



News from

# The Yelles

Serving the Lord in

Caxias do Sul, Southern Brazil



March 10, 2021

Dear friends,

These days the song "This World Is Not My Home" has been playing through our minds. The political spectrum here in Brazil is worse than it is in the United States. Our people here are discouraged, and Covid-19 shutdowns are causing depression in many, with an increase in suicide. Registered unemployment has reached 14.1%, and crime and violence has increased. There is much work to be done here, but we need grace and wisdom on how to go about it. Jesus Christ is the only one that can give *"the peace of God, which passeth all understanding..."* (Phil. 4:7).

As we write this, extreme Covid-19 regulations are in effect in the entire state of Rio Grande do Sul from February 23rd until March 22nd. Not too surprising, the hospitals reached near full capacity the week after Carnaval. It isn't a complete lockdown, but many still have restricted hours of work, or no work at all. Regulations and hour restrictions have made it where only on-line teaching is feasible.



Robson

In the midst of the discouraging news, however, there is joy. In January John led a young man, Robson, to a saving knowledge of Christ. Since then, he and his fiancé have been fairly faithful in attending the services when we've been able to meet.

Our daughter and son-in-law, Jeremy and Joneia Bennett, returned Stateside on February 8th after a two month mission trip with us. They were such a blessing while here. Jeremy got us all set up with a system that allows us to broadcast live to both Facebook and Youtube at the same time. It is a blessing that our people are still able to learn from God's Word when we are unable to meet together. Also, we have acquaintances here in Caxias, who have not come to church, that are watching. We are hopeful that soon we'll be able to congregate, and see some new faces amongst us.

February 15th and 16th we hosted a mini retreat for the youth of our church. We had eleven that participated. Of the eleven, only four have a clear testimony of faith. The Gospel was presented plainly with the Bible studies. Our helper was John's "son in the faith," Leonardo. He is a university student in Porto Alegre, and chose to spend his days off helping us. He was such a big blessing with the activities and games.



Leonardo helping with the games