



## The True Hawkins Family

January/February 2017



Missionary Alberto with donated items

**Family** – We are alive and well. The constant rain has brought out our usual aches and pains but we are thankful for the cool weather (72°) at night. Nathaniel has a new job, which has made caring for the grandkids alone a lot easier. They are in daycare during the day, and he enjoys the evenings with them. They seem to be settled into their routine. Diana and I enjoy talking with them through skype, and watching them grow up. Thank you so much for praying for them. We have seen the Lord's hand on them.

**Ministry** – We continue to help the churches here in Manaus and surrounding areas that are without pastors. Please remember Mount Sinai, Bethel, and Mount Zion especially as they are looking for pastors. I continue to create and produce Sunday school lessons for the churches interior, and have just finished a 23-page work on death and dying.

**General** – We had our Bible Institute meeting on January 9<sup>th</sup>, and set the courses for the next semester. I will be teaching the Daniel/Revelation and possible Romans courses (12 weeks, 60 hours). We begin on March 6<sup>th</sup>, and will end on May 27<sup>th</sup>. We are hoping to have about 15 students.

**Violence** – Because of the outbreak of violence due to the prison breaks and turf wars, we have had to cancel all our trips that were planned during January and February. The media is not reporting all the killings between the FDN and PCC, two criminal organizations fighting over drug routes and distribution points. We are in a state of siege, and are leaving the house only when necessary. There were many more killed than the 98 admitted in the prison riot; the estimate is around 200, and close to 1000 prisoners escaped, and are in Manaus and outlying towns and villages. They mostly steal to stay alive, and fund their organizations to prepare for an all-out national war for dominance of the drug market.

**New Bible Institutes** – Missionary Marcílio and I are in the process of roofing the building at Cumati Cachoeira on the Xié River. That will house the bible institute in that strategic area. Missionary Valmir and I are starting a mini-institute on Aparecida Island, on the upper Rio Negro late this year. The bible school at Cumati will run the 12-week course twice a year, and will be to train pastors. On Aparecida Island, there will be 4 one-week sessions a year, and this school is for church leaders and deacons. Missionary Alberto said the roof at the Living Word bible institute suffered damage from a violent storm, but can be fixed. His house, however, was completely destroyed by the winds, and even the walls collapsed. Our churches took up offerings and did a campaign to collect clothes, as they lost everything.

**Thank You** – We really appreciate your constant concern for us and the ministry here in the Amazon. We are very grateful for the cards and encouragement and for the special gifts at Christmas. Thanks!

In His Service,

*True and Diana Hawkins*



Sunday school lessons