

# Jeremy & Joneia Bennett

Missionaries to Caxias do Sul, RS Brazil

October, November, December  
2023



Thus ends our first year in Brazil.

We arrived on the mission field in mid-January 2023. We expected things to be somewhat chaotic but had no idea what God had in store for us. I look back at our blog and think to myself, "that happened within this last year?" Time has flown and crawled at the same time. October, November, and December were insanely busy, but extremely blessed. A holiday in Brazil as big as Christmas is Children's Day. We hosted an event at our church and were packed with 83 people in attendance! We also hosted our first-ever marriage retreat. Pastor John preached about aiming our marriages with goals in mind, and then we practiced with couples' archery. The husbands held the bow while the wives pulled the string. Neither could do it without the other.

Speaking of couples, our discipleship with Lucas and Fernanda has been a success! Thank you for your prayers. Joneia has been translating our discipleship material each week, and we spend hours discussing the foundations of our faith with this young couple. They ask the right questions, and we show them the answers in the Bible. We have seen so much growth and development in their spiritual lives already.

These last two months have been hectic for Joneia and me. The Yelles took a six-week sabbatical in the States, during which John Yelle's mother passed away into eternity. We were glad we were here to watch the property while they dealt with her affairs. This posed a challenge for me: I am still not fluent in Portuguese, but almost two months of endless practice sure helped. I can now get by with basic conversations, but I still have a long way to go before I can be considered fluent. While running the church and maintaining our property, we also finished our home renovations! We moved into our newly renovated home the day before the Yelles returned! God has really blessed us, and we are so thankful for all our church's support that made our home possible. Keep praying for us through 2024; your prayers are working!

Thank you, and God Bless you,  
Jeremy & Joneia Bennett.



Home Renovations: Before and After  
(still some cleanup and painting to do)

## Praises

- Our Renovations are Complete!
- Jeremy's Portuguese is Improving
- Successful couples retreat
- Good Holiday services
- The Yelles returned safely

## Prayer Requests

- Jeremy's Portuguese
- Discipleship with Lucas and Fernanda
- Funds for our next project
- Continued church growth



Children's Day