



Almost done in Iranduba

# The True Hawkins Family - Brazil

January 2012

Dear Faithful Friends,

**Family** – We had a great Christmas this year, as Philip spent two weeks with us in between semesters. He is back in the States now, preparing to begin classes again at the Academy. Nathaniel spent a week in the U.S., on leave from his post in Europe. We got to talk with him on the phone on Christmas day.

**General News** – Rainy season has begun, with six inches on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, so far at least. They are predicting a heavy rainfall, so that may put our construction projects on hold. The river went way down in November, and has risen slowly making navigation hazardous, so we will wait a few more days to go to Beruri.

**Construction** – The first stage on the restrooms and showers is done at Purupuru. We begin the second stage this week, and we hope to be ready to receive evangelistic teams by the middle of February. Militão and Olivia have begun working there already, and report that they have had a good acceptance in the community.

The work projects on KM142 and in Presidente Figueiredo are stopped, due to the missionary's health. He has continued with the three sessions per week of dialysis, and has stabilized, but not gotten much better.

In Anori, the front and back angles to receive the roof have been finished, and plans are being made to weld up the trusses and cover the building this month.

**Trip** – We plan to go to Boa Vista, Roraima, 500 miles up the “highway” from Manaus, and participate in the annual pastors' prayer breakfast on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Bill and Sharon Smith are on furlough, so we hope to help out at the Alvorada work for a few weeks, till we have to return in March. I would also like to visit some of the 12 institute graduates that work with tribal people in that state.

**Indian Ministries** – The institutes in São Gabriel, Macedonia, and Maçarico are in recess, so the missionaries and teachers are traveling and evangelizing along the rivers and deep into the jungle areas. The news is very encouraging, and the battles are being won, despite the obstacles and opposition. Our objective is to make these ministries self-supporting by their own regional tribal churches. This has been a challenge, due to the culture of dependence installed among our people since the 16<sup>th</sup> century.

**Prayer** – Pray for our missionary José Abraão da Costa, who works on the upper Rio Negro and Marié Rivers. He is currently on a contact trip five days upriver on the Marié, hoping to begin a work there. He is still recovering from the last bout of poisoning he received while visiting an unfriendly village called Mafi.

Pray for our “Indigenous Ministry Plan”, which has been in place for several years now, and we hope to pass the leadership of all the ministries into national hands by 2014.

**Thanks** – Thank you so much for your continued prayers and support over 2011. We know the economic situation is still not good, and we imagine many have given sacrificially and faithfully to missions. We don't take this lightly, and want to invest these funds wisely and efficiently.

In His Service,

*True and Diana Hawkins*



Site of future auditorium - Purupuru