#### KINGDOM EXPANSION

Churches in Brazil are taking steps to expand the kingdom of God

page 8

#### <mark>6 BIBLE</mark> STUDIES

Believers and unbelievers are participating in Bible Studies at various locations in France

page 7

#### 90+ YEARS OF COMBINED SERVICE

An update from Mike Creiglow about his upcoming surgeries & his father

page 5

### SPRING CONFERENCE

A full Spring Conference schedule is available! Save the date & join us in Ohio!

🗢 page 6

**VOL. 83 | NO. 3** 

**MARCH 2023** 

**BFMNOW.ORG** 

# BAPTIST FAITH MISSIONS by Mews & Reports

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

#### **NEW BELIEVER IN PORTUGAL! FIRST SERVICE IN NEW SANCTUARY**



Bobby & Charlene Wacaser

bobbymichael\_1@hotmail.com Rua Laudelino Ferreira Lopes, 279 Sobrado 1, Novo Mundo 81050-310 Curitiba. PR. Brasil

February 14, 2023 Dear Friends,

It has only been a couple of weeks since my last report, but we are so glad to report that some wonderful things have happened in that short period! I'll jump straight to the best news of all. Our missionaries in Portugal, Yago and Manoela, were blessed to win their first Portuguese convert to Christ. You may have already read of this on the social media pages of Baptist Faith Missions, but we're so happy for them and for God's glory to shine, and we wanted to thank you who have been praying for their success.

They wasted no time after their arrival in

They wasted no time after their arrival in Portugal in reaching out to the lost people there. The young man, Emanuel, whom they were privileged to evangelize, considered himself anti-God for much of his life. In fact, you may have watched the movies "God's Not Dead", 1 and 2," that were in theaters a few years back. Emanuel was invited to go see # 2 by a Brazilian Christian friend living in Portugal and he accepted. While watching the movie, he identified himself with the atheist college professor. Similarly, his mother had died very young, and he was angry and confused at how a "good" God would let his mother die and it made it difficult for him to believe God was real. But at the same time, it got him wondering about the existence of God and, when Victoria, the Brazilian Christian friend asked him if he would accompany her to a Bible study, he accepted. Another interesting note is that Yago and Manoela did not know Victoria or she them, but on Baptist Faith Mission's social media pages she read about their



Manoela, Victoria, Emanuel (the new convert), and Yago

arrival in Portugal and she reached out to them to come help her evangelize her friend through a Bible study. They do not live in the same city, but they were happy to drive to meet them for this purpose. At the very first study, Emanuel, heard the gospel, believed in the Lord Jesus, and surrendered his life to Him for salvation! We are still praising God! Yago and Manoela have agreed to go weekly to meet with Victoria and Emanuel to begin discipleship training. Our continued prayer is that Emanuel will be instrumental in reaching his friends, family, and acquaintances with the gospel as well. It has only been a little over 2 months since this missionary couple arrived in Portugal and to already have a Portuguese adult turn to

to already have a Portuguese adult turn to the Lord is astoundingly great news!

Our church did begin having services in our new location as we planned. What we didn't plan for was the amazing turn-out in attendance. We had been having a packed house in our former location with an average of 225 in attendance. The very first service in our new location was attended by 309 people. A few of those were some

curious neighbors as to what kind of church was moving into their neighborhood, but they were warmly welcomed, and some have decided to keep coming. We still have lot of renovations to do on the building and classrooms, but many of our members are stepping up to the challenge, coming out several times a week to build, paint, clean, and pray for spiritual

growth. God is truly blessing our faith, and beyond it. We do at least have room now for continued numerical growth at our new location. May the Lord see fit to fill it quickly. Thank you so much for your faithful

Thank you so much for your faithful prayers and support. Charlene and I are very grateful.

In Christ's love, Bobby and Charlene Wacaser



First service in new location in Curitiba



to build, paint, clean, and pray for spiritual Bobby Wacaser preaching at the first service in their new location

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



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-NEWS & REPORTS -

#### **b**fm

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If making a change of address, please include the old address along with the new address.



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### PRAY FOR OUR COUNCIL OF DIRECTORS

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Darrell Messer • David Mitchell

Dave Parks • Mark Pyles

David Pitman • George Sledd

Sheridan Stanton • Jonathan Turner
Steve Wainright

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

#### PRAYING FOR RAIN IN KENYA



Roger & Julie Tate

rojuta@gmail.com Moffat Bible College P.O. Box 70 Kijabe, Kenya 00220

February 10, 2023 Greetings in the Name of Jesus Christ,

I pray this newsletter finds you well. I'm sure that life in the United States is not without its challenges. We find ourselves with some challenges here in Kenya as well.

First, Kenya is currently suffering through a more than usually severe drought. Kenya usually has its annual rainy season and dry season. And during the dry season it is always, well, dry. It gets dusty, things turn brown, crops suffer, etc. But this year is the worst of my fifteen years in Kenya as there was basically no rainy season this year. People started talking about it months ago but now we are really starting to see the effects of it. People all over the country are really suffering from a lack of water. Here in Kijabe where we live there has been no rain and so we have no water. We are now rationing water – no laundry, no showers for a while (we are at least able to take "missionary" showers now), and no flushing toilets (until it is necessary). We don't know how long this situation will last but it has gotten to the point where we have had to send all of our students home. They were already supposed to go home for mid-term break but we had to cancel classes early and send them home. They are scheduled to return late next week but this will only occur if the school is able to somehow get some water. Nobody around here really knows when that will be. This is not really the rainy season, but we could really use some rain. Please pray for rain.

Second, the drought is really beginning to effect Kenyans financially. I am seeing it mostly in students' inability to pay school fees. Fees are usually paid when families sell crops or livestock and then they use the proceeds to pay bills. But right now, crops and livestock are not faring well and families are struggling to eat, let alone have extra for school fees. Last month I did mention a student, Milkah, who had been left in a bad spot and couldn't pay her fees. I want to thank you all for praying for her as she was

able to raise her fees, pay her bill, and return to class (except that class has been canceled and students sent home because of the drought).

In more happy news, we had our first visitors here to Kenya in a very long time. It was a joy to have Doug and Sharon Brook visit us for a few days. They are our dear friends from our home church in Ohio. I realized when I was introducing them to folks around here that Doug and Sharon are my "oldest" friends. I don't mean oldest in age, but oldest meaning "longest standing friends". Of all the friends in my life, Doug and Sharon have been around and stood in there the longest. I have been friends with Doug for 43 years and Sharon for 40. You probably can't imagine how much we miss "home" sometimes. Having friends here brought a little bit of "United States Home" to our "Kenya Home".

We are praying for you all, that you would know and love Jesus, that you would follow and serve Him, and that the Kingdom of Christ would grow in your neck of the woods, wherever you call home

Blessings to all, Roger, Julie & Chloe



#### Legacy Library

We are pleased to announce the completion of what has probably been a 10-year journey: making available to you for public access and viewing the digital copies of our BFM newsletter, *The Mission Sheets*, from the very first mimeographed offering report to the present.

For decades [indeed from 1942], the paper copies for the Mission Sheets had been faithfully kept preserved, and stored in Brother Hafford Overbey's homes and garage. Several years ago, Bobby Creiglow and Darrell Messer took it upon themselves to go through all those old file cabinets and boxes and separate all the individual issues by the month and year and group them in chronological, successive order.

Then came the task of having them digitized. We searched for how it could be done and who could do it for us. After reaching several dead-end conversations with public vendors, the Lord brought us into contact with Doug Brook, a faithful servant in Emmanuel Baptist Church, Bellbrook OH where Darrell Messer pastors. Doug performed the service of scanning and digitizing each issue and storing them in order – and even transferred the files to our Dropbox. But they were still out of sight for public access and viewing.

So Lauren Pyles has now completed the transition of all those digital files to our website! We call it our Legacy Library.



Here is the link to that page: https://www.bfmnow.org/legacy-library/ (or scan the OR code to the right).

C C C or you can to our website https://www.bfmnow.org/ and click on "Our History" in the top menu bar and go to "Legacy Library."

We pray that these records will continue to serve as a public witness and testimony to God's faithfulness to us and inspire us to continue to reach the ever-changing new generations of those who must hear the Gospel of God's salvation in Jesus Christ!

MARCH 2023

#### PRAYING ABOUT PURCHASING A CHURCH BUILDING



Odali & Kathy Barros odali\_kathy@hotmail.com Iranduba, Amazonas Brasil, S.A.

February 15, 2023 Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are thankful to God for the partners we have in our ministry. Each one of you are a blessing.

Things here continue doing well. We have had services in several places. There are possibilities for other places. One of the places is the village of Ariau. In this village there was a Baptist church but for some reason they closed. The building is for sale for \$6,000. We are interested in having a ministry there. Pray with us about this building. We are going to meet with the person responsible for the sale.

At the Church in Ubim, we would like to put tile on the floor. It is concrete and hard

to keep clean. If any of you are interested, we would appreciate any financial help. We are already checking on the prices of the tile to find the best price. Here the tile is sold by square meter. The average price we have found is around \$10.00 per square meter.

We are planning a camp this month. With all the COVID problems we have not had camp. The kids are excited about the camp. We are using a place that belongs to a friend, but our plans are to have a camp of our own to use any time we want. We have the place. We are working on getting the area ready to build dorms and an area for a kitchen. Pray with us about this also that God will provide the means.

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

Odali and Kathy Barros



The building they want to purchase



### **GIVE Online!**

You can make a secure donation online with a check or credit card. Just click the "GIVE" button on our homepage at BFMNOW.ORG!





The floor of the Church in Ubim

MARCH 2023

NEWS & REPORTS =

#### **AMAZED AT GOD'S MIRACLES**



AI & Barbara Hensley ajcaragua@gmail.com 30524 Mimi St Sebring, FL 33870-0530 859-539-1424 Barb 859-539-2302 Aj

February 20, 2023 Dear friends and family,

Being in the ministry and seeing all that God can do, I am still amazed when I see a special need that the Lord is working on. Either I have forgotten the last time, or I think that I can take care of it, BUT He says, "AJ, it is under control," and He makes for him to be able to get a visa to

a miracle again. Sometimes I let my human side think too much, worry too much, and all the time, He's got it. Thank you, Lord, for taking care of the need

and once again showing me my smallness. the One we serve!

As we are planning for the class in April, we ask you to pray that we are reaching the Pastors and Churches that need the seminary training. Also, please pray that they will reach those who need to hear that gospel for saving grace.

Allow me to digress for just a moment. During the last three classes in São Paulo City, we had a gentleman who sat on the first row in the class, and we soon discovered that he was blind. He used a recorder for his notes and

when it came time for his test, I read the questions for him. He passed all the exams with flying colors by the way. This is just an example for us to remember that even the blind man sees the need for the gospel! Once more we see how AWESOME our God is!!!

I want to tell vou about one more miracle. Our Brazilian son (of the heart), a child of the street, will be starting his veterinarian practice and his ambition is to use his knowledge to serve the Lord in India or Africa. Pray

> visit us and then go to one of these countries to spread the gospel. From street kid to Doctor of Veterinary Medicine! God will and does make a difference in lives! AWE-SOME!!!



A blind man participating in the seminary class

Continue to pray for the semi-How great and AWESOME is nary and us as we are going to be starting classes via Zoom. We are and will be purchasing some computers for our Brazilian partners. They will be helping translate and guiding in finding other Churches and communities for the Seminary to reach for God.

Thanks to ALL who support BFM— partners, friends, neighbors, churches, pastors. Without you, it would be impossible for us to be on the field. THANK YOU!

In His service, Ai and Barbara



Seminary Class Participants

### **SCENES FROM SÃO PAULO**

"Having gone through a battle with cancer brought a new perspective to this life and a sense of urgency in pointing people to the Savior and living



Jud on the São Paulo subway en route to a visit a family.





Jud at the market, making prayer rounds and meeting people.

MARCH 2023

#### MISSION TRIP TO PERU, SURGERIES SCHEDULED



Mike & Beverly Creiglow ndcreig@hotmail.com Caixa Postal 24 Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre, Brazil 69980

February 22, 2023 Dear Brethren,

Greetings from not so cold today Lexington, Kentucky. It has now been over a month that I arrived here for medical attention. Things have gone pretty

well so far. Before leaving home, I had confirmed my first visit of the year to our mission work in Peru. That didn't quite out work as planned. Still there is good news. Our missions director, Zico took Pastor Benjamim (yes, that spelling is correct) with

him and made the trip anyway. The church building was packed and they had a baptism, too.

Mike with his dad, Bobby Creiglow, who is now 96 years old.

Combined, they have 90+ years

of missionary service.

Today is the final day of our first big youth camp of the year. Andrew is the leader of that ministry.

The last Sunday of January we had our "Ministry Fair". This event is just as many ministries in 1966. Great times. Wonas possible setting up displays and recruiting new help for the year ahead. Our church has an average of 70% of the membership involved in some kind for all of my treatment. I will of ministry or service. We are so thankful that the Lord has

made this happen. It is why so much gets accomplished. Sharing the workload across the membership has made it a joy to pastor.

My oldest son Adam and his wife Suzy came over from California to visit. Also, my grandson Caleb came in from Indiana. I am staying with my daughter Monica and granddaughter Isabella here in Lexington, Kentucky. We all

> went over to visit my Dad and his wife Lois last night. Dad is now 96. He is not in the greatest health. He is still verv much alive and has not lost his sense of humor. Last night he was in great form. He told a bunch of

stories. We had some really good laughs and shed many a tear. Dad and I have 90+ vears of missions combined between us. One date that he and I share is January 29. He was baptized on that day in 1956. I surrendered to be a missionary on that same date derful blessings.

My first surgery is scheduled for tomorrow February 23. Please continue to pray have a second surgery on March 6. There will be other



**Baptism** 



Packed Church Building

doctor visits and procedures along the way.

Since the treatment is going well into March I have accepted an invitation to attend the Baptist Faith Missions Spring Missions Conference in Ohio on March 31

and April 1. Looking forward to seeing many of you there.

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

In Christ, Mike Creiglow NEWS & REPORTS -



#### **BFM SPRING CONFERENCE**

MARCH 31 - APRIL 1, 2023
GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH | Fairborn, OH
"The Advancement of the Glory of God"

The Advancement of the Glory of God in Election (Dave Parks)
The Advancement of the Glory of God in Redemption (Greg Winn)
The Advancement of the Glory of God in Sanctification (David Pitman)
The Advancement of the Glory of God in Glorification (Terry Adkins)
The Advancement of the Glory of God in the Great Commission (Mike Creiglow)

#### Schedule

#### Friday, March 31

6:30- Opening- Pastor Mark Pyles

6:35- Congregational

6:40- Special Music

6:50- Message - Dave Parks

7:30- Zoom with Missionary

7:40- Congregational

7:45- Special Music

7:50- Message - Greg Winn

#### **Accommodations**

A few Hotels nearby among many: Comfort Inn & Suites Fairborn near Wright Patterson AFB 730 East Xenia Drive, Fairborn, OH, 45324 | (937) 754-9109

Wingate by Wyndham Dayton - Fairborn 3055 Presidential Drive, Fairborn, Ohio 45324 | (937) 986-1368

Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, Fairborn South, 3971 Colonel Glenn Highway, Beavercreek, Ohio | (937) 429-2222

*Tru by Hilton Beavercreek Dayton* 3813 Colonel Glenn Hwy, Fairborn, Ohio, 45324 | (937) 988-0250

#### Follow us online for updates!

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#### Saturday, April 1

9:00- Welcome and BFM Update

9:15- Congregational

9:20- Special Music

9:25- Message - David Pitman

10:05- Break

10:30- Zoom with Missionary

10:50- Congregational

*10:55- Special* 

11:00- Message - Terry Adkins

11:45- Lunch

1:00- Zoom with Missionary

1:15- Congregational

1:20- Special

1:25- Message - Mike Creiglow

#### **Contact Info**

Grace Baptist Church 2920 Beaver Valley Road Fairborn, Ohio 45324 Contact: Pastor Mark Pyles

Email: pastormark@gbcfairborn.com

Cell: 304-545-0603



## GOD IS ANSWERING YOUR PRAYERS

**Bible Studies** 

in 6 Locations

"Some of these studies are

with believers who are

growing in the faith and

encouraging one another.

Other studies are with lost

people who are interested in

learning about Christ."

Iohn Mark Hatcher



John Mark & Judy Hatcher
JMHatcher@aol.com
4, rue d'Aspin
31170 Tournefeuille,
France

February 15, 2023 Dear Brothers and Sisters, We are grateful to God for your faithful support for many years. Our Father

is answering your prayers. The Church meetings in Tournefeuille and Bible studies in six different locations are going quite well. We are doing studies in Isaiah, John, Hebrews, Ruth and a couple of topical studies. Some of these studies are with believers who are growing in the faith and encouraging one another. Other studies are with lost people who are

interested in learning about Christ.

The newest Bible Study in the city of L'Union is, besides the hostess, a meeting with seekers. The term seekers fits them well because they do not miss and have become increasingly more open. One lady, who drives about a dozen miles to the meetings, has noticeably become more open and touched by the Gospel. In the beginning she was quite confrontational. It now is obvious that she has encased herself in an armor to protect sentimental wounds that have accumulated over her 56 years of life. She has invited us and others in the group to come to her house

tomorrow. Please continue to pray for these folks. Jesus said, "Seek and you will find."

Our youth meetings have been very exciting. As I mentioned in my last letter, our present study series is about being a witness for Christ. One way to express our faith is to communicate to others how God has worked in our lives. It may be telling how Christ brought you to

Himself or how He has worked in your life since you trusted Him. The youth have been enthusiastic about sharing their testimonies and hearing the testimonies of others.

By the time you read this, Judy and I will have celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary. It has been a wonderful life serving the Lord together on three different continents

different continents. She is a terrific teammate as well as a very loving spouse who has personally helped me grow spiritually. God has blessed us with four wonderful children, two wonderful daughters-in-law and a fine son-in-law. They are all serving the Lord in many different areas. We are really blessed to have 12 lovely grandchildren. Most recently God added a fine Christian

Many of you have been a part of our lives for many years and we thank God for you.

grandson-in-law!

Serving our Savior together in France, John and Judy

#### **WAYS TO GIVE**



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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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# ONLINE EDITION

#### PRAY & PRAISE

IN THIS ISSUE

- ▶ ODALI & KATHY BARROS: PRAISE GOD for services in new locations! PRAY about the possibility of purchasing a church building. PRAY for their upcoming camp and plans for building their own space. [PAGE 3]
- ▶ MIKE & BEVERLY CREIGLOW: PRAISE GOD for how the workload is shared across their membership! PRAY for Bro. Mike's surgeries and recoveries. PRAISE GOD for the baptism in Peru! [PACE 5]
- ▶ JOHN MARK & JUDY HATCHER: PRAISE GOD for the youth's enthusiasm to share their testimonies! PRAY for those who are seeking truth. PRAISE GOD for 50 years of marriage! [PAGE 7]
- ▶ JUDSON & RAQUEL HATCHER: PRAISE GOD for God's providence in their lives! PRAY as they prepare for their next network meeting and an upcoming pastoral conference. [PAGE 8]
- ▶ AJ & BARBARA HENSLEY: PRAISE GOD for how He meets needs! PRAY they will reach Pastors and churches who need seminary training and that the training will help them reach others with the Gospel. [PAGE 4]
- ▶ ROGER & JULIE TATE: PRAISE GOD for answered prayers for Milkah! PRAY for rain. PRAISE GOD for a visit from dear friends from the States! [PAGE 2]
- ▶ BOBBY & CHARLENE WACASER: PRAISE GOD for the first new believer in Portugal! PRAY that the Lord will help him grow and reach others as he is discipled by Yago, Manoela, and Victoria. PRAISE GOD for their new church location and all those who attended their first service! [PACE 1]





### **BFM SPRING CONFERENCE**

MARCH 31 - APRIL 1, 2023
GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH | Fairborn, OH
"The Advancement of the Glory of God"

Speakers
Dave Parks, Greg Winn, David Pitman,
Terry Adkins, Mike Creiglow

More Details + Full Schedule inside on page 6

## CHURCHES TAKING STEPS TO EXPAND THE KINGDOM



Judson & Raquel Hatcher judsonhatcher@gmail.com (872) 400-6522 São Paulo, Brasil

February 21, 2023 Dear friends,

Thank you for praying and supporting us. We are truly grateful.

It has been two months since we returned to São Paulo. Our kids are in school and have settled into academic life. Everyone is in good health. Raquel celebrated her birthday this month. We have many things to be grateful for, particularly God's providence in our lives. This month also was the one-year mark since the completion of my chemotherapy. Having gone through a battle with cancer brought a new perspective to this life and a sense of urgency in pointing people to the Savior and living generously. Every moment with the family has become more precious, friends more important, and speaking of the Gospel and mobilizing for Christ's cause more vivid.

This month was productive as the churches, part of our Life Together Network, have taken significant steps to expand the Kingdom. I am grateful to invest time with pastors who desire to

become more effective in the Gospel strategies. This weekend we have our next Network meeting as we prepare for a pastoral conference in April and actively work on shaping a leadership reproduction and multiplication culture. Additionally, several churches have taken bolder steps with evangelistic strategies within their communities. Last week I had several meetings with leaders in church planting here in São Paulo to iron out details to grow our discipleship gatherings further.

Grateful always, Judson Hatcher



Judson traveling by bus, visiting churches and pastors.

More pictures inside on page 4!