



# The True Hawkins Family - Brazil

February 2013

Dear Praying Friends,

**Family** – We are in the midst of rainy season, and the high heat and humidity reminds our joints that we are not young anymore.

Please pray for Nathaniel and Amanda, as she has been put on complete bed rest, due to problems with her second pregnancy. She had to quit her job and he is yet to become employed since he returned overseas serving in the Marines.

Philip is doing very well at USAFA, and is less than 100 days from graduation.

**New Bible Institute** – Diana and I flew up to Boa Vista, Roraima, to visit Bill and Sharon Smith and the works in that state. Their church in Caracará opened IBBR (Bible Baptist Institute of Roraima) on February 18<sup>th</sup> and will serve that state and tribal groups.

**Institute in Manaus** – We begin on March 4<sup>th</sup> at IBBA, and will run through May 24<sup>th</sup>. There will be two men graduating, both from Manaus. Our group of students has begun to increase again, but our enrollment has been low due to IBBZL that opened and functions at night. This is our sister school on the other side of town in the east zone, and has two dozen students.

**Legal Work** – Diana and I have accepted the leadership of our national mission here in Brazil. She is secretary, and I have taken on being legal representative, so we spend a good amount of time involved in “pushing paper” and visiting government offices. This is a thankless and difficult job: pray for us.

**Rainy Season** – We have received 38 inches of rain since January 1<sup>st</sup>. This is not a heavy season, but has been difficult because when it does come down, we can get up to 4” at one time. The river has come up to “half water”, so we can send in the materials necessary for raising the building at Purupuru and the roof at Beruri.

**Violence** – As always, we thank you for remembering us in your daily prayers. Things here in Manaus and surrounding counties have worsened due to rising violence. The river pirate situation is out of control, making it difficult to leave port. One of our pastors lost his brother when he disappeared in an area that had at least two bands of marauders. Brazil has very stringent gun laws, but as you know this is not a deterrent to crime. This country has 14 of the 50 most violent cities in the world, and averages 140 murders a day. Manaus is 26<sup>th</sup> most violent city. Our churches are moving their services from 7 to 6 p.m. on Sunday to get the members home earlier.

**Thanks** – We appreciate each and every one of you, for your prayers and giving. It has fallen to us to finish up the work here in the Amazon begun in 1938. This is a privilege, and we covet your prayers and thankful for all who stand with us.

In His Service,

*True and Diana Hawkins*



Caracará – getting the new classroom ready



IBBR – some of the students and teachers