

# In Touch

## ACRE INTERNATIONAL

**Acre Gospel Mission**

**Prayer Letter ~ November/December 2018**

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**Dr Tom & Lucimar Geddis**

*Rio Branco, Brazil*

We are thrilled that 137 plus teachers are continuing to teach the Correspondence Bible Studies in so many schools in Rio Branco. So much so, we have had to get 2000 more sets sent to Maria de Jesus in Rio Branco for distribution there. Thank you for your continued prayers for the work there. We were saddened to hear of the murder of a Doctor friend in Feijo recently. He was just 42 years old. Lucimar used to bring him by the hand to the children's meetings in Tarauacá. We rejoice that he is with the Lord today.

**Barry & Raquel Henry**

*Algarve, Portugal*

Greetings from the south of Portugal. We continue to thank God for you all and the way you have supported us both in prayer and financially. As always we value your prayers in regard the work here and we have been truly grateful for what God has been doing within the Portuguese body of the International church. Please remember the new congregants who have come and praise God for the way they have been using their gifts for the Kingdom. Please pray also for one of our recent converts, Gino, who has recently gone through surgery. We are so thankful for him and his enthusiasm. Also pray for the group in general, as some are going through some difficult situations. God knows their need and to know that there are people praying for them is of great encouragement. Also pray for Raquel and her new post. It has been going well but there have been changes recently laid out in the constitution that has caused some difficulty in regards the work in the schools. Pray that God breaks down any barriers that may cause

difficulty in this regard. Once again, we are so grateful to know that there are people praying for us. Glenn and myself were recently at an Acre prayer group in Kells, and we were so moved and challenged by the way this group of people pray for the work. It really lifted our spirits, and to know that this is happening around the North of Ireland is truly special. May God continue to bless all of you for His honour and glory.

Please remember the team here in the Algarve as we prepare for Bethlehem Village 7th–9th December. Pray for unsaved local people who attend as many will hear the Gospel for the first time.

## **Glenn Bowden**

*Algarve Youth, Portugal*

It's hard to believe that at the end of September I had been in Portugal for 4 years! Where does the time go? The one thing that stands out to me is God's provision for those He sends out and how He uses His people to be His hands and feet... "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19. Thank you for all your love and support to us out here on the field.

Recently we had our first big event for young people since Camp in July and it was amazing to see over 80 attending. Many of them gave their lives to Jesus during camp. Please continue to pray for the young people of the Algarve. We really believe God is doing some mighty things in their lives.

We also praise God that we have got new young people each week contacting us about our weekly youth ministry and asking if they could come. We truly feel blessed to see the youth work starting to grow.

Praise God also for the doors opening in Eastern Algarve. Recently we had a meeting with two very Godly men who are so passionate to see a new work start there. Its challenging to hear their burden for the lost. The wheels are now in motion for us to have a regular Bible Study there. Please pray for vision, God's guidance, and open doors into a brand new area. Pray that we can impact many life's through the work of the Holy Spirit.

Thank you for your partnership in the gospel.

## **Aroldo & Emmanuelle Areas**

*Santo Andre, Portugal*

The building of the perimeter wall is nearly complete even though it will probably be a while before the final plastering and painting is finished. Yet we do hope that by next year it will all be finished and that this protected space will be ready to be used for football camps, gatherings, outreaches and conferences.

Over the past couple of months we were involved in various outreach activities: We helped a local Pastor for a week of Christian Beach activities (games, bible stories, memory verses...) which was very successful as around 200 children were reached that week. We had different "Sardine Dinners" in the Church so that members of the church would have the opportunities to invite a friend or a neighbour. Very few unsaved attended but it was a great time of fellowship. Some days out with the young people were organized to the nearby water places. Our young people are actually becoming

young adults and soon at least three of them (out of six) will be working, probably far from our area, as job opportunities here are scarce.

Together with the usual weekly meetings, we are also starting a Portuguese Fit 4 Life gathering on a monthly basis. This is new for us so we pray the Lord will give wisdom to organize it so that it will be another means of reaching out to people from our area. Also on a monthly basis we are planning to have children/teenager outdoor activities one Saturday per month. And once a month, we will have a Sunday evening service in English.

The Fatima Outreach in October proved to be another great opportunity to reach out to thousands of people who attended the shrine. Thanks to the Swiss Mission (Mission Sans Frontiere) we distributed the evangelical calendars. We are thankful again to the team from Northern Ireland for all of their help in this.

From the 6th-11th December have a week of outreach in our town. A group of 12 people from Northern Ireland, together with some of our church members, will get together to conduct various outreach activities in Santo André. This is a brand new event and we pray it will be a blessing for our town. Many thanks for all your faithful prayers which are great blessings for our ministry here in Portugal.

## **Jeffrey Ferguson**

*Santo Andre, Portugal*

It was a blessing to have another group of helpers who came to take part in the Fatima outreach. Once again we had a great team of folk who helped us bring the gospel message to the pilgrims of Fatima. We noticed this year that there was a significantly lower number of people attending, however we still managed to give out many calendars and gospels of Luke. The team also helped to distribute literature in the town of Santiago, and also in Santo André. The monthly market took place on the Wednesday and so many calendars were given out there also. On the last Sunday evening of September, we held our first English service, and we plan to do this on a monthly basis. We were joined by a number of the English speaking people of our church and we hope that others in the area will avail of this monthly meeting. I have also recommenced the English classes again, a few people have already expressed interest. I believe we as Christians living here need to be active within the community in which we live in, in order to show forth the love of Christ to the people. The people are not coming to us, so we must go to them with the great message of the gospel. Continue to remember us in prayer also as we plan our Christmas outreach, we have a number of folk from NI to help us which will be a great blessing. Thank you for your interest in the work and we value your prayers greatly.

## **Pastor Ricardo & Sandra**

*Arrecife, Lanzarote*

On the 4th November we had a baptismal service in the church when 3 people were baptized and the church was packed out with family members and friends attending. Please remember the unsaved who heard the gospel.

Recently Ricardo has been presenting the hospital chaplaincy to

various Evangelical churches in Lanzarote. This is a good opportunity to get others involved in our hospital outreach each week.

We ask specific prayer for the Ladies regional retreat that is coming up at the end of November. There are around 75 ladies coming from all over the Canary Islands and we are responsible for all of the programme of meetings. We also ask you to pray for more workers for our children's clubs at the four neighborhoods in Arrecife.

As a church we are praying for the various Christmas outreaches that we have in December. We also look forward to Mauricio and Carolina's wedding in the church on 23rd December. Thank you for your continued prayers for us as a family.

## **Mark & Judith Loney**

*Algarve, Portugal*

Mark is just on his way home from Brazil as we write the prayer letter after 3 weeks visiting the work of Acre Gospel Mission in The North East, Rio Grande Do Norte, Labrea and Manaus in the heart of the Amazon Jungle. Mark writes, "what a privilege it has been to see what God is doing through the work of the mission in this country. A land of spiritual openness and opportunity. Brazil has now a new president who has declared publically his desire to lead the country forward with his Biblical principles, promising a tough stance with regards to corruption and violence. Please pray for Brazil and its warm hearted people. Pray for the thriving churches, that they may continue the work that the missionaries started over the years and that they themselves may become missionaries to their own people and right across the world. I leave behind so many dear friends and take with me many precious memories that will remain with me for the rest of my life."

Please also remember Peter Sluimer and his son Danilo as Marianne went home to be with the Lord recently. Peter and Marianne commenced the work of the International Church Algarve.

We are looking forward to being home at the Killyhevlin Autumn Break 19th-21st November to share about the work of Acre here in the Algarve.

Please also remember all of the Christmas activities here at the church in December including Bethlehem Village.

## **Victor & Audrey Maxwell:**

This harvest season reminded us of God's great faithfulness and the assurance of His lovingkindnesses each day. For this we are grateful to our Lord. However, this season also reminds us that we are serving the Great Lord of the harvest. This service is not limited to those who are in the harvest fields. We all have a part to play. Thank you for playing your part; praying for our workers and supporting them month by month.

We continue with the busy schedule of meetings, seeking to promote interest in the work of the mission. Thank you for your prayers and encouragements.

**Keith & Karen Lindsay:** \_\_\_\_\_

We look forward to being involved in various outreaches in December including Carr Baptist Ladies Outreach, Lisburn Baptist Mum's & Tots Outreach, Dunservick Baptist Ladies Outreach and the trip to Santo André, Portugal with the team. Pray that unsaved will be challenged and that we will see souls accept the best gift of all this Christmas.

Can we on behalf of the Acre Mission family across the world extend to you and your family God's richest blessing for Christmas and His peace and presence for the coming year DV.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT BOTH PRACTICALLY AND PRAYERFULLY OVER ANOTHER YEAR.**

We very much value specific prayer for the very difficult financial situation in the mission presently and we continue to look to the Lord for His continued provision.

**Dr Bill Woods** \_\_\_\_\_*Rio Branco, Brazil*

Thank you for remembering Dr Bill Woods in prayer. Bill had surgery in September and then travelled to Rio Branco in Brazil for a number of weeks. He has now returned to Northern Ireland and has commenced a series of chemotherapy. He values your prayers.

**PRAY** *for the* **NATIONALS**

Pastor Jose & Eurides Carlos, Manaus

Altina & Eliana, Jonas & Jorge, Children's Ministry, Manaus

Raimundo Nonato: Market Ministry, Manaus

Pastor Junior & Christina in Nissa Floresta, NE

Pastor Diego & Susanna in Sao Paulo Do Potengi

Pastor Fabiomar & Marilene in Labrea, Acre

Pastor Luiz & Aldeneide, Passa é Fica, NE

Pastor Adriano & Maria, Varzea, NE

Pastor Iran & Socorro, Campo Redondo, NE

Pastor Ageu & Hazel, Feijo, Acre

Pastor Ageu & Lídia, Sena Madureira, Acre

Pastor Carlos Alberto & Family: Manuel Urbano

Pastor Neto & Layze, Joao Camara, NE

The De Souza Family, IBEE Schools, Manaus

Pastor Jose Soares, Santa Cruz, NE

Evangelist Plinio, Sena Madureira, Acre

*Please Remember*

# CHRISTMAS PRAISE NIGHT

*in The Faith Mission Centre, Portadown*

*on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 7.30pm*

*Tamlaghtmore Silver Band, The Hoey Sisters, John Porter  
& The Lockhart Family will be taking part*

**Christmas supper for everyone**

*Free Admission. Offering for work of Acre*

## ANNUAL NEW YEAR CONFERENCE

*in Moira Baptist Church Hall (Kindly Granted)*

*on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019*

*Commencing with coffee at 10.30am*

*Session 1: 10.45am*

*Session 2: 1.45pm*

*Lunch provided for everyone.*

### My Response

- I would like to receive your monthly prayer letter/magazine
- I would like a gift aid form
- I have enclosed a gift of £..... to help present the Gospel Message to the millions of people in Brazil, Portugal, Lanzarote and Northern Ireland.

Name.....

Address .....

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.....Postcode .....

Email .....

Please send to:

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30 Carngrave Manor,  
Spa,  
Ballynahinch,  
BT24 8XE

