



HISPORTIC CHRISTIAN MISSION PRAYER UPDATE

Volume XXXII

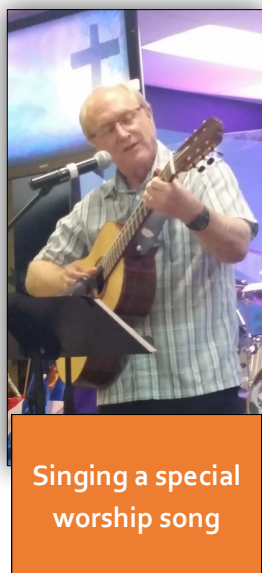
Issue 4

November 2016

GENUINE FELLOWSHIP

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. Ps 133:1

I always enjoy heading north and visiting with our Brazilian, Portuguese and Cape Verdean friends in New England. This year was especially meaningful because I was able to bring my wife with me and introduce her to our churches. Our pastors kept me busy as they scheduled me to preach at six churches in eight days. It was wonderful to connect with the people again and to share the Word of Truth with our congregations. I want to thank Pastors Cleber and Sueli, Pastors Eduardo and Dircea, and Pastors Hudson and Sandra for their warm hospitality. They welcomed me into their homes with open arms and treated me as one of the family. Of course, the food is always good on these special occasions, but what we really treasured was the genuine fellowship we experienced as we talked together and did things with one another. It reminded me of the hospitality we read about in the book of Acts.



Singing a special
worship song

As I stated in a previous Thank You letter, one of the highlights of our time in New England was the joint Worship Service the Board of Directors held together with the area's Brazilian pastors and their families. We worshiped together, celebrated the Lord's Supper together, prayed for one another, listened to special music, and heard from God's Word both in Portuguese and English. It was a true blessing to share this experience, and to leave once more with a sense of genuine fellowship.



Tim preaches
in Portuguese
while Wayne
translates in
English



Above: Musicians from Moriah CC lead in worship. Below: Brazilian pastors pray for and pass out the Lord's Supper.

This year's board meeting was held in Natick, MA at New Covenant Christian Church. NCCC is one of the mission's Brazilian churches pastored by Hudson de Oliveira and his Associate Minister Artur Freire. There are seven Hisportic churches in this area, so we anticipated becoming immersed into the culture in the midst of conducting business. On our first night we enjoyed a great meal at one of the local Brazilian Churrascarias. The next day we convened and spent some time with Luciano Rodrigues on Skype. He gave us an encouraging update on the ministry in Guinea-Bissau and informed us of what to anticipate in the near future. We also invited Marcelo Sampaio to give us a report on the work in south Florida. Marcelo shared a moving testimony of God's continued guidance and faithfulness, and we are blessed to be in partnership with these godly families.



PRAY FOR EAST TIMOR

East Timor is a former Portuguese colony located at the end of the Indonesian islands, just north of Australia. God has put this small country on our hearts and we are praying for future ministry opportunities among its peoples. Like the labor we began 16 years ago in Guinea-Bissau, this will be a big undertaking. We witnessed God's power and purposes in that country; we anticipate God's work in this country. Please join us in prayer because "God wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth." 1 Tim 2:4,





Guinea-Bissau Outreach

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from ourselves. 2 cor 4:



The work in West Africa continues to advance! This year we succeeded in planting 4 new churches, and are in the planning stages of starting 2 more. We are preparing a family to go to an Eastern district by next year. They have received training and are ready for the task. Another couple has shown interest in one of the Southern districts. They still need to go through the discipleship process. We rejoice that God is calling laborers to His harvest fields and that they are responding to God's summons to go.

To date, our records show that the combined attendance in our churches is 8,000 people. This year alone we had 200 decisions for Christ that led to baptisms. With 2 new Bethel schools open, our count now totals to 3 elementary schools. Their combined attendance is 950 children. The Teacher Training forum Andreia held this year also made an impact. She had 240 teachers and administrators come from 2 different countries to receive training in the Principles Approach educational system. Again, this approach uses the Bible as its foundation.

Thank you for your continued and faithful partnership. We covet your prayers as we make plans for 2017. L & A



As many of you know, our sister Regina Fattima Fernandes went to be with the Lord this past July. With the input from many friends and family, Pastor Jose decided to return to Brazil and spend some time with his family. He is back in Canada now, and has been received by his church family in Toronto with open arms. We want to thank you for your prayers and kind words to Pastor Jose and the Fernandes family during this difficult time. The healing process will continue, but the time Pastor Jose spent with his family has given him a tremendous emotional and spiritual boost.



November will be a busy month. I will be in Brazil to meet with Luciano and the directors for Brazil Christian Mission from November 3rd to the 14th. We have a lot to discuss and plan, and pray that the Lord would be our guide throughout our time.

Hope to see you at ICOM!

In Him, *Tim Shields*

HISPOTIC CHRISTIAN MISSION

Planting Portuguese-Speaking Churches Worldwide

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