplement the monthly Missionary Support Fund offerings.

2. "WHY IS THE THANKSGIVING OFFERING SO IMPORTANT?"

The Thanksgiving Offering is ESSENTIAL because it is the only source of funds for supplying many of our missionaries' needs during the coming year. Those services and benefits NOT sufficiently funded by monthly offerings to the Missionary Support Fund are supplied by contributions received in the Thanksgiving Offering.

3. "WHAT SERVICES AND BENEFITS DOES THE THANKSGIVING OFFERING HELP PROVIDE?"

The Thanksgiving Offering enables us to provide the services and benefits we have committed to our missionaries "as the Lord provides" – *in addition to monthly salary, housing and ministry allowances, and hospitalization.* These benefits include:

- reimbursements for missionaries' Furlough (Home Assignment) airfare/transportation expenses to and from the field
- reimbursements for their hospitalization personal deductibles for the year (their personal deductible is \$1000 and we reimburse them \$600 of that amount)
- children's school/education expenses (if funds are available)
- expenses for mailing *BFM News & Reports* (missionaries' monthly letters, reports, updates -- and a brief summary report of all offerings given through BFM that month)
- expenses for maintaining Stateside office for communication and daily services – there are a lot of activities that go on Stateside to keep our missionaries functioning on their fields of service

4. "HOW ELSE IS THE MISSIONARY SUPPORT FUND SUPPLIED?"

The primary supply for the Missionary Support Fund is from monthly offerings that are given to the Missionary Support Fund. These monthly Missionary Support Fund offerings are used to supply the "Essential Missionary Support" (EMS) that we have committed to the missionaries for their standard essential monthly expenses. These include:

- their monthly salary
 - their monthly standard housing allowance
 - their monthly standard ministry allowance
 - their monthly hospitalization premium
 - expenses for printing *BFM News & Reports* – their monthly newsletters, reports, and updates
- We just wish to reiterate – and we cannot over-emphasize – that we have no sources of funding for these*

committed benefits other than the monthly Missionary Support Fund and the Thanksgiving Offering. If we do not receive the necessary funding through these two contribution streams, we cannot disburse the benefits.

5. "WHY IS THE THANKSGIVING OFFERING GIVEN AT THE THANKSGIVING SEASON?"

- The BFM Thanksgiving Offering began many years ago in conjunction with the annual Thanksgiving Missionary Conference in the Detroit-area and has continued that way to this day.
 - Also, the Thanksgiving season is good reminder of the thanks we owe God for His Indescribable Gift in Jesus Christ – and our Thanksgiving Offering is a good way to express that thanks.
 - And, the Thanksgiving season and Offering is a good occasion for us to give missionary offerings so others, also, may hear the blessed Good News of salvation through Christ...and, in this way, share our Thanksgivings to God with others and MULTIPLY STILL MORE THANKSGIVINGS TO GOD.
- See 2 Corinthians 9.11-15

6. "HOW CAN I GIVE MY THANKSGIVING OFFERING?"

If your church receives a Thanksgiving Offering for the missionaries supported through BFM, then we encourage you to give your offering through your church. Most of the Thanksgiving Offerings that are given by churches are made up by the voluntary offerings of individual members who give to the Offering. *Pastors, we encourage you to give your church the opportunity to contribute to our BFM Thanksgiving Offering.*

7. "WHAT IF MY CHURCH DOES NOT RECEIVE A BFM THANKSGIVING OFFERING?"

If your church does not participate in the Thanksgiving Offering, you may send your personal gift to the Treasurer of BFM and *designate it "Thanksgiving Offering."*
Baptist Faith Missions / Pastor George Sledd, Treasurer
P.O. Box 471280
Lake Monroe FL 32747-1280
You can also give online at www.bfmnow.org and click on 'Donate/Support' and *designate for "Thanksgiving Offering" in the memo field.*

8. "CAN I GIVE MY THANKSGIVING OFFERING ONLY AROUND THANKSGIVING ... OR DURING NOVEMBER?"

No. Many churches and individual Friends of BFM give on or around "Thanksgiving Sunday." However, offerings begin coming in before November and continue to come in to the Treasurer during the months following November, and sometimes on into the next year. *You can give your Thanksgiving Offering any time. But, all offerings designated "Thanksgiving Offering" go toward the same collective Offering for that year.*

9. "HOW IS THE "EVERY FRIEND A GIVING FRIEND" PERSONAL GIVING MINISTRY PERTINENT TO THE THANKSGIVING OFFERING?"

We introduced the "EVERY FRIEND A GIVING FRIEND" ministry and plan during the 2003 Thanksgiving Conference. "Every Friend a Giving Friend" encourages each of our missionaries' friends to personally participate in regular giving to the Missionary Support Fund. This plan is nothing new or unique; it is just another way to express and articulate what the Friends of BFM have been doing since the inception of the Mission.



It is also patterned after the instructions Paul gives us in 2 Corinthians 8 and 9: that is,

1. to purpose in your heart to give an offering (9:7)
2. to give as generous an offering as God enables you (8:1-3 & 9:6)
3. to ask God – and trust Him – to supply you with the funds you will need to give the offering (9:8)
4. to plan and begin preparing even a year ahead of time (as Paul instructed the Corinthians and the other churches to do) (8:10-11 & 9:2)
5. to give your offerings to the Lord and to the Lord's missionaries willingly and cheerfully (9:7)
6. to express your love and obedience to the Lord through your generous giving (8:8 & 9:13)
7. to give as your response to Jesus Christ's grace and gift of Himself to you (8:9 & 9:15)

We encourage every Friend of BFM to be a **Giving Friend** and give a personal Thanksgiving Offering to help supply our missionaries' needs that are met through the monthly Missionary Support Fund.

"EVERY FRIEND A GIVING FRIEND" also challenges each Friend of BFM to personally participate in missions by giving monthly offerings *over and above the regular tithes and offerings you give to your church to meet the needs of your local church's ministries.* We encourage each **Giving Friend** to make a personal commitment to either begin giving or increase your giving each month to the Missionary Support Fund.

10. "WHY DO YOU SET GOALS FOR THE THANKSGIVING OFFERING?"

We set goals because the goal amount is keyed to the projected needs we expect to provide for the coming year of missionary ministry. And, when we increase the commitments, services, and benefits we give our missionaries so they can better fulfill their ministries, our needs for the necessary funds increase also.

And, please remember with us that we cannot approve and commit to increasing the services and benefits we provide for our missionaries unless we believe the Lord will supply those funds through your giving.

OUR 2020-21 THANKSGIVING OFFERING GOAL IS \$50,000.00.

Would you please pray and ask the Lord of the Harvest what he would have you give to this year's Thanksgiving Offering? And then ask Him also to supply you with that gift from his inexhaustible resources of Grace?

Thank You, GIVING FRIENDS!

Your August 2020 OFFERINGS

[Transacted in September]



However, only \$28,459.90 of this total amount was given for the **Missionary Support Fund**. The remaining \$29,663.72 of the total amount contributed was designated for various other funds [\$8,098.50] or to the missionaries by name [\$21,565.50] for various specified designations.

WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT? It is so critically important because the way Baptist Faith Missions functions is that: when we assume full-time support for a missionary, that missionary's monthly support commitments are supplied from the **Missionary Support Fund**. In other words, the missionary does not 'raise' his own essential support funds. BFM commits to disburse these essential maintenance services "as the Lord provides." Then, we pray fervently to God, appeal to you, and trust the Lord to work in your hearts to help us provide these commitments to your missionaries by contributing to the **Missionary Support Fund**.

Therefore, contributions that are given to the missionary by name for specific work projects, the generic "as needed," or for "personal" use are NOT allocated toward providing for that missionary's essential, base support disbursements.

The accrued total that we have disbursed this month [August] just for the missionaries' essential maintenance services is \$33,761.36. This is supplied from the **Missionary Support Fund**.

For example, we have eight [8] current full-time missionary families. Each of those missionaries receives a base essential support disbursement of \$4,150.00 per month. Here's how that breaks down:

- \$ 1900 = base support
- \$ 750 = housing/ministry expenses allowance
- \$ 1500 = paid medical insurance

Plus, there are other necessary expenditures

Grand Total

.....\$58,123.62
that are essential to implementing the logistics and administration of their support services. This month, we have disbursed over \$5000.00 to provide our missionaries with additional benefits and services to assist in their support.

All this to take you back to the top and note again that \$28,459.90 was given this month to the Missionary Support Fund.

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 to be made to the Missionary Support Fund.**

So, PLEASE! May we appeal to you to make a commitment to help provide for your missionaries' on-going support by giving generously and faithfully to the **Missionary Support Fund**! Is your missionaries' ministries important enough to you to give, say, \$1 a day, or \$30 per month to the Missionary Support Fund?

And, we express our heartfelt gratitude to all our faithful friends who do give sacrificially and consistently to the 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 -*

WAYS TO GIVE



Give Online

You can make a secure donation online with a check or credit card.

Just click the **Give** button on our homepage at www.bfmnow.org



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.



BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS

NEWS & REPORTS

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

www.bfmnow.org



October 2020 Issue

ONLINE EDITION

PRAY & PRAISE

...IN THIS ISSUE

► **ODALI & KATHY BARROS:** PRAISE GOD for more people returning to church in Cacau! PRAY God will lead in getting people involved and reaching out to more places. [PAGE 1]

► **MIKE & BEVERLY CREIGLOW:** PRAISE GOD for the new members and a new baby! PRAY for Mike as he preaches live and also continues to record sermons. PRAY they will continue to be faithful. [PAGE 5]

► **JOHN MARK & JUDY HATCHER:** PRAISE GOD for the church in France being able to gather again in person! PRAISE GOD for how He is working in the lives of their young adults! [PAGE 3]

► **JUD & RAQUEL HATCHER:** PRAISE GOD for those who surrendered to Christ at Maria Virginia Church! PRAY for their children's schooling, ministry expansion, new leadership, discipleship, and health. [PAGE 5]

► **AJ & BARBARA HENSLEY:** PRAISE GOD for the planning for the classes that is continuing! PRAY as they continue to line things out. PRAY for AJ as his ankle heals. [PAGE 3]

► **NATHAN & CARRIE RADFORD:** PRAISE GOD for Nathan's recent recovery! PRAY for them as they renew their work permits and prepare for furlough. [PAGE 2]

► **ROGER & JULIE TATE:** PRAISE GOD for bringing Chloe into their lives! PRAY the Chapel will get back to the closeness they had pre-Covid. PRAISE GOD for Victor! [PAGE 3]

► **BOBBY & CHARLENE WACASER:** PRAISE GOD for Elizeu's testimony! PRAY as they plan outdoor evangelism events. PRAISE GOD they are back to in-person services! [PAGE 8]

A TESTIMONY TO GOD'S GRACE & POWER



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August 31, 2020

Dear Friends,

It is so wonderful to be back to having worship services together with our brothers and sisters in Christ in person. We are glad that we got the opportunity to learn how to use technology to increase our outreach while in quarantine, but nothing replaces the warmth of physical fellowship.

The great majority of our members are attending regularly and we have quite a few new people attending. Or at least I think they are new people. With everyone wearing masks, it is sometimes hard to identify everyone. We are hoping that this safety measure and municipal requirement will soon be removed.

Charlene and I had an opportunity to minister to a young man named Elizeu a couple of weeks ago. Elizeu's story is such a testimony to God's grace and power. For several years he suffered from debilitating headaches and seizures. The doctors discovered that he had a tumor on his brain that was causing this and they were able to remove it. Because of Elizeu's gratitude to God for relief from his suffering, he offered to work as an unpaid volunteer for a social services organization that helps the underprivileged and shares the gospel.

Neither Charlene nor I knew Elizeu or anything about him before, but one of our church members heard that his family was in great need and asked if we would make a visit. It was suggested to us to donate some special medical supplies and nutri-

tional supplements that he needed. I don't like to just throw money at people's circumstances without using the opportunity to speak of Christ's love and grace. That was our intention when we went to visit Elizeu and his family. Instead, God spoke to us through Elizeu. This man had lived years with great suffering. A successful surgery had relieved that, but then he discovered that he had cancer in his stomach and it had to be removed. It would be easy to understand how someone in his circumstances could become bitter or cynical, but not Elizeu. We went to his home to minister to him, to share a word of hope, but it was he who ministered to us. We did deliver the medi-

cal and nutritional supplies to him, but God delivered to us a message of courage, faith and joy in suffering that we've rarely seen. Most of this man's life has been one of hardship and pain, but he was so grateful to God for his salvation and for his purpose in life to tell of God's goodness that we were amazed. Humanly speaking, Elizeu's life expectancy isn't very promising, but, WOW!, what a life lived for God's glory!

Because of COVID-19 and the cancellation

of the in-person school year, our traveling outreach team won't be able to get into public schools until next February. We have been praying for and working on ways to get the gospel message out and we have found some that, we believe, will be used of the Lord. The whole country is tired of being cooped up indoors and we are planning some outdoor presentations of skits and gospel films in public parks where people are gathering. Our volunteers are trained to interact with the spectators at these events and seek opportunities to share the gospel one-on-one. Please pray that the Lord will help us to be successful in these endeavors.

In Christ's love,
Bobby and Charlene Wacaser

**"We are glad that we got the opportunity to learn how to use technology to increase our outreach while in quarantine, but nothing replaces the warmth of physical fellowship."
- Bobby Wacaser -**

