

(News from the Todds - Formerly The Todd Times)



birthday party. The party lasted from noon until around 6pm!

We met lots of their family and had a great time in conversation and celebration. We met a nephew of Mônica. His name is Diego and he is 17. He attended the American school here in town and knew Jason Smith (MK of former missionary Kevin Smith).

We are excited that God is providing us with relationships! We are building on them, and hopefully through this the Kingdom of God will be increased.

around the corner from us. They were interested in their boys learning English and Pastor Doug (another Wesleyan Missionary) recommended that they ask Stephanie if she would be interested in teaching them.

During our first visit with them, we worked out the details of the tutoring then we got to know them a little better. Hilário told us he was a non-practicing Catholic and Mônica told us she was a non-practicing Mormon. Mônica even expressed the desire to go to church. They both speak English, so we were able to communicate with them using both English and Portuguese. The boys come to our house every Friday to learn English.

We were invited to Dany's

Vizinhos (Neighbors)

We've been out and about our neighborhood, and we've met several of our neighbors.

First we'd like to introduce you to Micael and Érica. They are one-year old twins. Their nannies take them for walks every day. We met them during one of their walks. We see them almost every day and when we do, we stop to talk with them for a little bit. They've gotten to the point that they recognize our van and when they see us drive by, they wave and smile at us. Sometimes, when we are out walking, we'll meet up with them and they always have a kiss to give. We cannot wait until they are able to talk.

Now we want to introduce you to Hilário and Mônica and their two boys Paulo and Daniel (Dany). They live

Glória - Our Church

Of the several churches here in Manaus, we had a decision to make, which one to call our church home. We visited several churches, and after about six months decided to go Glória.

Glória has Sunday School in the mornings, a worship service Sunday night as well as children's church on Sunday night. They also have a youth service every Saturday night that

Stephanie likes to attend. Throughout the week they also have several small group meetings that meet in different people's homes.

Currently, we attend the Sunday evening worship service. Because we don't know very much Portuguese, we will wait to attend Sunday School for a little bit longer. Sunday School is a more intimate, small group type of setting.

Chelsea, Elie and Sam attend the children's church and it is a good way for them to learn Portuguese as well as to get to know the children that attend the church. They are making friends and learning a lot.

We hope to be able to become more and more involved, as we understand more and more of the language.

BRAZIL



Did You Know.....

that there are 175,000,000 people that live in Brazil?

that 80% Brazil's population are nominal Catholics?

that 28% of Brazil's population is 0-14 years old?



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What's Cooking in Brazil



From the Kitchen of: Sandi Todd

Feijoada- I make this every Wednesday for lunch

Ingredients:

2 c. black beans; **½ c.** Green Bell Pepper, chopped;

½ c. Red Bell Pepper, chopped; **½** Onion, chopped;

½ Tomato, chopped; **1 Tbsp.** Garlic Raw Minced Garlic;

½ Tbsp. Salt; **1 tsp.** Cumin Powder; **2-4 cubes** of Beef Bouillon;

1 lb. Beef, any cut, cut in small cubes or strips;

½ lb. Bacon, cut in small pieces; **1 c.** Green Onions, chopped.

1 c. Fresh Parsley, chopped; **2** Bay Leaves



Rinse beans, then place in pressure cooker pan. Cover with water. Let Soak for 30 minutes. Drain and rinse. Place beans back in pressure cooker. Add peppers, onion, tomato, garlic, salt, cumin powder and bouillon cubes. Add water to cover about one inch above the ingredients. Place lid on cooker and cook over high heat until pan starts to jiggle. Reduce heat to medium-low and cook for 30 minutes. Reduce pressure from pan and remove lid. Add beef, bacon, green onions, parsley and bay leaves. Bring to boil. Reduce heat. Cook for an Additional 15-30 minutes or until meat is fully cooked. Serve with rice and cooked kale. To prepare kale, just cut into ¼ inch strips, place in pan with small amount of water and cook until reduced and dark green.

Words of the Quarter

Parts of the Body
(*Partes do Corpo*)

cabeça- head

nariz- nose

boca- mouth

braço- arm

perna- leg

pé- foot

mão- hand

dedo- finger or toe

cabelo- hair

rosto- face

olhos- eyes



Financial Update

Promises In Faith

Many people and churches commit to partner with us in ministry. Our ministry here in Brazil would not be possible without those back in the USA praying for us and financially supporting our ministry here. Currently we have 597 people that have signed up to be an “official” prayer partner. There are also 35 individual or family Faith Promises made to financially support us. We have 48 churches that are supporting us in prayer and 26 of those churches are supporting us through faith promise.

We had previously mentioned in our email updates that our Faith Promise commitments had fallen due to financial constraints at one of our major supporting churches. But we are happy to report that because of a few committed churches and individuals, we are only behind 2% of our target goal of \$65,000. Keep praying in this area, as we still need Faith Promises to meet this goal even while we are here on the field. I would also like to report at this time, January 2003, giving to Wesleyan World Missions/Global Partners for our term year, September 2002- August 2003, is at \$30,124.48 or 46.3%. Giving is a little behind where it needs be after 6 months. We'll keep you posted in future email updates and newsletters as to the progress of our Faith Promise level and actual giving.

Special Project – Todd Startup Fund

This account is currently 32% funded (February 2003). We have been using the start up fund to equip our home for life. Things like the refrigerator, living room furniture, beds, dishes, cooking utensils, repairs and upgrades to the home and many other things needed to set up home from scratch in a new country are paid for out this fund. Unfortunately we cannot make the necessary purchases when funds are not available, and you might have guessed it, but this account is empty at this time. We still have items needed for our home, one of which is a safe to store monies and important documents. Any help with this account would be GREATLY appreciated.

Brazil

Many have read or heard about Wesleyan World Missions/Global Partner's new structure to link mission supporters with a particular field. Your Wesleyan missionaries here in Brazil want to do whatever we can to help you PARTNER with The Wesleyan Church of Brazil. If you are interested in having Jim Todd or Tom Ensz speak at a Missions Conference or District Event, please contact us so that we can make the necessary plans. We can also facilitate linking your church, zone, district, or region with a ministry here in Brazil—There may even be opportunities for Brazilians to join us for some engagements. The Wesleyan Church of Brazil needs assistance to continue the ministry programs already in place. This assistance is called National Church Funds. The funds are used for things like subsidizing tuition and operations at SEW (Seminário Evangélico Wesleyano), the seminary located here in Manaus. These funds are also used for general church planting efforts, evangelism, and a new program call TEE or Theological Education by Extension. One way for you to partner with a ministry here in Brazil is to make a pledge for a Share or Shares. Each Share is a commitment for \$500/year. Under the current budget and ministry strategy, Brazil has a need for commitments to be made for 51 shares. Currently, we have a commitment for 1 Share. One-time donations may be made to this ministry fund too (account # WM05-0160). Visit <http://www.wesleyan.org/wwm/give/ncshares1b.php> to keep up to date on this fund along with the other fields Wesleyan World Missions/Global Partners has ministry opportunities. We are also hoping to help ministry teams from the USA or Canada visit Brazil. If your church or district is interested in ministering in Brazil (or being ministered to), please contact Jim. We would be happy to assist you in whatever way we can.

This quarter I want to introduce you to two special projects that currently need funding here in Brazil. One is the Boa Vista Church Plant. This fund is for assistance in building the church and the parsonage. This fund is 28% funded at this time. Sandi and I recently visited Pastor Cleudo and we are very impressed with the amount of work they have been able to complete on the church building. Funds are needed to help complete the building itself, classrooms, restrooms and kitchen area in addition to work that needs to be done on the parsonage. The other special project is Church Plant- Lodrina. This is the new work in south Brazil by Pastor Helio. The fund for this church plant is currently 34% funded. Pastor Helio will be traveling to the United States in April to speak concerning this church plant and the work in south Brazil. Heleio is bi-lingual (Portuguese and English) so he will make this trip on his own. He will be speaking at Linwood Wesleyan Church in Sioux Falls, South Dakota and Friendship Wesleyan Church in Battle Creek, Michigan.

For more information on Special Projects in Brazil, visit <http://www.wesleyan.org/wwm/projects/project1b.php> Here you will find the active projects for any field, (click on BRAZIL on the drop down menu) and the account numbers needed for each specific fund.



Upcoming Calendar Events

April:

4 – Mission Meeting
 ? - Committee Meeting to discuss the Vision of ministry in Brazil (date not scheduled yet)

June:

14-21 – Work team here from North Carolina

25 – Chelsea’s 13th Birthday

July:

5 – Stephanie’s 18th Birthday

7 - 12 – Sandi, Stephanie, Chelsea on River Mission Trip



God’s Big Plan

It’s always amazing to watch God work! Back in January God introduced us to three people. Cheryl, a prayer partner that we had never met, was coming to Manaus to work with a medical ministry on a hospital boat. Through her, we met Marcelo and Joaquim, both Brazilians. Marcelo organizes medical teams to come work on these boats. Joaquim is a dentist that has a practice here in Manaus and was part of the team, too.

Before the team left, we had the opportunity to go see the boat and meet a couple of Brazilian women that are leaders in Visão Mundial,



which is the Brazilian arm of World Vision.

When the team arrived back to Manaus, we had dinner with Cheryl, Marcelo, Joaquim and his family. It was great to get to know these new people. God gave us new friends and new avenues and contacts for future ministry.

In July, Sandi, Stephanie and Chelsea will be going with Cheryl on the next boat ministry. Sandi will be using this experience to evaluate the possibilities of partnering with Visão Mundial in the future to bring work teams from Wesleyan churches in the U.S.

Recap on Prayer Requests

- Pray for us as we continue to get to know our neighbors. Pray that we are able to show God’s love to them even while we cannot fully communicate.
- Pray for Stephanie as she tutors Paulo and Dany. They are a little reluctant to learn English, but they love coming over and playing with Sam and Elie.
- Pray for us as we continue to become a more active part of our new church family.
- Continue to pray for our language learning. This is a vital part of our ministry. Without the language, we will have limited ability to minister within our church and to our neighbors.
- Pray for the upcoming medical river ministry that Sandi, Stephanie and Chelsea will be a part of. Pray for God’s will to be revealed to us for future ministry opportunities for the Brazilian Wesleyan Church to get involved in.
- Pray for the upcoming events. There is a meeting to be scheduled in April to discuss the Vision for ministry in Brazil.
- Pray for Jim and his computer repair ministry. Pray, too, that he will be able to make all of the necessary changes to our website.
- Pray for our continued safety and health.
- Pray for our Faith Promise, the funds that are needed for Faith Promise, the funds needed for the National Church and the funds that are needed for Special Projects.



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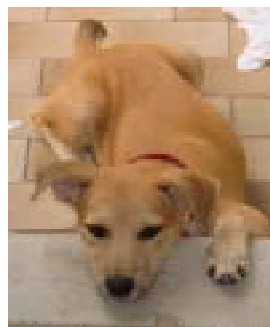
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Addition to the Family

In November, this cute little dog followed Jim home one day from the home of another missionary. We decided to keep her and she's been with us ever since. Carmen is her name.

The kids really love her. They take her on walks, give her baths and play with her in the back yard.

She is a great addition to our family!



Carmen: making her case to be allowed in the house.

Can't Get Away From Computers...

Jim has become quite popular with the other missionaries here in Brazil. Jim knows quite a bit about computers and word has spread.

Jim has been called on to help repair computers, upgrade computers, etc. He even took two computers that the seminary had given up on and got them back in

working order.

This is a wonderful ministry for Jim to be involved in while he is in language study. It has given him a sense of fulfillment when at times he feels like he's not been contributing much otherwise.

He has also been putting a lot of work into trying to get

our website updated. For a while the website was inaccessible. Everything seems to be running fine now. Now he just has to find time here and there to make the changes he wants. He has been able to add some photos to the site.

To the left of this page you will find the link to our site – come visit us there!

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