



# Baptist Faith Missions

## MISSION SHEETS

A NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST FAITH MISSION WORK, JUST LIKE THE LORD JESUS COMMISSIONED HIS CHURCH TO DO

Go - Make Disciples - Baptize Them - Indoctrinate Them - Mt. 28:19-20

VOL. NO. 64

AUGUST 2004

NO. 8



## Home On Furlough ... Nathan Ordained ... Ready To Visit Churches ...

Dear Special Friends,

August 3, 2004

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We have spent the rest of the time since we have returned getting set up in our rental home, getting a phone line and mobile phone to use while we travel, and attending the wedding of our nephew, who is the son of Randy and Barbara Jones. Randy and Barbara were the leaders of the Mission Adventures team who were with us in Kenya last month. Barbara is Pam's sister, so their son Michael's wedding, was a real blessing to attend, as his new wife is a very godly young lady. It was great to see so many of our family there for the wedding, and we enjoyed the time of fellowship with them, as we don't have the opportunity to see them often.

This month started off very well, as Nathan, our son, was ordained into the gospel ministry on Sunday, August 1st, at our home church, Calvary Baptist of Hurricane, W.Va. On Saturday Nathan was thoroughly questioned about his beliefs. We were so thankful that five pastors were present at the questioning, as well as the church deacons. Pastor Jim Orrick, president of BFM, was one of the pastors who questioned Nathan, and we appreciate his presence there. Our former pastor, Millard Mitchell, preached the charge to Nathan on Sunday, and we had a fellowship dinner afterwards. What a day of rejoicing it was for us, too, as Carrie, Nathan's fiancée, was able to attend both the wedding and ordination. We are so thankful to our Lord for what He has done in the lives of our children. Sara, Nathan's sister, and her husband, Graig, and our granddaughter, Melia, came for the happy occasions. It was a great start to a new month. The hardest part of missions is missing our family and family events, so this past weekend was a tremendous time for us, as we were able to fellowship with our family and many friends. God is so good.

Currently, we are at Brother Bobby Creiglow's home working on a video of the ministry in Kenya to show to churches. If you are interested in us visiting your church while we are on furlough, please contact us very soon, as we are scheduling meetings now. Please call the home phone number or mobile number listed above, or send an E-mail to our E-mail address listed above. We may not have an opportunity to visit each church, as we are also going to attend some classes that will help us to better minister in the bush while we are here in the States. If we cannot come to your church, we will gladly send you a video of the ministry in Kenya.

It is good to be back, and we are looking forward to seeing many of you while we are here. We are scheduled to be in several conferences, so we look forward to renewing our friendships with many of you and meeting even more of you who are so special and pray for us. Thanks again for all of your prayers for us. Please do continue to pray for the work in Kenya, as Andrea is "holding the ropes" for us there. Let us hear from you if you want us to visit your church. Until next month...

Many Blessings, Mike and Pam



Mission Adventures team and national workers at the new building for the Imani (Faith) Baptist Church.

## - IN MEMORIAM -

Elizabeth Sims, beloved wife of one of our directors, Brother James Sims, passed away July 18th. She and Brother Sims have been friends and supporters of Baptist Faith Missions for many years. "Absent from the body, present with the Lord."

## PRAY FOR YOUR MISSIONARIES...

### IN BRAZIL:

John and Alta Hatcher, Harold and Marie Bratcher  
Michael and Beverly Creiglow, Paul and Wanda Hatcher  
Harold and Ursula Draper, Robert and Charlene Wacaser.  
A. J. and Barbara Hensley  
Odali and Kathy Barros

### IN PERU:

Sheriden and Anita Stanton

### IN KENYA:

Mike and Pam Anderson

### IN FRANCE:

John M. and Judy Hatcher



## Buildings Going Up ... Gift of Chairs ... Sow With Us ...

Dear Friends,

August 1, 2004

Paul and Wanda Hatcher  
hatcher@argo.com.br

We have several buildings in construction and the teams are anxious to get the services started. They have been visiting and getting to know the families in the neighborhoods. They are having good response from the personal evangelism visits.

The Lord is providing for the needs week to week. Wanda and I were at the doctor's office two weeks ago and a friend was seeing the same doctor. He asked how the missions are doing. We excitedly updated him on the events of the week and how the gospel is having a great response and many are being saved. He listened attentively and was excited about the results. Then he asked if we could use chairs for one of the new locations. We certainly could. He donated 230 new chairs which were moved



Church in Porto Velho, capital city of Roraima.

directly to the Zumbi mission. God meets the needs just as they arise. We had bought a thousand chairs and the factory had not been able to deliver. God sent them just in time. The mission at Zumbi started two weeks ago; this week they had four people saved.

Tomorrow, Monday morning, we close the purchase of a property in Cidade de Deus, and will be off to get the building project underway. We are working on the roof at Riacho Doce and putting up a tent this week. We have, likewise, completed the roof at Coroado III. Hopefully, two missions will be initiated this week.

We need your prayers and appreciate your financial support. Sow with us and pray for a great harvest of lives to eternal life and service. Wanda and I are looking forward to seeing many of you at the summer conference at Richland Baptist Church.

Paul and Wanda Hatcher

## Brother Creiglow's Report ...



Bobby and Betty Creiglow  
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Dear Brethren:

July 30, 2004

Betty and I went for our routine, four month doctor visits this month and it seems like Betty is doing about the same, and has felt some better this month. I am doing very well with only the aches and pains that go along with old age; I turned 78 on July 25th.

I attended a doctrinal debate hosted by the Creek Side Baptist church and Pastor Dan Jenkins in Waco, Kentucky. Pastor Dan informed me that other church are planning to hold these kind of debates in the near future. I have also had the privilege of supply preaching here at my home church, (First Baptist) at times when my pastor, Brother Ed Massey has to be away. The adult Sunday School teacher also has to be away from time to time, and it is my pleasure to fill in for him.

Mike and Pam Anderson are to be with us the first week in August as I will try to help them put together a video presentation of their work in Kenya to present to the churches that they will be visiting while on furlough.

The Lord is still blessing us, and we would like to be a blessing to any of you that might desire our services.

In His Name, Bobby D. Creiglow

### STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

### MISSION SHEETS

(USPS 353-140)

Published monthly for free distribution by Baptist  
Faith Missions, 51 County Road 7, Ironton, OH  
45638  
Jim Orrick, Editor & President  
FAX: 1-740-533-0457  
E-mail: bfmorrick@bright.net

Periodicals Postage  
Paid at Ironton, OH 45638

POSTMASTER:  
Send address changes to:  
MISSION SHEETS  
51 County Road 7  
Ironton, OH 45638





## MISSION ADVENTURES TO AFRICA

By Jim Orrick

Saturday June 28th we awoke to a beautiful day in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya. After breakfast at the Mayfield Mission House, we loaded into three vehicles for the long ride to Katala where our missionaries Mike and Pam Anderson work. I and three others were in the Land Scout driven by Brother Anderson. As reported in an earlier article, over half of our luggage had not made it to Kenya; so our first stop was to the airport to check if any of it had arrived on a later flight. It had not.

After telling them where to ship the lost luggage, we were soon on the road to Katala. Kenya has to be the pot hole capital of the world. When Mike and Pam's son, Nathan Radford, visited Storms Creek, he said that the way to tell who the drunk drivers were in Kenya was that the drunk drivers drove straight, not trying to dodge the pot holes. I know that there is one sober man in Kenya who drives straight, Mike Anderson. If there were any pot holes between Nairobi and Katala that he missed, I did not see them. Kenya also has the largest speed bumps that I have ever seen. Those who were in the back seat of Mike's Scout had the same sensation that the astronauts have when they blast off for outer space.

The scenery along the road was beautiful. I especially enjoyed the beautiful Rift Valley. This is the largest valley in the world. It starts far to the North, in Jordan, runs through Palestine and for thousands of miles south through Africa. According to scientists, it is sinking several inches each century, and that someday it will flood. All of that section from Jordan down through Africa will break away from the rest of the continent. Many centuries before, the Prophet Zechariah wrote: "And His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south" (Zechariah 14:4). Along the way we passed through many small towns and villages that were teeming with people. We also saw our first wild life, zebras and baboons. We had only two short stops on the way to Katala, one for lunch and the other at the equator where we took pictures and bought a few souvenirs from some of the locals who swarmed us when we stepped out of our vehicles.

After about seven hours of bumpy ride, we finally arrived at the home of Mike and Pam Anderson. I arrived a much better man than when I started the day because if I had any meanness in me when we left Nairobi, Mike shook it all out of me on the road to Katala. The Anderson's live in a house that way built by a British official when Kenya was a colony of Britain. Although the house is about sixty years old, it has been well kept and is very comfortable. After a good meal, we were soon off to our sleeping quarters, ready for a good night's rest. The men slept in a small guest house that is on the property and the girls stayed in the Anderson's house.

On Sunday morning, June 29th, we attended services at the two churches that the Andersons have organized in the seven years they have been in Kenya. The first was at the Imani (Faith) Baptist Church. Their building was constructed of poles dabbled with mud. At each end of the building the roof extended out, like a carport that served as Sunday School rooms. The building had a tin roof and a dirt floor. The team divided into two groups with the girls teaching the young people, ages 2-18, with Pam translating into Swahili, and the men teaching the adult class with Mike translating. The church has been renting this building, and this was to be their last Sunday to use this building as this was the church that we had gone to Kenya to build a new building for. They were very excited about getting a new building. We were well received by Pastor Laban and the church.

Following Sunday School at Imani, we drove several miles to Calvary Baptist Church for the preaching service. There was a large crowd there to greet us and we greatly enjoyed the services. Greg Smith, Youth Minister at the Calvary Baptist Church, Hurricane, West Virginia, and I each preached a short message. Our interpreter was a fifteen-year-old boy named Immanuel. There was much congregational singing as well as several specials. I especially enjoyed their song leader, Matthew, and how he seemed to enjoy himself when leading the singing. The choir wore robes that had been given to them by the Bethel Baptist Church, Lexington, Kentucky, Brother Larry Wilson, Pastor. There was no accompaniment except for a drum that a young girl held in her lap, and two other instruments that I don't know how to define. After a light lunch we paired off with different members of the church and went visiting with them. That night they had an informal gathering for us with games and refreshments.

We had a great Sunday with Imani and Calvary Baptist Churches. That night we moved to a dormitory of a trade school where we were to spend the rest of our nights while in Katala. The compound is enclosed and guarded by two night watchmen and one Doberman Pinscher. Next day we began work on the new building for the Imani Baptist Church. To be continued...



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## Health Improving . . . Blessings And Trials . . .

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

August 1, 2004

For the first time since we arrived in May we can report that we are both doing much better with our health. We are thankful for that. It is now 2:00 a.m. after midnight. I learned from Bro. Hafford Overbey, if you can't sleep, get up, pray, and do something constructive rather than toss and turn; so I'm sipping hot milk and getting out this month's report.

July is vacation month for many from school, etc., and two of our workers in two of the missions went back to Sao Paulo to see their families. Both had to leave their wives and small children here due to the high price of bus fares. They are now back and into the work. At our work in Novo Diamantino we had an awful thing happen. A faithful man of the church fell into an awful sin and had to be disciplined. We are trusting the Lord that it will not hurt the work there. Our three faithful servants with cancer are still alive and having treatments. Pastor Joao Candido of the Boa Esperanca church is the worst off. I'm afraid he won't be able to hang on too much longer. Sister Teresa Santos seems to be much better and is scheduled to arrive back here this coming Friday if all goes well. We are planning a big reception for her. Our dear brother Luis Antonio will leave out tomorrow night for another round of chemo. His outlook isn't too good either. We commit them to prayer and to our sovereign Lord.

We want to thank all who are giving to our support and to the General Fund. We thank all who give to the "As Needed Funds." Right now we have three workers who are taking Freshman College classes. We are hopeful that by the end of the year they will have enough classes in to be able to get jobs teaching school. Hang in there with us and let's make this possible. We are building a new bathroom at the Novo Diamantino church as well as replacing all the broken glass in the windows. We are studying the possibility of building a small living quarter at the 7th of May work for the worker. We ask that you pray with us that we will be able to do this. This is vital to the future of that work.

All our children and grandchildren seem to be doing okay. Michelle has a new job at Lowe's Building Supply in Paducah, Ky. She really likes her job. She starts back to college on the 15th of this month. We love all of you and appreciate your support and prayers for us as well as all other faithful missionaries. Keep up the good work there and pray for us as we serve the Master here in Central Brazil.

Yours in Christ, Harold & Ursula Draper

### Moving or Getting A New Address?

You can help keep our cost down and assure that you do not miss any issue of the Mission Sheets if you will notify us of any change of address. When writing please include your old and new address.

### AVOID CAPITAL GAINS TAXES

If you would like to help BFM through donations of appreciated real estate, stocks, bonds, mutual funds and avoid capital gains taxes, please call BFM for detailed information.



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## Household Grows To 150 . . . Amelia Takes A Husband . . . Reaching To Foz do Iguaca . . .

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

August 4, 2004

Wow, this has been a very busy month here at the Alpha and Omega Children's home. At the beginning of the month, I went to the courthouse to pick up some documents, and while I was there the Judge told me that he had some business with me. This business happened to be a 3 month old baby named Fabiana who had been neglected and mistreated. Of course I brought this needy child home with me. Most of her body was covered with rashes and cradle cap because of the lack of loving care in her life. In the month that Fabiana has been with us she has already gained 4 pounds and is now looking beautiful and doing great.

Along with Fabiana and the other 150 children who make up our household, we hosted another 100 people this month. This was an extra burden, but we have come through it well. There were two events, here in Garca, for which they came.

The first was the wedding of my youngest biological daughter, Amelia. Amelia married an incredible young man who has been living and working here at Alpha-Omega for the past 3-4 years. Amelia says that he is like me, her father, so I guess that it is up to the hearer to decide if that is a good or bad thing. We pray that their marriage will be a blessing to them both, and that God will lead and guide them in their lives together.

The second event that brought all the guests here to our house was the ordination of one pastor and two deacons in the Central Baptist Church in Garca. These faithful men have served here in the Church, and we know, trust, and support them in the work that God has for them.

In conclusion, I want to ask you to pray for one more outreach of our Church. For eight years, we have been praying that God would send a faithful worker to Foz do Iguacu, in the south of Brazil. In this strategic city, which straddles Brazil, Argentina, and Paraguay, it is possible for one man to preach in three countries, to three peoples... without leaving the city. It appears that God has chosen this as His perfect time to answer our prayers. In the next month, we will be sending one pastor and his family there for a two week survey trip. Pray that God blesses this time and opens the doors for the work there.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

Following the Will of God in Garca, Jose Odali Barros



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## Many Profess Faith . . . The Harvest Is Great, Laborers Few . . .

Dear Friends,

August 4, 2004

July was a marvelous month in so many ways. Above all, we rejoice that God saved 163 adults and 198 children through our outreach programs. Some of these folks live a good distance from our church, so we provided them with a correspondence Bible course until we can get a church work organized near them.

We were blessed to have a youth group come from Highview Baptist Church in Louisville, KY who worked very hard to share the gospel during the nine days they were with us. We had several translators working together with them and our own evangelistic team, Project Life. One of my most personal thrills was that my 13 year old daughter, Jessie, was such a great help in translating the personal testimonies of the American youth to small groups of Brazilians, some of whom accepted Jesus as their Savior.

We were getting prepared to baptize three more converts last month, when I received requests from four other individuals. I wanted to have a more thorough conversation with these candidates before we baptized them. They have demonstrated a clear understanding of what it means to surrender to Christ and are willing to follow him in baptism. In the meantime, two other individuals have come forward requesting baptism also. Praise the Lord, Hallelujah!

We were praying for the Lord to raise up laborers for such a great harvest and He has already begun to answer. Often we are caught by surprise at how God works. One young man who has been with us since he was just 8 years old has become a dynamic leader among the youth. We are excited that God has called him to use his life in ministering the Word. We also have a married couple that is ready to assume the pastoral role of one of our earlier church plants that is presently without a pastor. But, we urgently request that you continue to pray for more laborers. The harvest is indeed great and we certainly could use many more.

Thank you so much for your prayers and faithful support so that we can be here for what God is doing in southern Brazil.

In Christ's love,

Bobby, Charlene, Jessie, and Brennen Wacaser

## THE LETTER I DID NOT HAVE TO WRITE TO OUR MISSIONARIES' THIS MONTH

By Dave Parks

We are going to break even in the General Fund this month. Praise God! Last month (July), we exhausted what was left over from our last Thanksgiving Offering. I called Brother Sledd, (our treasurer), toward the end of the month to find out how the General Fund offerings were coming in. He informed me that you had given generous offerings for the General Fund, plus additional offerings for the Founders' Month. They are printed on the receipts page in this month's Mission Sheets.

So, unless we incur some extraordinary or unexpected expenses through the remainder of this month, those offerings will cover the General Fund expenditures for this month. Of course, there is next month, but God has been faithful, and will continue to be faithful. *We literally depend on God's gracious provision by the day to fund our missionaries' ministries.*

The letter I did not have to write our missionaries this month is that we would have to reduce, or even eliminate their monthly *Housing Allowances* and *Ministry Expense Allowances* according to how short the funds are. Those funds (along with their salaries and the other "hard costs" operating expenses of our services to them) all come from the General Fund. I am thanking God I didn't have to write that letter this month.

### THE REST OF THE STORY

Now, the rest of the story. We have given one \$8000 4-year auto allowance to one of our missionaries this year from last year's Thanksgiving Offering. It was actually due in 2003, but we delayed it until 2004 because we didn't have the funds in 2003. We owe three (3) more Auto Allowances this year (2004). That is \$24,000 we need now besides the monthly expenses. One of the three missionaries who is due his Auto Allowance this year has requested it, but has agreed to postpone

(Please see Letter Page Three)









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## Plowing and Sowing . . . Reaching Many New People . . .

Dear Friends,

July 12, 2004

Thank you for your prayers and financial support. Without your faithful help, the task would be much more difficult. We still have our hands to the plow and are sowing the precious seed every moment of every day as God gives opportunities.

Regular services are being held in the recently purchased building in Marilia, and there is an average of about 50 different persons attending each week. In the sponsoring church, the Sunday School had increased to 133.

Every Saturday morning two persons, Wilier and Alice, and I visit the homes in a housing project on the other side of town. On Sunday the bus we rent comes from the city of Rancho Alegre and passes through this housing project. Our Sunday School has grown to about 35.

Our Seminary in Comelio just finished the first semester with a good group of students. I had quit teaching due to the night traveling and then went back to teach. But due to age and night traveling I have resigned all responsibility of teaching and directing the Seminary. Perhaps, we will have some seminary classes here in Urai since there are several interested. It is wonderful to see God at work in His developing and increasing the work and workers.

A few days ago a retired teacher called from the city of Nove Fatima, about 50 miles away. The pastor's wife there had loaned her my book on the Holy Spirit. She had been in Pentecostal churches for 13 years. When she read the book and saw the other side she was really jolted. She told Marcos, the pastor, "I have got to talk to the man who wrote that book." She got our phone number and called and marked a time to come. Since then, she called on more time and is attending the Wednesday night services at the Baptist church there. When she gets it all straight she will be a real witness of the truth. Pray for her.



John Hatcher standing in front of the First Baptist Church building in Alexandria, Kentucky. John began attending this church when he was about four weeks old. He was saved at the age of nine and baptized by Pastor Arley Jones. Brother Ron Duty is the present pastor.

This past week two other persons came to visit us. One of our young ladies does manicuring in people's homes. One night last week she called and said, "Pastor, the daughter of one of my clients and her husband are visiting here from Sao Paulo and they would like to visit you." I marked an hour and she called them. In about five minutes she called back and said they would be at our house at ten the next morning.

On Sunday night, yesterday, a young Japanese man came to our church about 30 minutes before services to know when the service started. He said, "I will back with my girlfriend for services." They came and are really interested in serving the Lord. Both are Japanese. They live in the Sao Paulo area but their families live here. Pray that it will be a door that God is opening to reach the Japanese people in our area.

The city of Assai is about 30 miles from Urai and we are praying to be able to open a work there soon. Please make this new work a special prayer item. We know God is able to make this possible even though we are getting old.

Alta continues to go full steam with music classes for two young ladies and preparing Sunday School lessons and teaching the new teachers.

Thank you, dear friends, and continue to pray for us.

In His love, John and Alta Hatcher



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## Back In Land Of Eternal Summer . . . Forty-Five Years In Brazil . . .

Dear Brothers and Sisters of the Blessed Savior: August 9, 2004

Once again we (Marie and I) greet you from the land of eternal summer and the land of many leaves falling every day from the trees in our yard. We have put out poison to be rid of the rats and mice, and we have killed more than one roach, and to discourage the robbers, we have not left the house by itself since we arrived on June 25th.

During this Mission Sheets month, July 3rd to August 2nd, I heard nine sermons preached and preached twelve sermons. Marie heard all of my one dozen sermons; nine of the twelve were preached at the 24th of March Baptist Church where I am the pastor. Permit me now to describe in details some of the events on some of the days.

Just day before yesterday we received the June 2004 Mission Sheets. I wrote in our letter that Stephen "will return to his home and family in Ocala after about two weeks with us here." At 4:00 am on the 12th of July he left us. During that time he preached six sermons. We heard him Sunday morning the 11th, at the 24th of March Baptist Church and that night we heard him at the Communion Baptist Church where Asa Mark Bratcher is the pastor. We were royally honored by the pastor and almost 200 people welcoming us back to Brazil.

On the 15th of July, we completed 45 years as missionaries to Brazil, our adopted homeland. On Friday night the 16th, I preached at the 2nd Mission of the Celestial Baptist Church. The evangelist of this mission is 22 year Ricardo Henrique Gomes Lima. We are invited to attend his wedding on the 28th of August. Sunday morning I preached at 14th of December Baptist Church where Wanderley Rodrigues is the pastor. The church was celebrating its 44th anniversary. Also they dedicated their recently constructed Fellowship Hall, which is named after me. Many in the Lord greeted us. On Thursday night the 29th of July, I preached to eleven of our brothers and sisters on the general subject of purity, because most of the eleven need to be legally married.

Thus we shared with you the news of these events here in Brazil. We were made sad to read Dave Parks Urgent Reminder that "for all practical purposes the General Fund is dry." Our prayer is that it will soon be "wet" again. May many of us help "water" it. We thank all of you who have been in contact with us here. May the Lord bless all of us is our prayer.

Yours in the Service of the Savior, Harold and Marie Bratcher



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## Thankful For Family . . . God Is Working In Tournefeuille . . .

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

August 1, 2004

Thank you for your faithful support. You are the means that God uses to meet our needs as we serve Him here in France. We will complete five years of service in France in September. These have been exciting years. There have been expected and unexpected hardships, but our Father, the Father of our Lord Jesus, has worked to produce victory in each of these situations. Furthermore, God has worked in unexpected ways that continue to thrill us. So, with the psalmist we proclaim, "O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever."

On July 17th, our youngest daughter, Lydia, was married to Adam Reece. We are thankful for Adam and Lydia and for their desire to serve the Lord. Lydia completed a bachelor degree in linguistics at Moody Bible Institute.

Thank you, each one, who worked in preparing for the wedding. Emmanuel Baptist Church in Evansville, Indiana, is a continuous channel of blessing and encouragement to us.

On the weekend of July 10th, our immediate family was all together for the first time since Christmas 2000. The number has been enlarged, however, by the addition of three granddaughters; Abigail, Nathalie and Camille. David just completed two years of service for the Lord in Central Asia where he had the privilege of seeing several former Muslim young men come to Christ. He just recently became engaged to Dulce, a fine young lady from the Central Baptist Church of Garca, Brazil. We are filled with joy and thanksgiving for the desire placed in the hearts of each of our children to serve Him.

In addition to the other activities, I had the privilege of being in a number of churches to report on what God is doing here in France. Thanks to each of you for giving us the opportunity to share the burden of our heart. As I review what God has done during the time that we have been here, I am amazed. After the initial language training, we moved to the city of Tournefeuille which has a population of 25,000.

We knew no one in this city before our arrival, but God marvelously opened doors and answered prayers. As a result, a number of people have been touched by the proclamation of the Gospel and the teaching of God's Word. Each week we meet with over thirty people. Some have been saved, several show a keen interest and God gives us opportunities with others regularly. In a country where people have been vaccinated against Christ and where 55% do not believe in life after death, every life touched by the Gospel is clear evidence of the Holy Spirit at work.

Please continue to pray for us and those whose lives God is touching here.

Serving Gratefully in France,

John and Judy Hatcher



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## Finally Receive Visas . . . Back In Brazil . . . Thankful For Prayers & Support . . .

Faithful friends,

July 31, 2004

We are giving thanks to the Lord because we are back in Brazil!!! Yes, we got our visas, and we returned to Brazil and our work here on the 19th of July. It was a long and hard six months, but when the Lord is in control the outcome is always the right one. This did not come about without the prayers of God's people.

Sometimes it is very hard to be able to thank everyone for their prayers for the successful conclusion of our visas. The only means of accomplishing this is words, so with those words we want to say, "Thanks for your prayers." As I am sitting here writing this letter, I'm reflecting back on the past six months, sometimes saying—Why? I guess it is not for us to know everything now. But while in the States we accomplished several tasks for the work here in Brazil that we would not have been able to accomplish had we not been in the States. So for whatever the reason we had the problem with our visas, we are just thanking God for all his interventions in our work and lives and the returning of us to Brazil.

As for the work here everything is going well. The main Church is averaging 120 in the evening services and about the same in the morning service. Two of the three mission points are growing. We will be working very hard on that one point that has fallen down in attendance.

We had several blessings while we were in the States and one of those is that we were able to raise enough money to put a large amount down on a piece of property for the vocational school. This week I have looked at five different locations. Pray for the Lord's direction in the purchase of the right property for the school.

Just to show us that God does not need us but allows us to participate in his work, just a week and a half before we were able to return to Brazil we had a Youth group from Shively Baptist Church in Louisville come to minister here in Caraguatatuba. Without us here, God was able to get them into one of the public schools and they were able to do construction on one of the mission points. So in the future I want to remember to thank the Lord for every time He allows me to participate in His work and receive the AWESOME blessings that He allows me to receive.

We have had John and Tommie Greatbatch and Taylor Brown with us this week

and have had the opportunity to show them the work and seek advice on the plans that we have for the building of the school. God always sends the right person at the right time to help us in the things that we are doing. So anytime you think about coming to visit us here in Brazil, just get your visa and come on down because God has plans for you here in Brazil.

It has been a small adjustment getting back to Brazil; we came from temperature in the 80s and 90s to the 50s and 60s. But we are getting adjusted.

We just want to let you know one more time just how much we appreciate your prayer support and your financial support. Without you we would not be able to be as effective here in Brazil. Just remember, every time there is one life saved, one person changed, you have had a part in that along with us. I wish there were words that could describe the joy that we feel in having partners like you. Thanks to BFM and their supporters because that is the reason we are here in Brazil.

Continue to pray for us as we serve here in Caraguatatuba Sao Paulo Brazil.

In His service, Aj and Barbara



A. J. and Barbara back in Brazil.