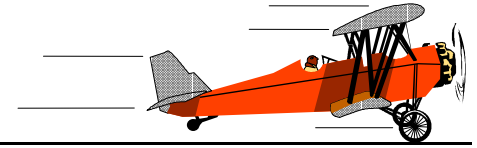


News from the Ends of the Earth

Turn to Me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth; For I am God, and there is no other. (Isaiah 45:22)



News from the Amazon Rainforest - Fall 2002, Issue #20

How do You Plant a Church in Brazillllllll??!!

It is easy to plant a church in Brazil! You just follow wherever the Lord leads you. Often, God leads in the most unexpected ways. How about a small group meeting in a downtown beauty salon? ...or a prayer group in a dance studio?

Helio Cesar Alves is an unusual person as well. When I met this outgoing Brazilian, he was an associate pastor in a church in Katy, Texas. He says he learned to speak English from watching Elvis Presley movies. He is quite tall, lifts weights and likes to ride motorcycles.



Marcia, Ítala, Helio and Filipe

In a “chance” meeting with Don Bray, Helio mentioned his desire to plant a church in the south of Brazil. Don spoke to Rick West (the Latin American regional Director) about this opportunity. Rick phoned me.

To make a long story short, in June, Helio moved his whole family to Londrina, Pará to plant a church, an area where we have no Wesleyan Churches.

Helio grew up in Londrina and loves the people and the city, but his greatest desire is to see them come to know Jesus as their personal savior. In September, nine people were baptized in a nearby swimming pool. The target group for Helio is not church hoppers or shoppers, but those who are unsaved and unchurched.

I am not sure what is the “normal” way to plant a church in Brazil, but I know that Helio is *certainly* not following the crowd. Recently, “Grace Chapel” hosted a banquet for those interested in the new church plant. One hundred and twenty people attended and many made commitments to help in the work.

After the planning and the preparation, Helio wants to have their first official service. The goal is to break the 200 barrier the first day, and *then to see that number expand!*

Pray that the Lord would move in a mighty way in Londrina, leading and preparing Pr. Helio, his wife Marcia, and the leaders that the Lord is sending their way. We are so excited about Londrina because we see it as the gateway to the south of Brazil. Pray that *Grace Chapel* would be a model for other church plants in the future...to follow *wherever* the Lord leads.



Londrina, Pará - City of 850,000 people

Calendar of Events

Oct: Trip to Fortaleza, Northeast Brazil

Dez: Training and Evangelism in the Interior

Jan: Leadership Retreat and Mission Council

Feb: 1st Semester begins - Bible College

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.