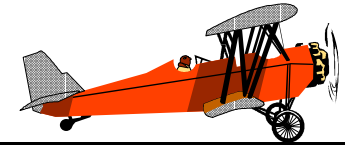


News from the Ensz of the Earth



"Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and the name of his son? Tell me if you know! (Proverbs 30:4)

News from the Amazon Rainforest - Spring 2000, Issue #16

An Old Work, A New Worker

Elson was being considered to pastor a church. His name had come up a number of times. "Nope, he's too green." Elson has a baby face and looks about 16 (although he is 30 years old).

The church was a disaster. The former pastor worked full time as a principal and had little time for the church. Of course, who would want to spend their weekends dealing with that pessimistic, critical bunch. If the church wasn't dead already, it was looking for a grave. After 10 years of life, it had to be reclassified from an established church back to a pioneer church. *Quite the opportunity!*

Should we place Elson in *this* church. "He has mostly worked with youth." "He has moved around a lot from church to church." "I am not sure he is mature enough." "He is not married you know." So went the comments.

The good thing was that all the trouble makers in the church had moved on. The church was low enough it was almost like starting all over. Was it the right time for Elson to take a church? Yes it was. Elson was ready.

Four months ago, Elson took charge of this, his first church. Before his arrival attendance was often less than 10 people. Today they are already averaging more than 30. In March they are planning to baptize 10 people. Five of those 10 are new converts from the community who were totally unchurched.

Many other good things are happening, but we just want to praise Jesus for his perfect plans. Was it the right time? It was. It was the Lord's timing. Pray for Elson's ministry, his continued studies at the Bible College, and most of all that he would stay true to the Lord's every command.

The *Overseas Dispatch* is duplicated and mailed by Brookview Wesleyan Church. Please send any address changes or additions to Wesleyan World Missions: PO Box 50434, Indianapolis, IN 46250.

CULTURE QUIZ

Common Baby Beliefs in Brazil!

1. Rain or even sprinkling causes colds, therefore, a baby should never be out in inclement weather.
2. Coldness, as well, is an enemy and babies should be well wrapped. (We find the 90° weather warm enough.)
3. Slobbering indicates that the baby has an itch somewhere. One must scratch the baby all over to "help" her stop. It actually works, but I don't think that itching is the real cause.
4. Hiccups occur because the parents have not put shoes on the baby. Generally hiccups are looked at as a negative, perhaps harmful thing.
5. A very common home remedy for colicky babies is a tea that acts like a mild sedative.
6. The pacifier is standard equipment and they use them until the child is 4, 5 and 6.
7. Cesarean births are the norm for any one with the means to use a hospital. They make an appointment and have their baby - very convenient. We did not go that route.
8. You would be hard pressed to identify a Brazilian diaper, they look more like cheese cloth to us. Their main function is to *strain*.

We certainly want to say that not all Brazilians adhere to every one of these beliefs, and to be fair, Americans have their own home remedies

Calendar of Events

February: Bible College Begins

March: District Camp

April: Work Team Visits,

Easter Evangelism Campaign

**July: Enszes Furlough Begins,
and General Conference**

Announcing...Gwendolyn

Hurray!!!

Gwendolyn Grace has arrived!

She was born

*January 10, 2000 at 4:45 p.m.
and has her mommy's hair.*

*The newest Ensz weighed 8 lb. 9 oz.
and was 21 inches long.*



Her parents, Tom and Grace, and her siblings Anna and Hudson, wish to thank all of you for your prayers and support that played such an important role in Gwendolyn's safe arrival.