

## STRANGER OR BETTER?

Jud Hatcher writes about the miraculous providence of God as he deals with some unexpected health issues in the States.

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## FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES

Odali & Kathy Barros are holding services in homes in different communities each Friday night and God is working!

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## A HERO OF THE FAITH CALLED HOME

A missionary in Brazil who Mike Creiglow considered a hero of the faith has been called home to Heaven.

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## NEW BFM DIRECTOR

Welcoming a pastor and missionary kid to our board of directors.

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BFMNOW.ORG

# 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*

## MINISTERING TO THE GUARANI INDIANS



Aj & Barbara Hensley

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Dear friends and family,

Since our trip to Brazil last month was a very long one, I thought I would just continue my relating about that trip. As I told you before, we met with many pastors and encouraged them and the other students, but I did not tell you how they were an encouragement to us as we traveled around. The stories that I heard this trip was one of how so many were thankful for the seminary and the training that they have received, and also how they are anticipating the next classes. You can only imagine how this has blessed our hearts to know that we are following God's will in the continuation of this Seminary.

When we had finished the meetings with the Pastors about the new schedules, we had some extra time, so we went to visit our Pastor friend Valdival and his wife Rosa. They are the Missionaries to the Guarani Indians located near the city or Paraty, just over the state line of São Paulo into Rio de Janeiro about 3 hours from Caraguatatuba (the city of our last church plant). We helped minister to this tribe with our Church in Caraguatatuba.

They are a group of Indians who have been placed on a reservation and are very much in need of all the basics: food, clothing, and other life necessities. They live in mud huts or other pieced-together houses (houses that they have gathered bits and pieces from everywhere). The mud

houses are made of bamboo and mud and the process takes many different layers with time between the applications. The floors are just dirt, and many are just one room. Electric is furnished by the Government but there is no heat nor air nor running water. Many of the older Indians speak only their native language, but the younger ones also speak Portuguese.

While in our last church there in Caraguatatuba we visited this tribe with our church people and groups from the States, taking them some of those basic needs that I was talking about, and bringing the gospel to them also. We were encouraged to know that 7 of the tribe accepted Jesus as their Savior and Lord.

Here is where Barbara and I need some extra help. We want to purchase Bibles in their native language. We were able to do this a few years back, but there are none of these Bibles left. The wife of one of the women of the tribe said that she was the proud owner of three of these Bibles, but when someone from the tribe sees them, they have begged her to give them one. Needless to say, she has not refused to give two of her stash, but she says that she hides her last one now so she does not feel guilty for not giving it to those who ask. Because these Bibles have to be translated into their language and be special ordered they are expensive. Pray with us to be able to get these Bibles into the Caragua Baptist Church and then into the hands of the Guarani Indians.

After the holidays, we would like to start a fund to purchase Bibles for this tribe. If you or your church would like to help with this purchase, please donate to the Indian Bible fund. We thank you in advance for your help.



As always, we covet your prayers for us in general and for our health and safety as we minister and travel. Miracles happen because of prayers. Also pray for BFM and all who are involved everyone who

contributes and all our missionaries. Remembering Philippians 4:6 says pray about everything.

In His service,  
Aj and Barbara

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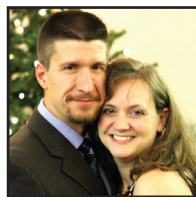
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May God give them wisdom and discernment  
as they prayerfully make decisions.

## MINISTERING TO CHILDREN AT URBC

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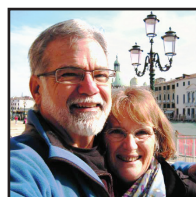
November 10, 2021

Greetings in the name of Jesus  
Christ,I am super excited about what I  
will report to you this month. That is  
because it is all about the ministry at  
the Chapel and because unlike most  
of my monthly newsletters it will be  
entirely positive in nature.Last month I reported that after a  
hiatus from worshipping at the Upper  
Room Baptist Chapel because of  
Covid restrictions, and because of  
a short visit I made to the US, we  
would resume our worshipping and  
serving at the Chapel. Rebooting,  
or re-kickstarting might be a better  
word to describe it though, consid-  
ering the drop-off we had with the  
hiatus. But, reboot we have. And  
things are going well. We obviously  
still have many challenges facing us  
as I mentioned in last month's news-  
letter. Those challenges will probably  
never go away. For example, I am still  
throwing around the idea of imple-  
menting an "offering" box so that  
people can make offerings if the Spirit  
so leads them. These offerings would  
entirely be used for charity and good-  
will for the impoverished and needy  
in our community. Offerings are  
something the people at the Chapel  
have suggested they need to be doing,but offerings in this culture are so  
fraught with problems and difficul-  
ties that I am really, really torn over  
implementing it at all. But this is not  
a newsletter about problems.One of the things we have imple-  
mented with the rebooting of the  
Chapel is the beginning of a chil-  
dren's worship / Bible hour. I use the  
term "we" loosely because although  
it has been something I have been  
thinking about and planning for,  
it has really been started, imple-  
mented, and gotten working almost  
entirely through Julie's efforts. This  
was obviously something I could  
not accomplish on my own as the  
class meets at the same time as my  
preaching/teaching time with the  
adults. So, seeing the great need for  
a children's worship hour and seeing  
the benefits of such a ministry, Julie  
has made the herculean efforts to  
get it going. She found a great cur-  
riculum that focuses on the truth of  
the Bible and how that truth points  
us to God and His Son, to loving  
God and His Son, and following that  
truth. After we sing together as a  
congregation, Julie takes the chil-  
dren to our spare room at the Chapel  
and teaches them the Bible, teaches  
them Bible songs, reinforces the les-  
sons with activities, and basically  
tries to bring these beloved Kenyan  
children to the feet of our beloved  
Jesus. And it is working. The chil-  
dren are responding well, and from  
what I can see love their time in the  
children's worship / Bible hour.

You already know the benefits of

this ministry, but I would still like to  
point out just two:1. Our beloved Kenyan children  
need to know Jesus, to love Jesus, and  
to follow Jesus as their Savior and  
King. This teaching is hard for them  
to get during the regular worship time  
/ preaching time. Their own worship  
/ Bible time is much more suited to  
helping them know how the Bible  
points them to Jesus.2. Having this children's ministry  
will tremendously help the overall  
ministry of the Chapel. It gives the  
possibility to families with small chil-  
dren to attend and will help everybody  
to be active listeners and to actively  
participate in our worship services.  
I say this because the culture here is  
such that children can wander freely  
and unsupervised during the services  
(I still remember so vividly one of the  
first church services I ever attended in  
Kenya when one little guy was wan-  
dering around unattended, walked  
in circles around the pastor while he  
was preaching and finally ended up  
in a corner at the front of the church  
auditorium where he dropped his  
trousers and relieved himself on the  
floor. Nobody did a thing or moved a  
muscle the whole time to stop him or  
to clean up after him.)Want to know how you can pray for  
this new part of our ministry? You can  
pray for the beloved children who have  
been attending: Faith, Esther, Isaiah,  
Chloe, Una and Emma.Blessings to you all,  
Roger, Julie & Chloe

## MUCH TO BE THANKFUL FOR

John Mark &  
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France

November 16, 2021

Dear Fellow laborers,

Thanksgiving Day is just around  
the corner. Despite the complicated  
circumstances of the present, we  
have more than we can remember  
for which we can be thankful. A verse  
that has been very helpful for me is,  
"in everything give thanks; for this  
is the will of God in Christ Jesus for  
you." (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Judy and  
I are very thankful for your love for  
us and the way God works through  
you in His care for us.We to plan celebrate Thanksgiv-  
ing together with Philip, Amanda,  
and some other members of the  
church. Judy and  
I are very grate-  
ful to be back  
in France, our  
primary field of  
service, as we  
celebrate Thanks-  
giving this year.  
The evidence of  
growth in the  
lives of believers,  
especially some  
of our young  
people, is a cause  
of rejoicing.Yesterday, Judy and I received  
our third Covid Vaccine. Without  
it we would be quite limited in rela-tionships with people that we want  
to see come to Christ. While inject-  
ing me, the nurse asked why were inFrance. This question  
opened the door to  
discussing personal  
faith in God. You  
never know where  
an opportunity may  
arise to "to give an  
answer to every man  
that asketh you a  
reason of the hope  
that is in you"!The various Bible  
studies, prayer meet-  
ings and youth meet-  
ings are going well.Thank you for your prayers.  
From France,  
John and Judy**"You never know  
where an opportunity  
may arise to 'give  
an answer to every  
man that asketh you  
a reason of the hope  
that is in you!'"****- John Mark Hatcher -**

# MÁRIO RODRIGUES, MISSIONARY & HERO OF THE FAITH, CALLED HOME



Mike & Beverly  
Creiglow

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November 23, 2021

Dear Brethren,

We are home, earthly home, that is. It took us 54 hours. It was raining in all six cities that we went through. It was freezing in Kentucky. It is 80 degrees here in wonderful Cruzeiro do Sul. The trip was an ordeal, but He worked things out. I won't bore you with the details. We are home! Thanks to all our family and friends who were so gracious to us in this long 3 months away from our home and life work.

We arrived here on Saturday, November 20th. The services at First Baptist Church were just amazing on Sunday. It was so good to hear a church really belt out praises to our wonderful Lord. Our church is known for how well she sings. Not always perfect pitch, but you can hear them! They wanted me to preach, but I declined. We had 4 adults saved, there was one request for baptism and another young woman for membership. Wow! What a homecoming.

On Sunday night one of our missionaries died. Brother Mário Rodrigues, 56 years old, died of cancer. He had been sick for many months and suffered terribly. What a story though. Let me share it with you. When Brother Joe Brandon came to Cruzeiro do Sul in the mid 1920's, besides founding First Baptist Church (May 12, 1929), he also trav-

eled the rivers with a small group of believers preaching the Gospel. He had a boat called "Peregrino" (The Pilgrim). It had a small inboard

the crowd, wielding a machete, told Leônidas, "If you come ashore, I will chop the rope and chop you."

Brother Brandon decided to back



Mário and family back in the late 1990's at Porto Walter

diesel engine, which was rare for that remote place and time. Everyone knew about this boat and her crew. On one of those first mission trips Brother Brandon planned to preach at a small village named Porto Walter. This is about 100 miles upstream on the Juruá River. As they approached the riverbank to land, Brother Leônidas grabbed the rope and prepared to jump ashore. Brother Leônidas was one of the original 13 members of First Baptist, a poet, musician and preacher.

However, there was a mob waiting on the riverbank. This mob had been sent by the Roman Catholic priest to prevent any "invasion" by the "crentes", believers. One of the men in

off and continue on upriver. From then on, the village continued to be sealed off and off limits to the Gospel. That was decades ago. For a long time, I was troubled by this. After much prayer and preparation God made it clear that "enough is enough". When the time came for us to send a missionary there, Brother Mário Rodrigues stepped up. I personally went there ahead of him to survey the village and get property and a house for his young family. I went with him in 1994 to kick things off. He worked there faithfully for 15 years.

Every morning at 6:00 o'clock sharp the priests and nuns wake the town up with praises to mother Mary on a loud speaker atop the tower of

the Catholic church. It was not easy. Plenty of resistance and even persecution. Mário was a mild, softspoken man. He was the most unlikely person to succeed in such a hostile setting. But, greater is He who is in us. Succeed he did. Today the church has over 200 members installed in a big 2 story building right downtown. The church is doing mission work on the river and tributaries. There are 3 congregations with over 100 baptized believers.

Although Mário is a big loss to the kingdom on earth, he is a hero of the faith. I count it a great honor to have known him, worked with him, spent many tearful hours with him and be a small part in the ministry of such a giant.

Well, I must close, but I still have an unusual request that I must make. Bev had cataract surgery on both eyes while we were in the States. They also corrected her distance vision. She couldn't see much at all far away. They corrected the astigmatism and the glaucoma, too. It was a total success, but it was also very expensive. Our insurance covered a small part of it. We had to cover just over \$9,500.00. This had to be paid before the surgery, so we plopped down the ole credit card. We have since borrowed money to cover this. If the Lord should lead you to help us with this, we would be much in your debt.

Oh! And did I mention? It sure is wonderful to be home again! Thank you, Lord.

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

In Christ,  
Mike Creiglow

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**BUILDING ON THE FIRM FOUNDATION**

BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS - WINTER CONFERENCE  
Park Ridge Baptist Church - Gotha Florida  
January 16 - 19, 2022

More to come!

## BFM WINTER CONFERENCE

JANUARY 16-19, 2022  
PARK RIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH | Gotha, FL  
Pastor Benton Glover

CONFERENCE THEME:  
Building on the Firm Foundation

More information to come!

Stay tuned to our Facebook page (facebook.com/BFMnow) and our FaithWorks Blog (www.bfmnow.org/faihtworks-blog/)

## GOD AT WORK IN FRIDAY NIGHT HOME SERVICES



Odali & Kathy Barros

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November 21, 2021

Greetings to all dear brothers and sisters!

What a wonderful month we have had. God has been working in so many wonderful ways. Can you imagine what goes through someone's mind when they call you to please pick them up because they want to go to church to be saved, and before it was time to pick her up, she felt bad and was taken to the hospital. The enemy thought he could get in the way. This lady lives about one hour away. It was her daughter who got saved when we had a service in their home. As she reflected on what was preached, the Holy Spirit touched her heart and she wanted to be saved. Pray for this family!

Every Friday night we are having service in different homes and different communities. God has opened so many doors. We are working with the members of the church to get them more involved. Many have shown an interest and are being a blessing. We have had two meetings in the home of a Japanese family. They have a son with serious problem as lightning hit him through his computer. His name is Nelson.

Every Sunday when we are starting our service in the morning, there are many motorcycles that drive by in front of the church really speeding and loud. So, we decided that we were going to have contact with them by giving them free water. Along with the water we are giving a pamphlet with a verse about God being living water and the church information.

Another special situation is an American Jew that has come to visit us. He loves fishing. He has fished here with us 2 times. He said to me once, that he wants to understand about Jesus. This time he has been really moved by the people we are working with, especially one that is 14 that calls us his parents. He asked if he could call us dad and mom. Well, this man said today, "Next time I come I'm going to go to church with you boys even though I'm not a church person." Pray for him. His name is Mike.

God bless each of you. Thanks for your prayers and support!

In Christ, Odali and Kathy Barros



Gathered at the home of the Japanese Family



The lady in the middle is the one who wanted to accept Jesus

## PREPARING TO RETURN TO KENYA



Nathan & Carrie Radford  
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November 5, 2021

Dear praying friends,

Another month has come and gone, and we are now nearing the end of 2021. Hard to believe how quickly this past year went. Lord willing, as we all plan to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday later this month, may we not forget the Lord or all the blessings He gives. Psalm 100:4-5 says "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. For the Lord is good; his mercy is ever-

lasting; and his truth endureth to all generations." Also, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, which says "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." May we truly not forget the blessings the Lord provides each day.

We are nearing the end of our time of furlough and doing some planning for our return to Kenya. There are still some things to sort out, and hopefully by next month, we will be on our way back to Kenya. We appreciate each one of you so much for your letters, emails, words of encouragement, and prayer support. Your sacrificial giving is much appreciated as well. You all mean more to us than you will ever know. May God bless you for your heart for missions.

In regards to prayer requests,

## QUOTABLE QUOTE

**"The Son of God became a man to enable men to become sons of God."**

**- C.S. Lewis -**

please be in prayer for Kenya and the coronavirus. Coronavirus is still very much a factor not only in Africa, but all over the world. I read recently where Europe is getting hit hard with the virus presently. It seems to go in waves. We know the Lord is in control of all these things and we trust Him.

Kenya I am sure will be in some form of lockdown or curfew, so please pray for us as we adjust to whatever the plans are for coronavirus. We hope and pray that things will subside and get back to normal soon. We will remember you all here in America as well with the challenges of coronavirus.

Also, please continue to pray for my wife as she homeschools our daughters. As I watch the levels of study and projects increase each year, I am more aware of how much work and preparation must go into teaching them. My wife is truly a servant and a gift from God. She sacrifices each day on the mission field, and also is a great assistance to our family. What a blessing she is not only to us, but many others as well. Proverbs 31:28 says "Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her." Amen.

We will continue to keep you updated. Please continue to keep us in prayer, and Lord willing, may you all have a wonderful time of being with family later this month. I will close with Psalm 103:1-2 which says "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." May we bless the Lord with all that is within us.

Until next month,  
Nathan and Carrie Radford

# SOULS SAVED, LIVES CHANGED



Bobby & Charlene Wacaser

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November 20, 2021

Dear Friends,

The expression, 'very eventful,' that some of us use to describe a busy period can be a little misleading. All periods of time are filled with events, be they noteworthy or not. I mention this because I was going to start this letter by saying that this past month has been 'very eventful,' when in fact, every month is, for every person. So, what I will say is that this past month has been filled with some events that were quite noteworthy to us, and we hope to you as well.

The newly ordained pastor, Cledson, and his wife and volunteer leaders took about 40 of our teens to camp this past weekend and the Lord blessed in a tremendous way. Many of the youth were deeply impacted through the daily study of God's word and the teaching they received. There were six teens who were baptized as followers of Christ at the end of this youth camp.

This last month we also had the privilege of working with one of the Projeto Vida (Project Life) teams in street evangelism. Our Agape team has been called upon to head up a citywide ministry to the homeless. There are many people, including entire families, that are homeless in our capital city. The weather here is generally cool almost year-round and when it gets cold these folks suffer for lack of shelter and warm food. I took three American pastors who came to visit our work out to the minister among those folks who came looking for help. The Lord worked powerfully to convict and save many of these dear people. While some of our team were feeding them, giving them haircuts, a bath and supplying some with shoes, clothing and blankets, we shared the gospel with them and the Lord

brought repentance and faith to several. The Agape team leader, Mateus, is doing a fantastic job of following up with those who surrender their life to Christ. Some of them were addicted to cocaine and crack and several have, by God's grace, gotten their lives cleaned up and have begun new lives living responsibly and drug free. I was so thrilled to see the Lord using me as a translator for these American brothers and know that His grace is never limited by language or bad choices in the past.

One of our friends and Brazilian brothers has been instrumental in



Bobby Wacaser translating

a new church plant in a small town not far from the capital. He asked us and the visiting pastors to bring the message to the congregation while they were here. Their services are in a public-school auditorium on Saturday evenings. Since they don't have a building yet, this allows the pastor to continue to minister at his sending church for the time being and there is no cost to rent the location. This setup also puts the new church in the middle of the community where they want to make an impact for Christ.

The larger building that we thought that we would be moving our church into last month didn't work out. It was a little bit of an emotional letdown, but we know that the Lord is in control of all things and that this was not something that slipped by Him. We will continue to look, but we are also actively working on how to hold two services and two Bible study hours each Sunday to deal with the overflowing attendance. We pray for the Lord to give us wisdom and guidance through this process of growth plans. We are also thankful that this is the kind of problem that we are dealing with.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support. Have a great holiday season.

In Christ's love,  
Bobby and Charlene Wacaser



Members of the Projeto Vida team giving haircuts to the homeless in the capital city

## Fresh Happenings

...recent developments in BFM

### ANNOUNCING PASTOR JONATHAN TURNER AS NEW BFM DIRECTOR

We are thankful to announce that we have asked Pastor Jonathan Turner to serve with us as a Director of BFM, and he has consented. Jonathan is currently serving as Pastor of Richland Baptist Church in Livermore KY, which also has a decades-long history of association with and support of BFM.

Pastor Jonathan has been associated with Baptist Faith Missions all his life. He grew up in Brazil as the son of the late Missionary Richard Turner and current pensioner Wanda Turner. They served for 16 years as missionaries supported through BFM.

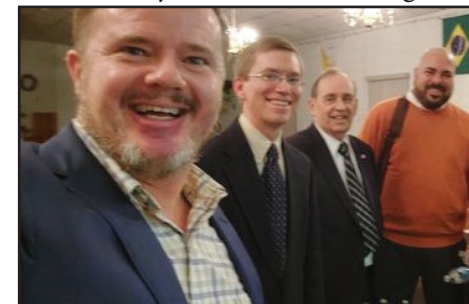
Pastor Jonathan has maintained a close relationship and fellowship with BFM throughout his life and pastoral ministry, not only in his personal friendship and fellowship, but also in leading the churches where he has served to either begin or continue maintaining support for BFM.

We are thankful to God for this partnership and we look forward to serving Christ, His churches, and the missionaries associated with BFM with him alongside us. He brings with him a rich experience of faithful pastoral ministry as well as his distinctive perspectives as a 'MK' ['Missionary Kid'].

He is man of integrity and proven service. Please join us in welcoming him!



Pastor Jonathan [preaching at our recent Thanksgiving Conference]



Missionary Judson Hatcher, Missionary Isaac Heil, Pastor Terry Adkins, Pastor Jonathan Turner [at our recent Thanksgiving Conference]

# STRANGER THINGS OR BETTER THINGS?



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November 8, 2021

## BETTER THAN STEAK

Our time Stateside has been full of surprises. I want to share with you two situations where the Lord has made Himself known to us in a tremendous way. We are grateful to the churches that received us during these last couple of months: Faith Baptist Church in Kirksville, MO – Brandon Rhae; New Life Chapel in Glenn Elyn, IL – Sajan Mathews; Living Word Baptist Church in Forrest, VA – Gary Yates & Scott Phillips; Thomas Road Baptist Church in Lynchburg, VA – Jonathan Falwell & Tim Grandstaff. Please, continue reading concerning the mighty hand of God. Yes, a spiritual meal with friends is better than steak, and we enjoy being with fellow believers!

## WHERE DO WE PARK?

We also had a chance to visit two cousins of mine (David Hatcher and Lydia Reece) and their families. We met at a Chicago zoo/park and later that evening devoured a famous Chicago deep-dish pizza! Thanks for the great Saturday guys.

## REFUELING

I fully enjoyed being at REFUEL Conference 2021 in Lynchburg, VA. Blessed to be with Jonathan Falwell, Dave Adams, Scott Phillips, Doug Randlett, Matt Wilming-ton, Rob Wetzell, Charles Billingsley, Tim Grandstaff, Russ Dean, Troy Temple, Jimmy Scroggins, Todd Thomas, and Nick Parsons. It is a free conference for all attendees - sponsored by Thomas Road Baptist Church. There are several "Refuel One-Day" events across the country within the next several months. Pastor friends, you should consider going and taking your team. Plan to attend REFUEL 2022. Visit [www.refuel.org](http://www.refuel.org). It is sure worth the networking and encouragement. (If you'd like me to go with you to a conference you believe in, please call me. I'd love to go with your team.)

## HEAVENLY HOSPITALITY

Raquel attended the "Christian Alliance for Orphans Summit 2021" in Cincinnati, OH in September. Thanks, Philip DuBarry for connecting her with Gary & Karen Gault for the week. Raquel was blessed by the Sunday night service at Addyston Baptist Church and the pizza dinner with David & Kym Pitman at the Gault home. Nothing beats Southern Hospitality? Wrong! Heavenly Hospitality is much better.

## "YOU MEAN IT IS NOT A HERNIA?"

In early September, I went to see a surgeon regarding a hernia. I had a hernia surgery back in 2001, in the exact location of the current bulge. I was certain it needed to be redone. Upon visual examination, the doctor requested a biopsy. I went in for a biopsy on September 15. Turns out it was a swollen lymph node – 2 inches in size and growing

quickly. The biopsy results came in – it was lymphoma. I was shocked by the news, as was Raquel. The surgeon said it was highly treatable and recommended I see an oncologist. I looked for the best oncologist in the region, but he was booked up to two months out. So, I searched for one with the soonest appointment available – in two weeks. Within the hour, my sister Michelle called and said, "Hey one of the best oncologists in the Chicago area has an appointment open for tomorrow. See if you can schedule it." He was the exact one who was only available two months away. I logged in and scheduled! In less than 12 hours I was sitting in his office! Praise the Lord!

Over the coming weeks, I ran several blood exams, an MRI, a CAT scan (a Dog Scan), and a bone marrow biopsy. The oncologist proposed a chemotherapy and radiology treatment plan. I accepted and began the process. Raquel and I spoke to each one of the kids as soon as we knew enough about my lymphoma, and what to expect of the side effects during the oncoming months. We knew it would be a hard conversation with our kids. As just recently, Raquel's best friend (Vanessa) passed away quickly from cancer at the beginning of this year. (Our kids knew Vanessa well and we visited her family in Pennsylvania a few weeks prior.) Everything was going well as I explained to our kids that I was sick with lymphoma. I wanted to explain thoroughly without using the word "cancer", but knew that I needed to explain that lymphoma is a type of cancer. (Everyone always thinks the worst-case scenario when you use the word. But, Vanessa's death due to cancer was very real to our kids.) Each one heard and understood everything I said up to that point. Then, I said, "Lymphoma is a type of cancer". Tears began to flow. I reiterated, told them there was nothing to fear, to trust in the Lord and He would take care of all the details. We pray together daily knowing that our hope is in the Creator. We rest in His providence and provision, daily.

The first step was to install a port-a-catheter. The day before the surgery, I went swimming with my kids – as I presumed it would be my last time to submerge into the water for at least 6 months. (I have two friends who have a port that is exposed externally and have to be very careful with it.) I woke up after the surgery and to my surprise, there was nothing externally. I was elated! I spoke to the surgeon about what I thought I saw. He said, "Oh yeah, you can go swimming in about a week, the port is internal." Praise the Lord!

On October 22nd, I began the first chemotherapy infusion cycle. Arrived at RUSH University Infusion Center at 7:30 am and was there for 7 hours. Some of the following days were rough, but the Lord has shown His grace. I will undergo chemo and 20 days of radiation – roughly 4 months. The oncologist originally suspected the cancer was in multiple locations. However, after all the scans/imaging and bone marrow biopsy, it was concluded that the Lymphoma is only in one location in my body.

After much prayer, I decided to openly speak of my cancer amongst friends on social media (in English and Portuguese) and request them to join us in prayer. Now, I am sharing in this publication and I ask that you join us

in prayer. Earlier in this process, I was keeping it privately. Only family, close friends, and Baptist Faith Missions directors knew of it.

I thank you for the prayers, emails, and phone calls already received.

I want to thank the directors for the decision (over a year ago) to change the BFM health insurance to Cigna Global. We are well covered and medically well assisted through the plan, both Stateside and in Brazil.

Most importantly, I want to thank my Heavenly Father for His provision, and for the LOVE He instilled in you for Missions and for my family.

On October 30, Raquel and I went on a walk at Cantigny Park in the city will live while Stateside - Wheaton, Illinois. We enjoyed a full three hours of talking, praying, and enjoying the beautiful Autumn colors (in Brazil the Fall season is not as evident as it is here). I want to share with you a poem at I wrote that evening.

## SURPRISING PEACE

*A beautiful day at spectacular Cantigny Park,  
Lovely amazing Autumn colors and never dark,  
Delighted by the endless cool breezes in my  
beloved's warm embrace,  
She is the one designed for me, oh my.*

*Oscillating sunshine splattering on my face,  
One Spirit, two people in Imago Dei,  
Past abyss placed me in disarray,  
How could I deny?  
Desperately grateful, I never could repay,  
My debt, "tetelestai",  
Oh, overwhelmed, full-fledged Grace.  
This Saturday in "Le Jardin" makes three hearts  
joined in fellowship rendered from the ultimate  
sacrifice.  
We trust, fully surrender,  
At the feet of the Creator in His plan for us.  
Whatta Divine!*

*He placed in us His Holy mark,  
Surpassing all human understanding ace,  
Sealed in us is His endless, sustaining love,  
Unrelenting confidence, trust immeasurable,  
We trust in Thine!  
He provides, surprising peace.*

Judson Hatcher | Wheaton, Illinois - October 30, 2021

## "HER INNER EAR IS OSSIFIED"

Two years ago, while our kids were traveling by plane under the supervision of an adult friend (we remained in São Paulo), Laura ruptured her left eardrum due to an infection – we did not know of it prior to travel. She went to the emergency care upon arrival in Manaus and the doctor prescribed medication. It just kept getting worse... three days later she went back to the ER. The doctor on call said, "not sure why, but she was given the wrong medicine!" The proper medication treated the infection in due time, but the hole in the eardrum never closed. She has to use an earplug for showers and when near water.

In São Paulo, every ENT doctor stated, "Her inner ear / cochlear canal is ossified. Her



hearing loss is reversible, and the MRI images confirmed the disheartening diagnosis. We submitted it to God.

Upon settling into Wheaton, IL, we took Laura to an Otorhinolaryngology (ENT). Upon first look into the left ear, he said it was likely she could get her hearing back! He referred us to the best ENT surgeon in Chicago. We scheduled an MRI and upon receiving the result: There is NO OSSIFICATION in the cochlear canal! She can get her hearing back with surgery! Praise the Lord!

Laura is 15 years old, and we are allowing her to make the decision regarding the surgery. Since repairing her hearing involves installing a cochlear implant and wearing a small magnetic device attached to the skull – an inch over, behind her ear. Our next step is to visit the cochlear audiologist to field any questions about post-operative body adjustment and the device's fine-tuning process. It should be about a month still. However, I do think Laura has already decided to install it (originally she said she did not want any external devices). Pray for Laura as she makes this important decision and we guide and support her through this process.

## THE FUTURE

Between these two big events, we have seen so many amazing things happen that are simply miraculous! The unbeliever might label it as "lucky" or, state "it's too good to be true", or "this is unbelievable", and "This stuff is absurdly, preposterously perfect". It is! It is Divinely planned. Thankfully, it is real, and we trust the Creator, the great bio-engineer, and chief doctor. We know factually to believe and surrender our lives to the One who holds our future.

## REQUEST

Pray for Jonathan & Charis Escote. They are part of our team. We plan to bring them to the States for an intensive training and exposure trip in January 2022. They are ministry team members and we need financial help for their trip. Would you consider giving for them to come to the States? We need to raise 3,000 dollars to cover the cost of this trip.

Grateful always,

Judson & Raquel Hatcher

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pictures online!  
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## VETERAN MISSIONARIES PENSION FUND

*Please prayerfully consider helping us support our faithful veteran missionaries in their senior years by giving a recurring generous offering designated for "VETERAN MISSIONARIES PENSION FUND."*

You can do that by simply making your contribution to Baptist Faith Missions and designating it for "Pension Fund" or "Veteran Missionary Pensioners" or by anything that says "Pension." We will know what you mean, and your offerings will go directly toward honoring our Veteran Missionaries Pensioners who have served our Lord and us so faithfully and sacrificially.

You can mail your contribution to our Treasurer, George Sledd. Or you can give online by going to our website and click on the gold "GIVE" button.

When you make your transaction online, you will be given the "Recurring option: \_\_\_ Yes! Please register me for the recurring program!"

We pray and hope you will.



## UPDATE

As of this date [11/29/21], we have received \$36,210 over the past two months. Our hearts are filled with thanksgiving to God for working His Grace in your hearts to move you to give – and thanksgiving also to you for your generous responses. If you have not given your Thanksgiving Offering to help us supply your missionaries' needs – either individually or through your church's collective offering – please prayerfully consider and commit to do so. And Grace to You [2 Corinthians 8.1-4]!

**We GO...  
because  
HE CAME.**  
**Merry  
Christmas to  
you & yours!**



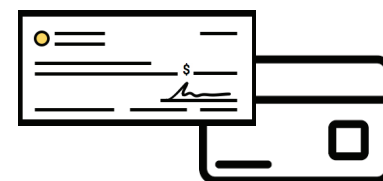
## WAYS TO GIVE



### 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](https://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

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December 2021 Issue

# ONLINE EDITION

## PRAY & PRAISE

...IN THIS ISSUE

► **ODALI & KATHY BARROS:** PRAISE GOD for how He is working through the services they are having in people's homes each Friday night! PRAY for those they are ministering to. [PAGE 4]

► **MIKE & BEVERLY CREIGLOW:** PRAISE GOD for how He used the life and witness of Missionary Mário Rodrigues to draw sinners to Jesus! PRAY for his family and those in Porto Walter. [PAGE 3]

► **JOHN MARK & JUDY HATCHER:** PRAISE GOD for they are back in France! PRAY as they continue to build relationships with those they want to see come to Christ. PRAISE GOD for the evidence of growth in believers! [PAGE 2]

► **JUD & RAQUEL HATCHER:** PRAISE GOD for His providence in miraculously and strategically placing the Hatcher Family in the right place on their Stateside furlough for some unexpected medical care. PRAY as they deal with these health issues as a family. PRAISE GOD for fellowship and heavenly hospitality! [PAGE 6]

► **AJ & BARBARA HENSLEY:** PRAISE GOD for how He is working among the Guarani Indian tribe! PRAY that the Lord will continue to work in the hearts and lives of these people. [PAGE 1]

► **NATHAN & CARRIE RADFORD:** PRAISE GOD for His many blessings! PRAY for Kenya and the coronavirus. PRAY for them as they prepare to travel back to Kenya. [PAGE 4]

► **ROGER & JULIE TATE:** PRAISE GOD for the children who are coming to URBC! PRAY for them by name: Faith, Esther, Isaiah, Chloe, Una and Emma. [PAGE 2]

► **BOBBY & CHARLENE WACASER:** PRAISE GOD six teens were saved at youth camp! PRAY the Lord would guide as they look for a larger building for their church. [PAGE 5]

## THANKSGIVING OFFERING APPEAL

**WE NEED TO REACH FOR OUR \$50,000.00  
THANKSGIVING OFFERING GOAL!**

*Will you pray about and consider giving your personal offering toward the 2021 THANKSGIVING OFFERING?*

Will you pray about and consider giving your personal offering toward the 2021 THANKSGIVING OFFERING?

There is just no way that we can exaggerate or over-state the importance of our Thanksgiving Offering. The Thanksgiving Offering is indispensable if we are to maintain providing our missionaries with the levels of service and benefits we are giving them now – and we certainly can't increase the benefits we give them without a very generous Thanksgiving Offering.

All the offerings given to the Thanksgiving Offering go directly toward the support of our missionaries by funding the commitments, benefits, and services we give them over the course of the next year.

Consider these truths:

- All the commitments, benefits, and services we give our missionaries are funded through offerings and contributions given to the *Missionary Support Fund*
- The only contribution streams that supply the Missionary Support Fund are the monthly offerings given to the *Missionary Support Fund* and the THANKSGIVING OFFERING
- The monthly *Missionary Support Fund* contributions do not sustain all the accrued annual disbursements for the commitments, benefits, and services we give our missionaries
- Therefore, we need and depend upon the THANKSGIVING OFFERINGS to make up for the monthly deficits we will incur in providing the commitments, benefits, and



services we give our missionaries over the upcoming year

- This year's THANKSGIVING OFFERING will make up for *next year's monthly deficits* in *Missionary Support Fund* contributions and disbursements
- IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE SUFFICIENT THANKSGIVING OFFERING FUNDS NOW IN ADVANCE OF NEXT YEAR'S DISBURSEMENTS, THEN WE WILL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO REDUCE THE COMMITMENTS, BENEFITS, AND SERVICES WE GIVE TO OUR MISSIONARIES
  - we have no other reserves, subsidies, or endowments to draw from or fall back on
  - we cannot borrow money to operate
- So, it is essential that we all give as generously as possible so our missionaries' needs will be supplied
- Will you give a generous personal THANKSGIVING OFFERING right now?
  - and, at the same time, may we encourage you to commit to making monthly – even recurring – offerings to the *Missionary Support Fund*!
- Your missionaries' needs will be met – and thanksgivings to God will abound and increase and continue!

**GIVE NOW!**



Visit our FaithWorks Blog to learn more about this offering and some of our most frequently asked questions.

[www.bfmnow.org/tgiving-faq/](http://www.bfmnow.org/tgiving-faq/)

## THANKSGIVING OFFERING FAQ

(Frequently Asked Questions)

