

The True Hawkins Family - Brazil

February 2011

Dear Prayer Partners,

General – Greetings from the rain soaked, humid, soggy Amazon. The rainy season began in December and has only now really taken affect. This slows us down in many ways, but is a relief from the heat. We had a great prayer breakfast in Boa Vista, Roraima, and spent a few days with Bill and Sharon Smith. Diana spent eight days in Roraima doing a DVBS in Boa Vista with Bill and Sharon. They made a positive impact on the community, and hopefully will get a few new members for their efforts.

Camp – We are preparing for our first trip up river to the camp to fix the three roofs that were blown off by storms, the water system, lights and cut grass and prepare the area to receive 120+ campers. The river did not come up fast enough, and is very low at the moment, so it has put us back a month. We are looking forward to a good time of fellowship, learning, preaching and relaxation far away from “carnival” here in Manaus

Church News – The pulpit, lights, and other materials are ready to go to Puru-puru to begin the new work. We have ordered and paid for the wood for the benches, and plan to go interior to mount them and prepare the area for the first service.

Iranuba’s auditorium was delayed by city hall over details, and was not ready and covered before the rains hit. They have all the materials to finish “drying” it in, but don’t have the authorization to finish it.

Anori was called off until March due to the low river, and us being unable to get to the port with the boat and construction team. We hope to go up after camp (March 8th).

I have plans on going up to Presidente Figueiredo on Saturday, February 5th, to check on the progress of the construction at KM 142. We were able to get the rest of the needed material, so are ready, if the rain holds off. We had good services during December and baptized three on January 1st.

Bible Institutes – I have been caring for our two Indian missionaries these last two months. They are down to visit churches and raise support. Marcilio began a new Bible Institute with 18 students for the Baniwa and Inyengatu people. It is located at Macarico, on the Içana River, about six days upriver from Manaus.

Alberto also brought good news about the churches upriver (10 days) that are learning about missions, and their personal responsibility to become involved in sharing the Gospel. We look for some great things as these two men direct the two Bible schools and teach and challenge those six tribes to reach Columbia, Brazil and Venezuela for Christ. We are very proud of them.

I will teach “Prophecy” at the institute here in Manaus for six weeks this semester, so am looking forward to our class time.

The institute on the Andirá, Peniel, and in São Gabriel, Inyenga Opakawa, will also begin in March, so we await specific news about enrollment and the affect the students had between semesters.

Family – Diana and I are feeling the weather, as usual this time of year. Reminds us we are not getting younger. We have had a lot of dengue fever and malaria going around, and also the usual virus and flu bouts, but we have “escaped” thus far.

Nathaniel is hoping for a post closer to the U.S. this year, and Philip is buried in his studies at the Academy. He will go for a trip to Asia in March, and then come to study five months in Brazil with their language program. We hope to get down to see him.

Prayer – We are in the process, as you know, of turning over the regional ministries to national leadership this year. On February 28th, we have our first meeting, and ask you to pray that God will raise up among our men and women here, those who will lead the Bible Institute and the Independent Baptist movement in north Brazil. We have been working towards this end for years now.

Thanks - Thank you for your faithfulness during 2010. We appreciate you personally and our churches collectively for making it possible for us to minister here.

In His Service,

True and Diana Hawkins



DVBS – Boa Vista, Roraima