



# The True Hawkins Family

November/December 2016

Dear Fellow Laborers,



New floor at Beruri congregation

**Family** – Thank you for your constant prayers on our behalf, and the concern you have for our family and ministry. Nathaniel is now caring for our grandkids full time. Please remember him in your daily prayers, and our two grandchildren; Anthony and Jesse. Philip just finished up another “course”, and is settled in his new home on base. Diana and I both caught the “virus”, and she has been sick for two months, but seems to be on the upswing.

**Conferences** – BERURI: I went interior (140 miles) to preach the anniversary conference. We had 97 on Saturday night, and three saved there in November. The attendance has grown to an average of around 45, with 31 adults. The new floor is very nice. BELA VISTA: the annual conference was well attended; 240 were present on Saturday night. NOVO AIRAO: Diana and I went by road (110 miles) to this town, where I spoke two nights on the second coming. PRESIDENTE FIGUEIREDO: This town is also reached by road (80 miles), and I was invited to speak at this conference on Sunday night. We had 70 present, and a violent rainstorm knocked out the lights. I spent half an hour on a rickety ladder trying to restore them, and we finished right at preaching time. JOAO PAULO: this is still a congregation, and I was surprised at the good attendance (84). I spoke on the Biblical Church Foundation. Other conferences in Manaus were at Raio do Sol, Ebenezer, 26<sup>th</sup> of November (Bible Day), and I close out the year at Cenáculo Baptist, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, emphasizing the Christmas story.

**Missionaries** – We were privileged to have our missionaries Alberto, Marcilio, and Valmir with us these past two months. I have enjoyed caring for them, driving them to their meetings, and helping them raise funds for the work in the interior areas. It has been good to see our people contributing to missions. Alberto came down sick his second week here, so I took him to the tropical hospital and it was confirmed; malaria. This is his 11<sup>th</sup> time, and the medicine is really hard on his liver. He encouraged me with the news from his works in Brazil and Colombia, telling of the five new communities he is reaching with the gospel. One of the graduates from our institute there (Word of life), was coming downriver to a Bible conference below Mitu, Colombia, when they hit a rock in a stretch of rapids, and turned over their “bongo” (hollowed out log used as a canoe). They lost everything; belongings, gasoline, food, and their motor. All thirty on board made it to shore, scraped and bruised by the rocks, but alive.

**Prayer Breakfast** – The last pastors’ prayer breakfast was organized here on the Bible institute grounds on December 10. Thirty-one of our pastors and church leaders were present, and we had a great time hearing eight missionaries present their respective fields. We also created our yearly calendar of events for 2017.

**Loss** – Our director of the Bible institute here in Manaus, João Lima da Costa, passed away suddenly on November 25, just a week before graduation. This has affected us deeply, and the work related to the Bible school here in town. He was only 62, and we miss him greatly. We honored him at the ending ceremony, where Rogerio graduated, and will be going to Boa Vista, Roraima, to pastor the work Bill and Sharon Smith started in that state.

**Prayer** – Please take special time to pray for us and the work here in the Amazon. We have never experienced so much trouble inside and outside our churches. The attacks have been calculated and coordinated, revealing without a doubt the author of all this confusion.

**Thank You** – We are humbled by your faithfulness and desire to stand with us in this battle. We really appreciate your continued prayers and support over this past year.

**CHRISTMAS** – Let us always be reminded of the love that sent us the Savior. Glory to God in the highest.

In His Service,

*True and Diana Hawkins*



Anniversary Conference at Bela Vista



Pastors' prayer breakfast



Director Joao Lima's funeral