Insight Spring 19:Layout 1 27/01/2019 16:04 Page 1 - 🔅

# Acre insight Spring 2019

MISSION HEADQUARTERS 30 Carnglave Manor, Spa, Ballynahinch, Co. Down, Northern Ireland BT24 8XE Pastor Abraham and Pricilla and family new workers in NE Brazil

Tel: 028 97 563200Mob: 07710506939email: acregospelmission@hotmail.co.ukweb: www.acregospelmission.org

insight

#### **MISSION HEADQUARTERS**

30 Carnglave Manor, Spa, Ballynahinch, County Down, Northern Ireland BT24 8XE Tel: 028 97 563200 Mob: 07710506939 email: acregospelmission@hotmail.co.uk

Charity Number: XN47625

#### web: www.acregospelmission.org

8

9

10

11

12

14

#### President

Pastor Victor Maxwell Tel: 028 9209 3867

Co-ordinator
Pastor Keith Lindsay
Tel: 028 9756 3200
Treasurer

Mr Paul McManus

# insight contents

#### Mission Addresses President's Page Andrew and Kim McCormick Your Labour Is Not In Vain Changes In The Algarve A Year Of Change

info

#### Page

- 2 My Purpose ... 3 No Presents ... 4 Prayer Is The Work 5 Christmas in Santo André News From Brazil 6
- 7 Great Opportunities In Lanzarote

# **Mission Addresses**

#### Lanzarote

Pastor Richardo & Sandra Apartado 390 Arreciffe 35500 l anzarote E:r.ache.leon@hotmail.com

#### Brazil

Dr Bill Woods Caixa Postal 217 Rio Branco. ACRE. CEP 69,900,970 Brazil

Dr Tom & Lucimar Geddis Rua Silvestre Coelho 478 Bairro José Augusto 69900-773 Acre Brazil Tel: 0055 6832 245501

#### Portugal

Mr & Mrs Aroldo Areas Bairro das Panteras Bloco 3-3 1 Dto A 7500-140 V.N Santo Andre Portugal e:aroldo.areas@gmail.com Tel: 00351 269 744285

Mr & Mrs Mark Loney PO Box 109 8100-910 Loulé Algarve Portugal Tel: 00351 28 9328635 e:iecavj@sapo.pt

Jeffrey Ferguson Bairro Das Panteras Bloco 3-3 1 Dto A

7500-140 V.N Santo Andre, Portugal e:jeffreyferguson24@googlemail.com

Mr & Mrs Barry Henry The International Evangelical Church PO Box 109 8100-910 l oulé Algarve Portugal e:iecapt@hotmail.com

Mr Glen Bowden The International Evangelical Church PO Box 109 8100-910 Loulé Algarve Portugal e:bowden glenn@hotmail.com

Page 2

insight



We thank God for a good year of blessing in various ministries the Lord has entrusted to us. One interesting development was to learn of a man who was converted through a little note I had written on the fly-leaf of the book "I Want You To Do Something," which tells the story of Dr. Bill Woods. We are conscious of and grateful for the prayers of many friends who uphold all of our workers in the ministry of the Gospel.



We have a busy programme of meetings, conferences and church engagements in the coming year.

Victor and Audrey

# Keith & Karen Lindsay write:

We have had a very full schedule of meetings and gospel outreaches in the autumn this year and are very thankful for the number of unsaved who were reached with the gospel, especially in the Flower Arranging meetings. At one there were at least 30 unsaved in attendance. Please water that Good Seed sown in hearts with your prayers.

Thank you to all who attended the New Year Conference and those who helped us in any way. It was good to have Fabiann & Milena Barbose from Labrea in Brazil sharing along side Dr Tom & Lucimar Geddis, Glenn Bowden and Andrew & Kim McCormick.

There are many plans for the coming year D.V.

**Continued on Page 4** 

# Andrew & Kim McCormick



We are pleased to announce that Andrew & Kim McCormick have been accepted as candidates into the Mission to work in Portugal. They write:

"This summer we will begin a new adventure as we move to the Algarve in Portugal to work with Acre International. This has been a big decision for us as a married couple, as we leave our family, friends, home, jobs and the life that we have built in Northern Ireland. God has been working in our hearts over the past few years and when He calls you into something, you have to be obedient, trust Him and walk in His faithfulness.

"The heart that God has given us for Portugal, and the people there, is something only He can do. We can't wait to see what He has in store for us as we move over and join the team there. After the camps in the summer, we will live and study Portuguese in Coimbra (North Portugal). We value your prayers. We will be sharing in various meeting before we go and if you would like us to come and share in your church/ fellowship, please contact us through the mission office."

**Andrew & Kim** 

# Please note DATES for your DIARY 2019

**10<sup>th</sup>—12<sup>th</sup> May: ACRE WEEKEND** in Magherabuoy House Hotel, Portrush

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June: ACRE BBQ Faith Mission Centre, Portadown

6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> July: Come visit the Acre Stand at Keswick Convention Portstewart

> 29th July–3rd August Come visit the Acre Stand at Keswick in Wales

26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> August Worldwide Missionary Convention Come Visit the Acre Stand at Bangor

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October: Acre Annual Dinner Lisburn Congregational Church Hall

18<sup>th</sup>—21<sup>st</sup> November Killyhevlin Autumn Break, Enniskillen

> Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November Acre Christmas Praise Night Portadown

# Your Labour Is Not In Vain Aroldo & Emmanuelle Areas, Santo Andre, Portugal



*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.* 1 Corinthians 15:58

I know that most of you who are reading this article are very familiar with the work that has been done in Portugal by the Acre Missionaries. Many of you have been faithful in praying for the outreach work here especially the Fatima outreach twice a year. Here is something to encourage you as you pray.

A very devout Roman Catholic lady from the country of Angola (they speak

Portuguese in Angola) received one of our Good Seed Calendars in Fatima a couple of years ago. She loved it very much and reads it every day. Since then she has been faithful in asking one for her to read throughout the year. It is full of the Gospel message!

At the end of November past, she phoned and asked for 50 of the calendars to bring to Angola to give to the people that go to her Roman Catholic church. Isn`t it amazing to see how God can use people to spread His word in a far away land through a person who as far as I am concerned is not a born again Christian yet ?

That is why I quoted the passage above which encourages all of us to keep serving the Lord in Fatima because His work there is never in vain. We believe that only eternity will every show us just what God has done there through the distribution of His Word.

Another similar story can be told of a Policeman who works in one of the Azores. This man asked us to send 40 calendars for him to give to everyone who works with him.

Those people are not Christians yet but because they came across those calendars in Fatima, God is using them to spread His word among co workers and friends.

Last year in May an English lady that was leading a Roman Catholic group from England to Fatima, asked if I had those calendars in the English language. When I told her that we only had them in Portuguese, she was very disappointed but God put in my heart to give her a Portuguese calendar, advising her to write to the address on it in Switzerland asking for copies in English. She did and they sent her the 10 she requested. This year she wrote back asking for another 10!

An American lady also asked for an English Bible, so we had the joy of sending one to her also. Every year we send by post over 300 hundred calendars to different people in Portugal and abroad.

Fatima continues to be an open door to share God's word with hundreds and thousands of people passing through that dark place each year. Fatima isn't just a few days each year. but we thank the Lord for the ongoing requests for literature from people we have contacted there. Please keep watering the Good Seed with your prayers! The work that is being done in Fatima and in Santo Andre's market with calendars and other Gospel literature is not in vain... our labours are not in vain in the Lord! Thank you for standing with us!

There are two teams going to Fatima in the coming year. If you would be interested in coming on a team 8th–15th May or 7th–14th October, please contact Keith Lindsay on 02897563200 or acregospelmission@hotmail.co.uk

**Aroldo and Emmanuelle** 

# **Changes In The Algarve** Mark and Judith Loney, Algarve, Portugal

Here at IECA we look back on what has been an extraordinary year for us. Many positive physical changes have taken place around the property with the continued development of the central courtyard area and the Bible Garden landscaping project. We are hoping to begin planting the Biblical plants in the Spring 2019. We do hope that you can come and see all that has been done here to make it more suitable for the developing ministry.



Aside from the physical developments, above all, it has been a joy to see God bless us in the spiritual realm also. In recent times many people have been moving to the Algarve to set up their homes and our Sunday morning services have been completely full and on many occasions throughout the year needing extra seating. Our Thursday Bible Studies and prayer meetings have been attended by up to 50 people each Thursday morning and our Thursday afternoon Cafe has proved a great opportunity for people to connect and enjoy fellowship throughout the week.

The Portuguese services each Sunday afternoon have been steadily building in numbers and also have seen a lovely sense of unity and fellowship among the group developing. It has been wonderful to see an incredible level of commitment on the part of this Portuguese group and we look forward to see what God is going to do through the Portuguese Ministry at IECA. God has also brought us some wonderful Brazilian musicians who have helped the worship among the Portuguese.

Without a doubt, our two main outreach events of the year are Camp Sonshine during the month of July and Bethlehem Village at the beginning of December. This year we had nearly 100 kids attending each week of the three weeks of summer camps along with another 40-50 leaders. This year (without any advertising) we had so many children wanting to attend that we had to close our bookings by the month of May. What a joy it was to learn that 63 children openly committed their lives to Jesus during the summer camps. Through the generosity of many friends of IECA many children from the orphanages along the Algarve were able to experience camp and hear the Gospel. We were also able to welcome many under privileged kids from the Salvation Army in Sao Bras. Leading on from the summer camps our weekly youth group continues to grow as they come to study God's word each Saturday evening throughout the winter months.

For Bethlehem Village we welcomed nearly 800 people on site over the three days with about three quarters being Portuguese. We were blessed with beautiful weather and many volunteers who made it possible to put on such a big event. Although there is a huge amount of work and effort that goes into making Bethlehem village work, it has proved to be an amazing outreach opportunity. The greatest encouragement for us is to see so many of our neighbours from Vale Judeu village coming and hearing the message of the Gospel.

With the growth this year we have also suffered loss with the parting of our sister Patricia Horta da Costa and also our dear Marianne Sluimer who went to be with Jesus. We miss these Saints but rejoice that their suffering is now over and they are at home with the Lord. We continue to pray for Peter and Danillo in Switzerland who will be missing Marianne a great deal. No doubt they would appreciate your prayers at this time.

We look forward and prepare for all that is to come throughout the year that lies ahead (God willing). We are prayerfully seeking God to lead us in the continued development of the ministry of the International Evangelical Church of the Algarve.

In January we are beginning a new outreach into the Eastern Algarve with the view of starting a new work in that needy area. God has challenged us to be outward looking to the needs of other parts of the Algarve though the passion and dedication of dear friends in the East like Tony and Sylvia and Mervin and Joan. We feel God wants us to support

# A Year Of Change

#### Barry & Raquel Henry, Algarve, Portugal

As many of you know, this year has been year of change for Raquel. A year that has brought new challenges and has placed her working directly in her area of education to further the gospel in the schools that scatter the land of Portugal. I will let her tell you her story.

Twenty-two years of school, classrooms, new faces, dozens of names to memorise. Years of teaching, accompanying, advising, but also participating in lives, families and choices. Sometimes difficult choices in troubled, otherwise logical, easily accepted contexts. These were my years as a teacher, a profession that I chose from



an early age and which I never had any doubts about embracing. From the first moment, I felt the hand of God guiding me through each step, guiding every minute and every hour. But it was not always easy. I think that almost always the scales weighed with difficulties, anguish and worries. But there were so many good, wonderful moments! So many smiles and tears of emotion, so many successes observed and so many days to come home with the sense of accomplishment.

This year, there are other schools and other contexts, but not within a classroom. As a part of the COMACEP team - a commission for evangelical education in public schools - a dynamic initiative that involves making contacts, enrolling students, creating classes and finding teachers to teach Evangelical Religious Education in the public sector of education.

All the pieces are well put together and as a team we work with a missionary spirit - the mission to spread the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in classrooms.

In a Europe that is increasingly closing its doors to God, where one can no longer with complete acceptance and freedom speak about Jesus, Christmas or Easter, there is still a little corner, planted by the sea, that invests in Christian education and that even mobilises teachers to co-ordinate teams that go to school to spread The Seed in the lives of children and young people. What a privilege and what a miracle!

I deeply believe that this year may be a turning point for Portugal. A year of opportunities to evangelize, a year of growth, a year of revival of hearts. I also believe that COMACEP will increasingly play a key role in this ministry. My life is still in school, but now the Mission is even more noble. May God use and direct me for His Honour and Glory.

#### **Raquel Henry**

them as much as we can as they seek to be a witness towards the Spanish border. In 2019 we also hope to welcome a new missionary couple (Andy and Kim McCormick) who have applied to work with Acre Gospel Mission here in the Algarve. They are looking to the Lord to lead them into the ministry of His choosing after they do their language study. Mark & Judith Loney

### **My Purpose...to serve and follow the Lord** Fernando Oliveira



In 1986, when I was 6 years old, I went to live in South Africa. During that time my parents came to know the Lord as their Saviour in the Rhema Church. I grew up knowing about God, but when we came back to Portugal in 1999, my father left church, and later my parents got divorced. I was 15, and I rebelled against my father for leaving home. I lived then with my mother and things were very difficult financially for us. In my rebellion, I lived a sinful life and was out to please myself. One night, while watching the news and listening to a report about a boy with cancer, I took a very severe panic attack. I didn't realise what was happening to me, I just knew that I couldn't breath and I felt that my heart was going to stop beating. Thinking

that I was going to die, I ran home frantically to say goodbye to my mother. I survived that night, but from that day on I had panic attacks constantly, normally at dawn. This condition lasted until 2002.

I started working with a 31 year old Brazilian man and he spoke to me about the gospel in a way I had never heard before. I was eager to learn more and so I began to read the Bible for myself and always prayed before reading saying "God If this is really your word, show it to me, make me understand it". One night while I was reading Psalm 91 it seemed as if God was talking to me through His word, and it said in verses 9,10, 14-16 "If you say, "The Lord is my refuge," and you make the Most High your dwelling, no harm will overtake you, no disaster will come near your tent. "Because he loves me," says the Lord, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."

Suddenly I became aware that the Lord loved me and He wanted me to entrust my life to Him. I was so afraid of dying and in the Psalm, I saw that the Lord wanted to satisfy me with LONG LIFE!!! Was I able to believe that He was capable to do this, that He was able to rescue me, protect me, answer me, be with me, deliver me, save me, and keep my life until I got old! Eventually I fell asleep and I had a dream, and in that dream I was in a classroom in a very high building where the walls where all glass. I was seated like the rest of the people there and suddenly there was a massive roar of thunder. We all knew that the building was going to collapse and we were all going to die. I was so scared, I thought about God, and I cried out "Lord have mercy on me". As I said this I felt something grabbing me and picking me up and taking me to a safe place on solid ground. When I woke up I knew that it had something to do with what I had read in God's Word, about putting all my trust in the Lord Jesus.

That morning I decided to give my life to the Lord Jesus and received Him has my Saviour. I repented from my sins and I put all my trust in Him.

Days passed and I soon realized that the panic attacks were gone and I was completely healed from the

### **No Presents...we want to give food parcels Tom and Lucimar Geddis**, Rio Branco, Acre, Brazil

Tom and Lucimar write:

"Some months ago, in a remote Village in Acre, two girls, Vanessa and Marceli, together with their future grooms, Alexandre and Diego, were planning their weddings for the Christmas week. They decided that instead of presents, they would ask their friends to help buy food to distribute in their village, together with Bibles and Christian literature.

Maria de Jesus had contact through a family member with the local school where she had been the link in supplying Bible Study material for the teachers pupils, and she was asked as to where they could get Bibles. When we heard of their project we were able to get her sufficient "New Testaments with Psalms and



Proverbs" and some suitable material for children and she forwarded it on to the delight of all concerned. On Dec 20 just past, the double wedding took place in the small local church followed by a very simple "Reception" and then on the 23rd, together with some Young people from the church they held an open air service



followed by distribution of the very welcome food parcels with the New Testaments and literature.

Maria de Jesus plans to maintain contact and send suitable Bible Study material.

Now, Let us pray !"

Tom & Lucimar travel back to Brazil mid February. Please pray for God's continued blessing upon the literature ministry to the schools. God is doing an amazing work amongst the children and young people. Please pray for Michael, who was taught by

Lucimar in school. He is now in prison for drugs. His mother is also in prison and his 10 year old sister looks after her brothers and keeps the house going. Lucimar continues to co-ordinate this ministry while she is in Northern Ireland with the help of 138 teachers and Maria De Jesus in Rio Branco.

#### Tom & Lucimar Geddis

depression that I was also suffering. Soon I started going to church, got baptized, got married to Tânia, and I had a hunger for the Word of God. I started reading more and more and listening to as many sermons as I could. Now my purpose in life is to serve and follow Jesus and it is such a blessing to involved along with my wife and family in the ministry in Santo Andre Church with Pastor Aroldo, Emmanuelle and Jeffrey.

#### Fernando Oliveira

# We don't pray for the work..... PRAYER IS THE WORK Glen Bowden, Algarve Youth, Portugal

Glenn Bowden writes: "I am feeling so thankful to God for His goodness and provision for me personally and also for all the Acre missionaries on the field around the world, and thank you for playing your part in enabling us to be involved in God's work to the nations.

I'm also very grateful for what God is doing here in the Algarve especially amongst the youth here at the international church. So many new young people are coming to the youth fellowship each week from England, Portugal, Holland, South Africa, Brazil and America. They all come from different backgrounds, cultures and nationalities yet they have a real desire to grow in their relationship with God. It has also been such a blessing to see some of these young people becoming leaders and being willing to serve the Lord by using their gifts and talents in reaching into other young people's lives. At camp Sonshine this past summer we had a lot of young people who came to us from local orphanages and we especially bonded with one group from Lagos, an orphanage of about 30 young people. Before Christmas we were able to visit them and give them gifts and use this as another opportunity to bless these amazing kids and show them the love of God. Please pray that they would see Jesus in us and that they would open their lives to Him.

Bethlehem Village was a great blessing again this year and yet another opportunity to see God at work in the lives of people. Jesus said "go into all the world", and it's such a blessing to see the world coming to us. Over 22 different nationalities and nearly half Portuguese which has been such an answer to prayer. Everyone received the word of God, Christian literature and a small gift of chocolate. Pray it doesn't sit on a shelf but is read and that the Holy Spirit would open their minds and hearts. Praise God that His Word does not come back void.

We can put on the best event as we possibly can but it's only prayer that will make the difference! We don't pray for the work... Prayer is the work !! That's why we are so grateful for the faithfulness of Gods people and your partnership in the gospel. It makes all the difference."





### Christmas in Santo André Jeffrey Ferguson, Santo André, Portugal

Christmas is a time of celebration, of parties and family reunions, and a time when people give and receive gifts, and make the special effort to meet up with friends that perhaps they haven't seen since the previous Christmas. Indeed for this reason it is a time to be valued as it is the only occasion when many families get to meet together, and friends reconnect after a busy year. But sadly for many that's all there is, the true meaning of Christmas, the time when we as Christians remember the birth of the Saviour, isn't part of their annual celebrations.

This year, in Santo Andre, Portugal, we wanted to make an impact upon the town, and to share with them the true meaning of Christmas. We were very thankful to have a team of 10 people from Northern Ireland come over and help us with the task of sharing the Christmas story with the people of Santo Andre. Prior to the team arriving, we had drawn up an agenda of activities and designed an invitation which would be distributed around the town. We were able to get 2000 of these printed and sent from Northern Ireland and we got to work going around the doors inviting people to the events in the church. We also prepared a Christmas tract telling the story of the Candy Cane (kindly donated), a well known item of Christmas confectionary which had been designed with the purpose of telling the Gospel story at Christmas time. This story is available in English, and was translated into Portuguese.

The team arrived on the Thursday morning, and they set to work making preparations for the upcoming outreach weekend. On Friday night we held a Flower Demonstration Evening, when Keith Lindsay demonstrated how to prepare a number of lovely Christmas flower arrangements. We were glad to welcome in a number of our own church folk to the demonstration, and a few new folk who had not been to the church before. During the demonstration, Keith was able to share a gospel message. While the demonstration was going on, the children who came had their own special programme, learning how to make a Christingle and the gospel message which it tells. On Saturday morning the team did something which perhaps had never been seen before in Santo Andre, we went Carol singing! A few weeks before the team arrived, Aroldo approached the various supermarkets and asked about the possibility of singing in or around the shop. All but one said that we could sing, but only outside

the main entrance. So when the team arrived, they had a quick practise to decide which carols to sing, and then off we went to the first store. We assembled outside the main entrance as requested, and began to sing. To our surprise, people began to stop and listen, and then took out their phones and began to record the singing! Then, after the first carol, the shop manager told Aroldo to bring the group inside the shop! And so there we were, gathered around the tills and the doorway, singing Silent Night and Away in a manger. What an opportunity! Many of the people stopped to listen as they were leaving or entering the shop, and whilst the team were singing, some of the church folk were handing out the Candy Cane tract along with some candy cane sweets. We continued around all the other shops and we received the same welcome at them all. God



**Continued on Page 15** 

# NEWS from Brazil

**Raimundo Nonato** has just completed 5 years as an evangelist in the market in Manaus (Monday – Friday) and in Iranduba Market every Saturday. He has many contact each day as he distributes literature and shares the Gospel with thousands of people each week from all over the world. Please continue to pray for both him and his wife.

#### Pastor Ageu & Riza, Feijo, Acre:

On 1st January, we were thrilled that our son wanted to be baptised to show his commitment to the Lord. We had a very good Anniversary weekend in the church over Christmas. Please continue to pray for us as we evangelise in the schools and into the interior homes. This involves walking through the forest to reach the rural homes. A team of us go out to do that. We have also had great times of blessing and opportunity with an Indian tribe. Before Christmas Lucimar's sister Lucilene, opened her home in Feijo and over 90 people came to hear the Gospel and have food and go home with gifts. **Pastor Carlos Alberto, Manuel Urbano:** 



We had two meetings in houses on the outskirts of the city and glad to say

several visitors came to hear the Gospel. We also had special meetings for Children's Day. We thank God for faithful Sunday school teachers who teach the boys and girls the Word of God each week. Please pray for our family. We thank God for our daughter Raquel who is 12 and for Tiago our son who is ten years old. Please continue to pray for the congregation and visitors who come to the church. Pray for the outreach preaching points at Maanaim, Moria and Gilead.

#### Eliana Costa, School Ministry, Manaus:

It is amazing to see how God is at work not only in the lives of the children as they are taught the Word of God in their classrooms each week but in the lives of the teachers and also the Principles of the schools that we are sharing in. A new school Principal was thrilled when I showed her the material that I was using with the children. They see the difference it is making in the lives and conduct of these children. Please pray for my health. They have found a nodule on my thyroid gland and hope to do surgery in the coming months. **Altina Costa and Jonas Goncalves da Costa:** 

We are thankful to the Lord for the salvation of a number of children over the past year. Jonas has now moved to a small interior town in Amazonas called Itapeaçu to evangelise in the Tereza de Castro and Niceia Maria De Mata Schools there. He has classes and outreaches in the schools Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. He will also be preaching in the church. Altina reports that two boys Ezequiel (6) and João Baptista (7), trusted the Lord in school recently. João Baptists father is an alcholic. Please pray for them. At the Isabel Angarita school, the behavior of the children has dramatically changed for the better. We believe that this is down to the prayers of God's people! Keep praying!

#### Pastor Iran & Socorro, Campo Redondo, NE:

In the last number of months 14 people have accepted Christ. In November they held an evangelistic program in the congregation of Serra do Doutor with Pastor José Soares. They also had a trip with the young people to

### insight

Page 12

Nísia Floresta. At present they are conducting discipleship classes with the young people as a baptismal service will be held in the first quarter of 2019. The work of Malhada Vermelha is going well. Please pray for Franciana Maraisa who is going to study at the Berean Seminary in Natal, to prepares for missionary work. In Lajes Pintadas, there is still no worker, but the work continues to have only two services a week, Sunday night and Tuesday. Please pray that God will clearly call someone to pastor this church.

#### Pastor Junior & Cristina, Nísia Floresta, NE:

Recently, the Ladies conference in the church was a great blessing to all who attended. Please pray for Edeniza who isn't saved. We also had a baptismal service when 3 went through the waters of baptism. The work continues in our other two outreaches and it has been a great blessing to have unsaved attending. We are very grateful to Kleber and Katia who have been helping us a lot recently with our evangelism programme. **Abraham & Pricilla, São José:** 

Please pray for the new work that has been carried out in the community of Pau Brazil. Abraham has just graduated from Bible seminary and is so thankful for the help that he received from Pastor Junior and Edmilson. In December he along with his wife and family moved to live and work in São José do Mipibu. This is a new church plant and they value much prayer as they evangelise this area and start meetings. (Their photograph is on the front cover of the magazine!)

#### Pastor Diego & Suzane, São Paulo Do Potengi, NE:

Diego is very thankful for the help of some of the brothers in the church in doing practical work which frees him up to continue to preach the Gospel and evangelise. He is also responsible to oversee the work in Lajes Pintadas and is also grateful to Adeilso and Jeronimo for their help in this. They had a baptismal service on 1st January. He asks prayer for Josivan, Jenefe, Raiane, Alon, Leda and Tazia.

#### Pastor Neto & Layze, João Câmara, NE:

They have been evangelising in the Vila Verde and Gafuriga districts recently and ask prayer for the literature and opportunities they had to share the Gospel. Please continue to remember the Children's ministry and Young people meetings in the church. They also report a very blessed conference weekend at Christmas. **Pastor Adriano & Maria, Varzea, NE:** 

God has given much wisdom in dealing with some very difficult matters in the church recently. Pray is requested for Edinho and Solidade who have recently separated. A boy who is involved in drugs has fallen



again and they ask prayer that he might be restored to the Lord. Pray for Benedita and Ana who are attending the services. Our Oanse programme for the children has commenced again and we look to the Lord to bring in many more children. We have also been evangelising the town of Goianinha with the purpose of starting a new work there in the future.

**Continued on Page 15** 

# **Great Opportunities in Lanzarote...** Pastor Ricardo & Sandra, Lanzarote



On 4th of November, it was a blessing to have another baptismal service in the church here in Arreciffe. The Lord is bringing new people to our church and they are coming to know the Lord. Here is the story of two of the people who got baptised that night.

Mauricio and Carolina are from Uruguay. They were going through many trials and difficulties in their lives and were searching for an answer. They came to realise that only the Lord Jesus Christ could solve their greatest problem of sin and they both came to trust Him as their Saviour. Now they were

saved they realised that they needed to get married as they were living together. They got married before the civil authorities but really wanted to get a marriage blessed in the church. On 23rd December they had their marriage ceremony in a packed-out church before friends and family. At weddings here, the Gospel is preached and 5 people accepted Christ into their lives! The other baptized person was Mario from Guinea Bissau. He was invited to come along to the church by his friend who attends. A few weeks later the Lord opened his heart and he trusted in Christ after the midweek prayer meeting. Although his family are not believers, his three children attended the baptismal service. His wife did not come. But he prays for her and believes that one day the Lord will do the same miracle in her and in their children.

Angel is an Ecuadorian young man who came one day to the Church invited by Reinaldo, his student at the Gym. He shared the Word of God with him. Angel accepted Jesus into his life one night at the church and has asked to be baptized. Pray as he attends the discipleship classes.

César from Philippines is sad because his eldest son died in an accident in the Philippines. He was 35 years old and He was not a believer. Cesar and his wife Edita continue to grow and regularly attend our church. Cesar is a believer from the work carried out in the Hospital each Friday afternoon.

Sandra and the ladies' team from our church want to thank the Lord because the 14th FIEIDE Canarian Women's conference that we were hosting was a great blessing. Everything went well, praise The Lord. There were 61 women in total with 32 from Gran Canaria.

Our Christmas outreaches again brought great encouragement to us with opportunity to reach into the old peoples' homes again with the Gospel. Please pray for these older people, some have heard the Gospel for the very first time yet we know that some will have heard it for the last time!

A change of plan from the authorities in the prison meant that we had to go to the Women's wing of prison to do our Christmas outreach. It was God ordained as around 20 women attended. Many of these women decided to accept Christ as their Saviour. It was an amazing opportunity. Please pray for our follow up work there.

We are planning Camp Lanzarote with the team from Northern Ireland 5th - 19th August. Please pray that many more children will attend this year. Pray for leaders and if you are interested in coming on the team, please contact Keith & Karen Lindsay at the mission office.

We appreciate all of your love, prayers and support for the work here.

**Ricardo & Sandra** 

#### NEWS from Brazil continued from Page 13

#### Pastor Luiz & Aldeneide, Passa e Fica, NE:

Prayer is requested for Joao Filipe who is dating an unsaved girl. Please also pray for his mother Elane who attends the church. Pray for Laura and Braz and Gerusa, who have been visited for over 2 years. They are very open to the gospel but haven't made any commitment to Christ. Another couple have also requested a Bible Study. The work amongst the children has been difficult as another group is doing work at the same time. They are in negotiations to buy some land to build the church on. Please pray that this will go through.

### Christmas in Santo André continued from Page 11

really prepared the way for this venture because we were very uncertain as to how it would be accepted. That night, we had arranged a Carol Service. Various different folk took part, the team sang, the children from the church sang, and the congregation together sang some of the well known carols. Keith brought the closing message and then we had supper afterwards. We were again delighted to welcome in some folk who would not normally attend the church, and not only did we have Portuguese coming in but also some Dutch folk too!

On Sunday we had our usual morning service, and Paul McManaus brought a message from God's Word. On Sunday night we had a Carol Service in English, again attended by some of our church folk and a number of visitors. We sang the well known carols in English, had bible readings telling the story of the birth of Jesus, and David Middleton brought to us a message from God's Word. In total we know of at least 8 unsaved who came in over the duration of the weekend. We give thanks back to God for all His help and guidance for the preparations, the safe travels of the team, and for bringing folk in to the church to hear the true message of Christmas. Our desire as a team here in Santo Andre is that we would see people accepting Jesus as their Saviour, and that we would see lives changed by the power of the Gospel. Thank you for your prayers and support for the work in Portugal, and especially for us here in Santo Andre. God willing as we look to 2019 we hope to have some of you come over to help us again for more outreach at Fatima, and perhaps God Willing, another Christmas team at the end of the year. May God bless you in this new year, and may we all seek to live each day for Him.

#### **Jeffrey Ferguson**





Have a look at our new Acre Website

... acregospelmission.org

#### Annual Acre Weekend in the Magherabuoy House Hotel, Portrush Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> ~ Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2019

Session 1 - Friday @ 8pm Session 3 - Saturday Night @ 7.30pm

Session 2 - Saturday Morning @ 10.30am Session 4 - Sunday Morning @ 10.30am Cost £125pps (Single supplement £20)

Please come and join us for a great weekend of meetings and fellowship.

Day Visitors welcome!



Fatima Outreach 8<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> Mav

*Camp Sonshine Leaders needed for July* Contact Glenn Bowden: bowden glenn@hotmail.com

Lanzarote Team for Camp & Outreach 5<sup>th</sup>–19<sup>th</sup> August

> Fatima Outreach 7th-14th October

Santo André Christmas Outreach 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> December

Please contact the office regarding these teams on 02897563200

## **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
Postcode
Email
Please send to:
Acre International, 30 Carnglave Manor,
Spa, Ballynahinch, BT24 8XE