

## Dear Friends,

**January** – Café dos Pastores or Pastor's Breakfast. We invited the Pastors from Manaus, Amazonas and Roraima to a special time of fellowship with breakfast and lunch provided. We never know until the last minute how many will come but the Lord always sends someone each time. We had 7 Pastors, 8 Pastors wives, 3 deacons, 8 children and grandchildren, 1 mother and 1 sister of the pastors. Men and ladies met separately and gave testimonies of when they were saved and what they are doing for the Lord. It was very interesting to hear some were strong Catholics before being saved and others were from broken homes. The Lord has blessed each of these Pastors and wives in unusual ways. We praise the Lord for the good number that came and for the time we had together.



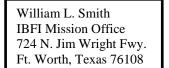
Pastor Werlesson and family had their first Vacation Bible School since reopening the Bible Baptist Church last January. It has been hard to get people to come for services and this is a way to reach out to the children in the neighborhood. As you can see in the picture they had more boys attend but the Lord gave them 21 the first morning, 18 Saturday morning and then 15 total with church people on Sunday morning. Some of the schools are still having regular classes so that made less children available to come. Pastor Werlesson is good with object lessons and interacting with children and teens since he has 3 adolescent daughters. Please continue to pray for this family and the Bible Baptist Church Manancial.

**EBF-** Vacation Bible School

February, 2017

**February** – Rogerio and Zipora will arrive Friday with all their baggage and come prepared to live in Boa Vista and help us with the Bible Baptist Church. The church has a parsonage where they can live. We are looking forward to their help. One Tuesday night someone broke the padlock on the metal door at the church but the neighbor man heard the noise and called the police. They must have scared the robber away because he left the piece of wood, metal and broken lock and didn't break into the building. We usually have a young adolescent that locks up the church while the adults are talking but he wasn't there and Sunday morning we forgot to lock the one door. When we arrived Sunday night we found it unlocked but praise the Lord all was safe. The robbers have been stealing from the churches so please pray for the safety of our Pastors and churches.

**Furlough plans** – We are planning to arrive in the States on March 29, 2017, to begin a time of furlough. We will be staying at the Mission apartment at Massillon Baptist Temple, Massillon, Ohio, during the month of April and hopefully will find a used car and get ourselves accustomed to life in the United States. We will be traveling to Texas in May to visit our sending church, Worth Baptist, and then attend the Fellowship Meeting of the IBFI on May 22-25 and a Mission Seminar after that. We know April and May will be busy months. We would appreciate the opportunity to speak in your church so you can see and hear what we are doing in Brazil. If you would like for us to visit your church, please send a letter to our Mission Office address or email us at <u>billshar@ibest.com.br</u> and we will get in touch with you. We would like to visit as many of our supporting churches as possible. Thank you for your part in this work. Your prayers and financial support are important in reaching the Brazilian people with the Gospel.





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Months of <u>December and January</u> THANK YOU Your missionaries in Northern Brazil,

Bill and Sharon

Bill and Sharon Smith

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