



*News from Jim and Vicki Sturgill • Missionaries to Brazil, South America*

**“I HAVEN’T SEEN YOU IN MONTHS! WHERE’VE YOU BEEN?”**

How often do we hear this kind of greeting from our friends when we cross paths on the street. Probably some have been asking the same question in relation to our news letters. These last months have been really busy as well as quite taxing for us. I won’t begin a “travelogue” style letter, but will mention just a few highlights:

January was our annual Field wide Mission Meeting

February brought an emergency trip to the US due to my mother’s passing away

March brought on the necessity to move to different living quarters.

Plans for April include a trip to Campinas for the 52<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the “1<sup>st</sup> church”

What has been exciting has been the addition of four new members in the church here in Belo Horizonte. Jessica has grown up with us, accepted the Lord several years ago, and finally has reached the legal age at which she can become officially a member. With her, she brought her boy-friend, Rodrigo. He was saved in 2005, and has grown in his faith and service over these years. He also has reached the legal age of 18 for joining the church.. Along with these two, Mateus Lima, and his wife Fernanda, members of the 1<sup>st</sup> FWB in Campinas, have been transferred here related to his employment. One of the requirements that he laid down to his company was that there had to be a FWB church before he would accept their request, so when they requested that he consider Belo, he agreed. Mateus is a brother of Lucas Lima, Pastor of the Campinas 1<sup>st</sup> church, who will be one of the representatives of the Brazil Free Will Baptists at the National meeting in Oklahoma City in July.

“Good Friday” (April 2<sup>nd</sup>) was our annual regional fellowship meeting. As I brought the morning message, I recounted the fact that our very first of such meetings had taken place around 34 years ago in that very same city – Conselheiro Lafaiete. That year, we only had around 40 in attendance from the two churches that existed at that time. This year, 2010, we had around 300 from about 9 churches and congregations.

One more thing to pray about: “ex-patriots” from Barbacena, who have moved related to their jobs to other areas are in the process of opening congregations where they now live. One is our life-long friend (his life anyway since he’s a lot younger than we are), Carlos Lucio, who along with his family, has moved to our nation’s capitol, Brasilia, and has begun having services along with William Barbosa, Air Force sergeant, who is part of the president’s flight crew for helicopters. Also, a young couple whom we don’t even know, has moved to Bolivia from Barbacena and have begun services in the town where they live. Your prayers and your faithfulness in giving make these advances possible.

Thank you, and God bless you.

Jim & Vicki Sturgill

Belo Horizonte