

## The Smiths

## Missionaries to

## Brazil



Bill and Sharon

Dear Friends, January, 2014

We have a lot to be thankful for! This past year of 2013 has brought many triumphs as well as trials. The Lord is good and has provided and protected us through it all. There have been deaths in our family, major health problems with family and close friends. The Lord knows and is able to resolve all these things in His time and His way. We know He is faithful and wants the best for us. Many friends and loved ones are suffering.

Christmas was a time for telling about the Birth of Christ and what that means to each of us. We want to celebrate in the right way and help those that are in need. We had 3 presents on the table at church and each Sunday we gave the ones that came a present. The first was a tithing envelope, the second was a devotional book and the third was candy. We are trying to show our people that giving is good and studying God's Word is important. Pray with us that we can reach more and more people this coming year of 2014.

December 12, 2013, was the graduation of Livia from our church. She was studying at the University and completed her 5 years. Pray the Lord would provide the right job for her so she can be a witness for the Lord Jesus Christ.

December 20<sup>th</sup> we were suppose to go to Caracarai for the **Bible Institute graduation** but the Lord changed our plans. Bill had to go to the emergency room for a possible passing of a kidney stone. He is doing better now but please pray for us. We were not able to attend the first graduation but they said it was a blessing and the songs and preaching were great. There were six students this class period. The one lady graduated and now another lady from the church will take her place in the classroom. Pray for Pastor Luiz as he directs the Bible Institute and teaches most of the classes. Classes will begin February 17, 2014, so pray we will be able to help teach as well as the other Pastors here in Boa Vista.





We drove the 2 hours to Caracarai to attend Wednesday evening service because the people wanted to celebrate Bill's birthday – January 8<sup>th</sup> with food and fellowship. He turned **65** so -- **"Welcome to retirement!!"** When will he retire? Only the Lord knows. We are slowing down from what we did at age 50 but there is still a lot to be done

We are looking forward to building a new auditorium for our church starting the end of this month. Pastor Francisco will do the construction. Hopefully we will have the building up and able to use for our church Anniversary in April. Pray with us that all will go well and that the necessary funds will be provided for the construction of the building.

We want to thank each of you that have a part in our Ministry here in northern Brazil. Without your prayers and financial help we wouldn't be able to continue on with the ministry. Thank you to all that sent Birthday cards and greetings, Christmas cards and emails. Thank you for the special Christmas Love Offerings that we received. May God bless each of you as you faithfully serve the Lord.

Your missionaries in Brazil,

**Bill and Sharon**Bill and Sharon Smith

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