



*Indian Tribe Outreach near Feijo, Acre*

**MISSION HEADQUARTERS**

30 Carnglave Manor, Spa, Ballynahinch,  
Co. Down, Northern Ireland BT24 8XE

**Tel: 028 97 563200**

**Mob: 07710506939**

email: [acregospelmission@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:acregospelmission@hotmail.co.uk)

web: [www.acregospelmission.org](http://www.acregospelmission.org)

# insight

# info

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### President

Pastor Victor Maxwell

Tel: 028 9209 3867

### Co-ordinator

Pastor Keith Lindsay

Tel: 028 9756 3200

### Treasurer

Mr Paul McManus

## Mission Addresses

### LANZAROTE

Pastor Richardo & Sandra  
Tel: 0034 6264 07354  
e: [r.ache.leon@hotmail.com](mailto:r.ache.leon@hotmail.com)

Mr & Mrs Barry Henry  
Tel: 00351 9690 15091  
e: [iecapt@hotmail.com](mailto:iecapt@hotmail.com)

Jeffrey Ferguson  
Tel: 0772 4220 565  
e: [jeffreyferguson24@gmail.com](mailto:jeffreyferguson24@gmail.com)

### PORTUGAL

Mr & Mrs Aroldo Areas  
Tel: 00351 269 744285  
e: [aroldo.areas@gmail.com](mailto:aroldo.areas@gmail.com)

Mr Glen Bowden  
Tel: 00351 9669 64073  
e: [bowden\\_glenn@hotmail.com](mailto:bowden_glenn@hotmail.com)

Mr & Mrs Mark Loney  
Tel: 00351 28 9328635  
e: [iecavj@sapo.pt](mailto:iecavj@sapo.pt)



# P resident's age

**In the absence of deputation meetings, we are grateful and conscious for all the support of the friends of Acre International.** These are most unusual times. Hugs and handshakes are looked upon as weapons against us and masks are even acceptable when we visit the bank! Through it all we live with the confidence that the great Lord of the harvest is in control.

Like the United Kingdom, Portugal and Lanzarote have been greatly affected by the pandemic, but it is much worse in Brazil. The small towns in north-east Brazil and the interior of the Amazon have passed through a difficult time. Thank you for praying for our workers and their families. We are glad to report that until now, none of them have been infected with COVID-19, even though it is prevalent in their areas.

The present crisis has also given great opportunities for preaching the gospel in many drive-in services and churches. At one drive-in service a 79-year-old man professed faith in Jesus Christ. We also released a new book for Stauros Foundation early in September - "Out of the Depths," the amazing story of Arthur Williams and the Stauros ministry. Thank you again for your prayers and encouragement.

*Victor Maxwell*

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## *Our Retired Workers*



**Thank you for praying for the retired workers in Acre.**

**Dr Bill Woods** continues to have chemotherapy treatment every 4 weeks and rejoices that his blood count is improving. The treatment has some side effects. He is also waiting for Cataract surgery in the coming months which had to be postponed because of the pandemic.



Please also remember **Millicent Bailie** in prayer. Millicent has had a number of hospital stays over the past few months and has just got home from hospital after surgery. Pray from her as she recuperates

# Hotel Atalaia: The Good Shelter.....

Aroldo & Emmanuelle Areas, Santo Andre, Portugal

**When the new church building was bought in 2016 we, as a church, wondered what to do with the old church building. Should we sell it? Should we keep it? And if we kept it, what should we do with it?**

Changing it into accommodation for future camps, for the Fatima teams that come twice a year and the Christmas outreach teams arose...and was quickly approved. From January until June 2017 the facility was transformed into a wee hotel - as we now call it - with three big bedrooms, three bathrooms, a kitchen and a living room.

Soon the old church became not only a place for teams to come and stay during the Fatima or Christmas outreach times and home to Marianna before Jeff and her got married, but it has also become a place of refuge for many people, Christians and non-Christians alike. Here are some of the folk we have been able to help out.....



Two unemployed Venezuelan sisters, Jaqueline and Elisabete, who barely knew Portuguese, stayed there for a month. Our son knew them from Lisbon. He saw the hardship they were going through and asked us if we could help. They came to live in the old church. We helped them to get a job and later to get another accommodation. Jaqueline, Elisabete and their family actually became very good friends of ours. They have since moved to Spain but still keep in touch with us and are still very grateful for all the help they received from our church members. Elisabete, Jaqueline and their extended family attended our church and the various special meetings we held. The Gospel was shared many times with them and we had great opportunities to witness to them.

Very recent examples happened during the lockdown. During this troubled time, the old church welcomed three families.

The first one was Tania, a mother with three children. She moved in at the beginning of the lockdown after she and her husband separated. She stayed there for three months until her situation with her husband got sorted out. She is a Christian and during this difficult time she saw Christ's love in action as we and many other church members got alongside both her and her children to counsel her, listen to her, walk (with social distancing) with her and even in the middle of the night calm down a big fight with her husband. In a nutshell, we supported her and showed her love as much as we could (John 13:35).

The second guest was a teenager from our church. In May, she started school again as she was doing her A-Levels. She didn't want to contaminate her uncle who lives with her and her family and who have health conditions. So she isolated herself from them and went to live in the old church. She also stayed there for three months.

Our last guest was a Brazilian lady, Nira, who was unable to go back home to Brazil before the lockdown. Her flight was cancelled many times. She was eventually able to go back home at the beginning of July. Nira

*Continued on Page 6*

# A Year That Will Not Be Forgotten

Barry & Raquel Henry, IECA, Algarve



**I don't think 2020 will be very quickly forgotten as it has been a year etched into our memories because of the covid19 situation.** In a short space of time, people and lives were changed and nobody saw it coming. Our Portuguese Church had just moved back into the bigger building as the hall was too small for our Sunday meetings, and we praised God for the fact that we had outgrown it. One meeting later and complete shutdown! In times like these, it is very easy to throw

in the towel or even question God's goodness but we thank Him that He continues to be sovereign over everything; including the coronavirus!

We started with our online services and we thank God that we were able to do this thanks to a couple of Dutch Christian brothers with IT backgrounds. They were able to get the church linked up to be able to preach God's word online during lockdown and also even now for those that are in the risk category and cannot leave their home. We continue to pray for the word as it goes out each week, but we also pray that the enemy does not get a foothold, as we have also heard from other churches and colleagues that it has instilled a sudden comfort in some members, in the sense that one does not have to leave their home and can watch the service at their convenience. The devil does not stop for a second and we realise the battle we are in. May God continue to guard each and every one of us.

We have also seen some people begin to suffer the consequences of lay-offs and unforeseen unemployment and we know that as a church body we need to be available to help within our possibilities (Galatians 6:10). The Portuguese speaking congregation has been pulling together resources to be able to help those that have been finding the last few months difficult to make ends meet and we have also been able to help some people who are non-christians with food and other products. We pray that these opportunities to help with physical needs can open the door to also show them their spiritual needs.

It was with joyful hearts that our son Matt came back to us after spending 10 months in Northern Ireland working with the Christian organisation Made for More. We could really see and hear a difference in him when he returned. Please continue to pray for him as he considers possible Bible school with us at ITLC which opens its doors at the end of September. We already have students signed up who will be with us from that time and we pray that it will kick off as planned even in the midst of all the uncertainty concerning self isolation rules in regards travelling. We also thank God that Raquel has been given another year with the Evangelical Alliance working with COMACEP. Please continue to pray for her and the other two members of the team as they prepare for another academic year.

Looking over the last few months, nobody was prepared for what was coming...but not God! We praise Him that He continues to be sovereign and His purposes will not be thwarted. We thank Him for your support, not only financially but in prayer and encouragement. It has kept us going during maybe at times we didn't know what lay ahead. We thank God for all of you and especially for your prayers in regards the sudden death of my eldest sister in April. My mother wanted me to extend her heartfelt thanks for all of your prayers over the last few months. It has been impossible to visit her, but Raquel and I hope we may have a chance in 2021 to spend some time with her. The lockdown has also had an effect on her and I know a visit would cheer her spirits. We leave it in the Lord's hands knowing He knows best for us.

Thank you for your love, support and prayers for all the family and we hope to be able to see you at some time in the future. . . God willing!

# Evangelism In Brazil

Tom & Lucimar Geddis, Rio Branco, Brazil

**Praise the Lord for open doors for evangelism in Brazil even during these difficult days of pandemic.** All the schools in Rio Branco are still closed. Some of the churches are now starting to reopen with many restrictions. In Rio Branco Maria de Jesus has been very busy preparing boxes of literature and New Testaments to be used by a Pastor who has a ministry amongst the prisoners.

She is also very active with her online Bible teaching and encouraging both children and young people. After a long 5-year process, Lucimar has now got her visa through and we thank the Lord for answered prayer. Thank you for your faithful support in prayer for the work in Rio Branco.



## Hotel Atalaia: The Good Shelter

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is not a Christian. She also had marital problems and a painful divorce. After receiving help from the church, she attended the meeting through Zoom until she left. She had fellowship with us as much as the lockdown allowed. We witnessed to her many times and helped her in many ways. She said that she will never forget the help received as it impacted her very much.

These are only a few examples of the many people we have been able to help, showing them God's love through hospitality (Hebrews 13:1-2).

Most of these people are not Christians and we have never forced them to attend our church. Yet most of them did attend some of our church services and heard God's Word.

We cannot say that the unsaved who stayed in the old church got saved but they all did sense God's love in action through the church (James 4:17).

Hotel Atalaia, as we now call the old church, is a gift from the Lord. It translates "The Good Shelter." We pray it continues to be a blessing to many, providing accommodation for those in need, giving a place of refuge, in times of troubles, showing God's love through practical help and hospitality, giving us then opportunities to witness about the Lord to those who pass by.

Portugal is a difficult land for the Gospel but these opportunities have been one effective way to break through in order to help people to feel God's love, in order to share Christ's Salvation and Gospel, in order to lovingly connect with our community around.



**Just recently on Saturday 29th August, Samuel Areas (Aroldo & Emmanuelle's oldest son) got married to Sarah in Paris. We, as a mission family, wish them God's richest blessing for the years ahead.**



# *Rejoice Evermore*

## Glenn Bowden, Algarve Youth, Portugal

***“Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”***

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 reminds us how important prayer is, and so we are very thankful for all your prayer support, it's such a source of encouragement and blessing to any missionaries on the field.

The team here in Vale Judeu have been busy over the past four months getting the final preparations completed for the ITLC (International Theological and Leadership College) that we are commencing at the International Church in October 2020. This is under the auspices of the International Church. It's been an absolute miracle that so much has been done in the midst of COVID-19, but God has been so faithful in supplying us a fantastic team of builders along with Matt McCartney and Mark Loney to get the prefabricated buildings in and fitted out especially in the heat of the Algarve. Whilst all that has been happening Barry, Isabel, and myself have been sorting out all the administrative details regarding lecturers, students, and the finer details of starting a college in Portugal.

ITLC ethos is to know God and to make Him known and all our class and curriculum is based around this. Our prayer and dream is to see young adults not just have their minds filled with theology, but that theology would go on to hit their hearts and hands and they would be inspired, encouraged, and motivated to change the world for Christ.

At present we have 11 students with a few others praying it through. They come from all sorts of backgrounds and cultures - some from Northern Ireland, Portugal, England and even Nepal. Our maximum number of students per year is 25

Alongside their theological studies they will also be working with the church and in October starting three new youth groups across the Algarve. For many years now our frustration with the ministry of Camp Sunshine has been many of the kids and young people that attend and accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour, live across the Algarve and cannot come to our youth group here in Vale Judeu. We are going to them so they can learn to grow in the love and knowledge of Jesus through the teaching of the Bible. As we move forward our plan, God willing, is to send students to Faro, Carvoeiro and here at the International Church.

One of the plans of ITLC is to church plant across Portugal and beyond. Recently we interviewed a young Nepalese man who has been living in Portugal for the past five years in the Alentejo. His vision is to be trained up and equipped to become a pastor. He was introduced to us through an English doctor who lives in Santo António. This doctor has a heart and a passion to reach the Nepalese people in which there are over 2000 working in and around the Santo António area. So far they have seen 11 Nepalese come to Christ and have started a small group in the doctor's home. Their vision is to plant a church there. How amazing is our God that He would bring all these people to Portugal out of a country where by law you are forbidden to share the Gospel or see any Hindu converted to Christ.

Please continue to pray for this new ministry of training and equipping young future leaders, pastors and missionaries, that we will continue to seek God's leading and direction in all that we do, that His agenda will be our agenda, and that we won't run ahead of Him but wait patiently on God's wisdom and discernment.

We appreciate all your partnership in the Gospel.

# Back in Santo André

Jeffrey & Marianna Ferguson, Santo André, Portugal

**We praise God that we were finally able to return to Portugal on 7th July, after nearly 4 months of being in lockdown in Germany.** Most of you will know that the reason we were in Germany was to get married on 18th April but unfortunately all of our wedding plans had to be cancelled and we were only able to arrange a small wedding ceremony of ten people on 20th March. We are very thankful that we were still able to go ahead with the small ceremony. We know of several different people who had to completely postpone their marriages altogether. We have definitely seen God's provision for us during this time in many ways.

Now that we are back in Portugal we have been able to rejoin the church again and get involved with the work. Like everywhere else, Portugal has strict guidelines for the prevention of the spread of coronavirus, and wearing masks in the church, social distancing and hand sanitizing have become a part of our normal church procedures - and in every day life elsewhere too. We are thankful though that despite this a good number of our church members have been attending. We even rejoiced together as a church when Aroldo Areas led a woman to the Lord just a few weeks ago. We continue to thank God for these encouragements despite all the confusion and uncertainty we are surrounded with.

Marianna has been able to recommence teaching the kids on Friday nights. During the lockdown we had been able to send them small devotional videos which we put together and sent to their parents by WhatsApp. They can now meet together again 'in the flesh', and she has had the opportunity to share the Gospel once again with them. One of the girls, a 12 year old, was asking a lot of questions concerning what it means to be 'washed' clean from sin. Marianna was using the colours of the wordless book to explain the Gospel story. They then made small bracelets together in the colours of the wordless book. We ask you to pray for the children and the young people of the church that they would accept Jesus as their Saviour, and seek to live for him.

Since returning back I (Jeffrey), have been able to preach again. As I have said before, doing so in a different language can be difficult and takes a lot of preparation to make sure the Portuguese is correct and I trust and pray that God will use these messages to be a help and blessing to those who hear. Before the coronavirus outbreak, we had been able to meet with different people from the area, building up friendships and looking for opportunities to be a witness into their lives. Because of restrictions we haven't been able to meet but we continue to communicate via text and hope to try and meet again soon as the restrictions ease and people become more comfortable to go out again. Just last week I had the opportunity to offer my overgrown hair for a young student barber to practise cutting on! I have met this guy a few times now and believe that God has put him on my path for a reason. Pray with us that our lives will be a good testimony which will lead others to seek after Christ. I have also been meeting with one of the young men from the church to encourage him and to talk about our lives as Christians. I had encouraged him to live his Christian life in front of his friends and we are so thankful that on a few occasions he has been able to bring one of his friends to church.

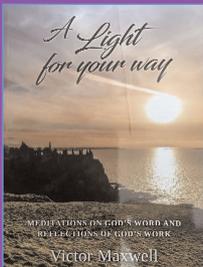
Before the lockdown Marianna had the opportunity to build up friendships with a couple of young women from Santo Andre. She hopes that she can be a help and an encouragement in their often difficult life situations. Hopefully after this period of social distancing she can go once again to meet them, until then they keep in contact via social media.



# Peter Moore

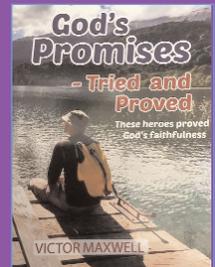
Peter Moore has been involved with Acre since coming out on a Fatima outreach team over 8 years ago. Peter has been on nearly every Fatima team since then and also was on the Brazil Team in 2018. He has been helping with the media side of the work and also has served on the Acre Committee over a number of years. Peter also has been part of the leadership for REVIVE, the Acre Youth work. He has completed 3 years part time course in the Irish Baptist College and now values prayer as he commences the Bible college course at the ITLC in Portugal.

## Need a gift that will last all year for someone?



Victor Maxwell's Devotional Book  
**"A Light For Your Way"**  
*Meditations on God's Word and reflections of God's Work*  
 Special offer £10.00 including P&P

**"God's Promises - Tried and Proved"**  
 £7.99 including P&P



We have just commenced a new Saturday night meeting for our teens and twenties of the church with all the restrictions in place and were thrilled to have 7 attending the first one including a number of unsaved. Please pray as we build up relationships with these young folk.

We are so thankful to know that we have many people praying for us back in NI, and we too remember you in prayer in these difficult days. We leave you with the promise in Psalm 145 v 18, "the Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth."





# Co-Ordinator's Page

Keith Lindsay

## **Psalm 56: 3 "When I am afraid, I will put my trust in you"**

At the start of 2020 we never expected to be living in what has been called "unprecedented times" as we have faced the Coronavirus / Covid 19 pandemic. This has brought many changes both to our lives as individuals and also to the work of the mission across in Brazil, Portugal and Lanzarote.

There has been much uncertainty and fear as people have panicked not knowing what was ahead. Many are scared, worried, nervous as we have been taken out of our comfort zones into the unknown. What a blessing to remember that God is still on the throne and that He is still in control! That has been the hope that we have held on to and the message that we have continued to bring to our needy world around us. This pandemic hasn't been a surprise to Him.

God has given our mission workers great opportunities of presenting the One who can give hope in a hopeless society, who can give peace in the midst of the raging storm, who can give joy and assurance of heaven for all eternity. The One who can take away all fear as we cast our cares upon Him.

Although many of our meetings have been cancelled over recent months and the uncertainty of meetings over the Autumn months with localised lockdowns again, we continue to look to the Lord for His help and blessing on all of the work not only here at home but right across the world. We have had opportunity of preaching and singing on Facebook, on Zoom and in Drive in Services over the lockdown months in various churches.

I know many people were blessed and encouraged with the reports that we put on Facebook during lockdown to keep people up to date with the workers and specific prayer requests. We have also had Acre Zoom prayer meetings over the past number of months and a good number have joined us for them. Please see below for further dates for them. We would love you to join us if you can to hear from the missionaries live and also be kept up to date with what is going on.

Thank you again for standing with us, we appreciate your prayers and practical support during these uncertain days.



zoom

## **PRAYER MEETINGS via ZOOM**

**Monday 28th September 2020 @ 8pm**

**Monday 12th October 2020 @ 8pm**

**Monday 26th October 2020 @ 8pm**

**Monday 23rd November 2020 @ 8pm**

**Monday 7th December 2020 @ 8pm**

Code for meeting is 4350810967 ~ Password is 150967

# Quarantine is over for Portugal!

Mark & Judith Loney, IECA, Algarve



**Quarantine is over for Portugal! Hooray! – let's hope it stays that way!**

The country has ground to halt and one wonders if life will ever return to 'normal'. The tourists have vanished leaving behind the sunny Algarve eerily empty with huge economic and social problems to face. Only after the summer is over will the full extent of the devastation be visible as the dust of

summer settles into Autumn and local business take stock of where things are really at. However, the Portuguese are incredibly resilient in hard times and I've seen them hunker down before and weather the storm of the recession of 2008. Back then, many fell back on growing vegetables and rearing pigs and chickens on land passed down to them from their parents and I'm sure the same will happen again as many find themselves in financial trouble. However, there are many here who have no such safety net. The Brazilian immigrants in particular are getting restless as many have lost their jobs and some are taking about having to leave in search of work elsewhere. This is a particular concern for our Portuguese speaking congregation as many of them are from Brazil and other former Portuguese colonies.

It's not all doom and gloom and now with the air bridge opening between Portugal and the UK we hear that many are booking flights to come back to the Algarve during the winter months so we look forward to seeing familiar faces again soon.

Over the summer months we have been able to have physical services since the middle of June but we have kept the option open for people who still feel uncomfortable with entering a building, to continue watching the services online. This has been especially beneficial for those of our congregation who are scattered all over the world. All the same, it has been encouraging to see how many, who are still in the Algarve, making the effort to come to church and embraced all the restrictions that we have had to put in place with regards to the social distancing, masks etc. Most weeks we have had up to 80 people attending the English service and pretty much the same number in the Portuguese service in the afternoon. We are very blessed with having plenty of space for people to spread out and we have kept all the doors of the church open into the courtyard area with a speaker outside so that those who don't want to enter are still able to feel part of the service. One of the biggest problems for people at the moment is the lack of opportunity for fellowship and people are craving human contact. There is no doubt that we have learnt many things over these past few months and it has been a steep learning curve for us as we have sought to adapt church life. Probably the most important lesson we have been forced to learn, is how much we took things for granted in terms of the freedom we had in the past to meet as Christians, hear God's word and enjoy Christian Fellowship. All the same, we believe God is in control and He will continue to build his church, and even use Covid-19 to further His purposes and extend His Kingdom.

We are so grateful for all who uphold is in prayer and support the work of Acre International.

We would especially ask prayer for our two girls who are both 'flying the nest' this year. Klara (now 20) has recently moved to Cork to work on a dairy farm until Christmas and hopes to go to Canada to work on a ranch, God willing and Covid-19 permitting in February of 2021. Laura (18) has been accepted to start at the Ulster University. She will be living with her grandparents Andrew and Pauline Gardiner. We will miss them terribly but console ourselves with the knowledge that they are in God's hands and He has a plan for them. As for us left behind, we will have to adapt and it's good that there will be a group of Bible College Students living on site from the end of September and Judith can be mummy to them.

# News From Brazil



## **Pastor Jose Carlos & Eurides, Manaus**

Thank you for remembering us in prayer especially over recent days. Eurides tested positive for Covid and a few days later both Jonatas our son and myself also tested positive. We are so thankful to the Lord that we have very few symptoms and have received medication. My father (Jose) home to be with the Lord just a number of days ago. As a family we appreciate your prayers.

## **Altina & Eliana & Jonas, School Ministry, Manaus**

Thank you for remembering the work in the schools in prayer. Although the schools are returning now with many restrictions, we are not back yet.

## **Raimundo Nonato: Evangelist Market Ministry, Manaus**

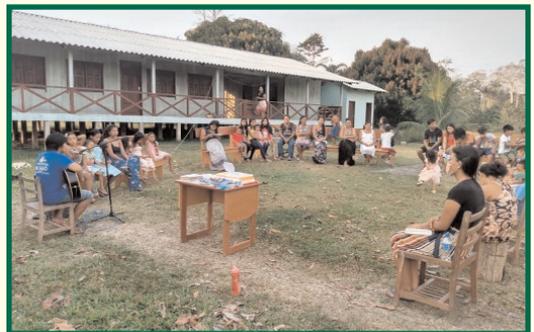
There are many restrictions at the market because of the ongoing pandemic. Please pray for the literature ministry there and for Raimundo's health.

## **Pastor Carlos Alberto & Family: Manuel Urbano, Acre**

Towards the end of June we saw some relaxation in the Covid 19 restrictions in our town of Manuel Urbano which enabled us to resume some of the meetings face to face in the church building. We were able to have the midweek meeting and one Sunday service. Numbers attending were only one third of our normal congregation due to restrictions and many other plans had to be put in place with no handshakes or hugs! Just after we returned a family belonging to the church manifested symptoms of Covid-19 - brother Francisco Paredes, his wife Margarida and many of their family. Many have tested positive now and a number of people have died as a result. We have now gone back to services on the internet/radio as a precaution. Please pray as the Word of God gets into the homes of people that it will get into their hearts. Our church was also broken into recently. Thankfully the robbers didn't get anything of significance. This is happening all over our state because of the pandemic. Pray for protection over the work.

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

Recently we celebrated the 4th anniversary of the Baptist congregation in the Indian village. We were resuming the services after the restrictions. It is very exciting to see what God has done among these people. There are many testimonies of lives that have been transformed and their testimonies are touching the lives of others in their tribe. The meetings in Feijo continue with many restrictions. The virus continues to spread in our area and a number of people have died. Pray for protection for our family and the church family. Our home was broken into recently when we were at church and a number of items including our phones were stolen.



### **Pastor Plinio, Sena Madureira, Acre**

Each week we travel 40 km from Sena into the forest to support and help a small congregation. We appreciate your prayers for this outreach. Thank you for praying for the work in the church here also. Again, we have many restrictions at present.

## **North East Brazil: Rio Grande do Norte**

### **Pastor Junior & Cristina: Nissa Floresta**

The church services have been conducted through the internet on social media over the months of lockdown. A number of unsaved who wouldn't attend the church were watching online. We are thankful that we have been able to return to church now with many restrictions in place. Over the past number of weeks we have also been able to do some renovations to the front of the church building.

### **Pastor Luiz & Aldeniede, Passa é Fica**

The new church building is coming on well and we are now ready to plaster the walls and put the floors in. The Sunday School rooms are also just finished being built. We are looking forward to being able to open the new church in a few months' time. We are so thankful to the Lord for those who have helped us financially in this building project. We are also thankful for the gift from some friends in Northern Ireland that enabled us to buy an electric piano for the work here.



### **Pastor Diego & Suzane, São Paulo do Potengi**

We are thrilled to announce that our new son Enoch was born a few weeks ago. A little brother for Issac. We thank the Lord that my father has recently come back to the Lord. Things in the church are returning very slowly. Please pray for the many children and youth that we had before lockdown. Pray for God's hand of protection over them.



The work in Lajes do Cabugi has also been difficult with the restrictions as we have no building there. Please pray with us that very soon we will find a building to rent in this town as we want to hold services here every Thursday and Saturday nights. Jerônimo, Edson and myself go down into the town square and just hold conversations with people. This is a very needy town and we are the only true witness for the Gospel there. Please also pray for Edeilson who has gone away from the Lord and for wisdom in dealing with him.

### **Pastor Adriano & Maria, Várzea**

We had a recent missions conference in the church and a good number of people attended even with the restrictions. Please continue to pray for wisdom for us as we gradually commence our church services again. We like the other mission workers have been preaching on the internet every week and unsaved have been listening in. The outreach in Espirito Santo continues with a number of restrictions.

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# News From Brazil *cont'd...*



## **Pastor Neto & Layaze, João Câmara**

In August we commenced a new believer's class and have a good number attending. We also rejoice that on Sunday 20th September, a young woman attended the church and trusted the Lord as her Saviour. One of the children from the church also trusted the Lord that evening. God is answering prayer! Thank you for your continued faithful prayers.

## **Pastor Abraão & Priscila, São José**

The building work at the new church site in São José has been going on over the past couple of months with a new perimeter wall built first and the diggers arriving in to clear the site and dig out the foundations of the building. Please pray for God's continued provision for this project. We meet outside at the site for our meetings during the week and for our Sunday service. A good number of people attend and we socially distance also using hand sanitiser and facemasks. We are looking to the Lord for much fruit in the exciting days ahead for the work here.

## **Pastor Laércio & Nelma, Lajes Pintadas**

Although the pandemic has stopped many of our church services, we have been able to have a number of meetings at people's houses and continue to visit in the community at a distance. This has been a very difficult year for us with all the government restrictions and the frustrations of not seeing the work go forward. Please pray for us.



## **Pastor Walkenio & Hadassa, Montanhas**

Sadly, Hadassa's brother, Daniel, passed away a few weeks ago. Please remember the family in prayer. We are thankful to the Lord that the church here celebrates its 5th anniversary at the end of September.

We are thankful for every contact made and opportunity to reach out to needy people even over the pandemic. No one in our church has contracted the virus. I ask you to pray for Deyvison and Ingrid. I am conducting Bible studies with them.

## **Pastor Iran & Socorro: Campo Redondo**

The work here in Campo Redondo and the region has been developing even in the midst of the difficulties caused by covid-19, I'm sure you have been following the news from Brazil, thousands of people have died and millions have been infected. Here in our town we have only had 5 deaths, and the number of infected people here in the state of Rio Grande do Norte has been less than other states.

Over the past number of months because we cannot meet in person in the churches, we have been using technology through social media networks to continue to preach the message of the Gospel. We are using Facebook and Zoom and YouTube for the midweek and Sunday services and every day we use WhatsApp to communicate a simple message to the congregations. For those who don't use these means, we phone them or have a quick visit to their home. We thank the Lord that three people, Douglas, Filipe and Ronaldo have recently trusted the Lord and are involved in discipleship classes. Some Saturday nights we go live on YouTube

with praise and worship times. A number of unsaved have also been watching the services. The radio program started again in June from 1.30-2.30pm each day.

We have just started to have some services again in the church building from the beginning of September. Each Sunday and Wednesday Nights. The outreach in Lauro Maia has also commenced on Sunday mornings and we receive food for the needy in the area and are able to distribute it out. Also, the outreach in Serra do Doutor has commenced again every two weeks. We have been keeping in touch with the people there over the pandemic by WhatsApp and phone.

The work in Malhada Vermelha continues and Pastor Francisco and Celia have returned to live in the community and although retired from the mission, are willing to help us out there.

We ask you to pray for revival in the churches here in Rio Grande do Norte and for the salvation of precious souls. Please pray for the lives of some of our new converts over recent months: Daniel, Betânia, Moniz, D'Jessica, Deilyson, Lidiane, Loar, Wesyle, Elen, Douglas, and Filipe and also those of Malhada Vermelha. Francinaldo, Antônio, Maria de Lourdes and Katia. So that they grow in the faith of the Lord Jesus.

Thank you for standing with us in the work in Brazil!

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## *Living In The New Normal*

**Ricardo & Sandra, Arrecife, Lanzarote**



The Lord Jesus said in Matthew 24:7 *“For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places”*. Surely this is what’s happening in our world today, reminding us that the coming of the Lord is very near. We never imagined that we would ever witness what is happening to our world today with the corona virus pandemic!

It was like a gale that wiped out everything, especially affecting the economy, destroying jobs, many people dying, closing church services and isolating the population to avoid

the spread of the virus. We are so thankful to the Lord that the Island of Lanzarote has very little effects from the pandemic so far. The spread of the virus has been minimal and the hospital didn’t collapse under the pressures that were predicted. Sadly, jobs have been lost and tourism dropped to zero. Now little by little tourism is being reactivated.

Our local church has grown stronger in this pandemic. Some new people have arrived, as many have reaffirmed their faith, and others have given their lives to Christ.

It was with real sadness that we said farewell to Manuela and Geromo her husband as they moved to mainland Spain to live with their daughter who will be caring for them in their old age. Manuela has been part of the church family here for over 40 years. Her husband Geromo recently gave his life to Christ at the age of 80 after having surgery. As you can imagine it was a very emotional farewell. Please remember to pray for their daughter Victoria. She was very touched through the testimony of our church and we are trusting that she will come back to the Lord who she once loved and served. Manuela leaves many memories with our Church in Arrecife. We pray that wherever she goes, the Lord will always be with this whole family.

In this pandemic we could see the growth of Cesar from the Philippines. His wife Edita is a new believer. They both want to be baptized, but due to a situation in the past that they will solve with God's help, they will wait until they bless their relationship with marriage. Little by little with God's help they are putting their lives in order. They are being very faithful in their attendance to the services. Two women from Guinea in Africa, Ermelinda and Amisa, have recently trusted the Lord as their Saviour. Let us pray that they bear fruit and be a testimony in their families. Amisa is pregnant and she will give birth shortly. Ashok from India is recovering from major surgery on his feet. He has a prosthesis and is trying to walk little by little. He is also growing in the Lord and has asked for baptism. Lucy from Colombia is understanding the Word of God better now and has also asked for baptism. We would like to be able to have a baptismal service but because of the COVID 19 pandemic all this is suspended. We know it's all in God's perfect timing.

We ask your prayer for the new people who are coming to the church: Gloria is a native girl from Lanzarote and a friend of hers who is a Christian and lives in Las Palmas, told her about Christ and recommended our church to her. She seems very happy with us. Let us pray that she accepts Jesus. We also ask prayer for Isabel and Fernando, they are siblings from Colombia and have decided to stay in our church.

We have been able to start two weekly services in our church building. The Sunday morning service and the Thursday evening prayer meeting. We continue to broadcast both live services on Zoom for the those who cannot attend. These services are being watched by some people in Uruguay, Colombia, Cuba, Brazil and many other places. We are also recording a video service, which we broadcast on Sunday afternoons on the YouTube channel.

The radio program had been suspended due to management policies, but they have just approved us to

restart the program in September. The program is an anonymous and voluntary offering from a brother of the church. It is a private and commercial island radio, but we see an opportunity to reach other places with the Gospel.

We would also ask for prayer that we can reopen the other activities such as camps, children's clubs, Sunday school, evangelism in the old people's homes, the prison ministry and the hospital visitation but at the moment it is very difficult because there is still no vaccine against Covid.

Once again, we would like to thank the entire Acre family that always supports the missionary work in Lanzarote. May the Lord bless you. We pray using the words of Habakkuk "O Lord, revive thy work (in Lanzarote) in the midst of the years, in the midst of this time that we are living, make known; in wrath have mercy".



## MY RESPONSE

- I would like to receive your monthly prayer letter/magazine
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