

SERVANTS OF CHRIST

in Brazil

July-August 2018



The Rod and Ann Anderson family

Highlights:

1. Visit from Tyro Christian Church
2. Vacation Bible School
3. Successful recovery from surgery
4. Godly "15th birthday celebration"
5. Growth of "Timothy"s
6. Some "prodigals" return after 10, 20 yrs

Prayer Requests:

1. "Ministry to Men" discipleship growth
2. Annual church retreat at Araguaia River Sept 7-9
3. Ann's choirs -local and for next years convention
4. Firming up of next generation of leaders
5. Returning "prodigals" continue drawing nearer



Visit from Tyro Christian Church

Don and Sherri Elliott stayed with us while the rest of the team from Tyro, Roger and Elaine Twichell, Crystal Fesler stayed with Nonato's family. The team came to help with VBS and it was a wonderful time that was beneficial to all. Open invitation to all - come visit us and participate in the work first hand!



Successful recovery from surgery

After VBS Rodney had a hemorrhoid surgery. They were larger than the doctor had thought and he also found some large intestinal polyps they hid. We Praise God not only that he found and removed them but also that the biopsy came back benign - **they had not turned cancerous** as often happens when they are about 2/3 the size of these polyps. Rodney has had a good and successful recovery - the doctor doesn't want to see him again until next year and then just for annual checkups!

Growth of "Timothy"s

At the end of August I had to make an unexpected trip to Guarai to buy tires for the car and invited Adriano - one of my "Timothy"s from the Nova Araguaína congregation. As it was a Wednesday we stayed for church

Adriano at Guarai



with Jim Moreland. Jim invited Adriano to preach that evening and he accepted!!! (and did a good job) We helped Adriano grow from his first interest in Christ about 9 yrs ago to keep encouraging him to do study the Bible well enough to share with others (he was shy - it took a couple of years to get him to do the first devotional) to now accepting an *unexpected* opportunity to share God's word with others. And Adriano is not the only "Timothy". We have really struggled with training leadership in Northern Brazil and at one point lost almost an entire generation of new leadership so it is especially encouraging to see new leadership emerging again in most of the churches. God takes care of His Church!

Godly "15th birthday celebration"

A 15th birthday celebration is a special coming of age birthday party for young ladies. In Latin cultures the important birthday for girls is the 15th not the 16th like it is in the US. Brazilian culture emphasizes that this little girl is now a woman ready to participate in the "adult" lifestyle... i.e. she is ready to date etc.... This often means she is dressed as a little girl, might carry a big lollypop or a doll and then at some point during the ceremony she slips out and comes back in a dress that reveals and emphasizes her female adulthood. Often in this promiscuous culture, she will return in very revealing, sensual clothing. Therefore I was recently happy in church to see the young lady start out in a lovely and decent formal gown and the "coming of age" was her father changing her flip-flops for fancy dress sandals! How edifying to see God transform culture in good ways!!!



HOPE

For all you parents who have children who have fallen away from Christ, **THERE IS HOPE!** During these last two or three months we have had a couple of "prodigals" attending church regularly again. One of them left the church over 20 years ago and the other over 10. Never stop hoping in the LORD. Never stop praying and showing them your love (doesn't mean accepting wrong behavior). Never stop being an example of someone who is trying to know and follow Christ according to the Scriptures! Your example, especially in teaching your children how to return to God (Openly recognize your errors, stop disobeying God, make restitution where possible, return to obeying God, remember we are saved by the grace of Christ's blood while we are still wrongdoers, not because we perfectly obeyed ALL of GOD'S WORD -we haven't and aren't.) What does your example teach your kids about repentance? Remember, Love is the perfect bond of unity and the greatest commandment of all. What does your example teach your "church kids"?

In the service of Christ Jesus our Lord,
the **Rod and Ann Anderson family**

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