



Bill and Sharon

The Smiths Missionaries to Brazil



Dear Friends,

January, 2012

What a joy it was to give and to receive over the Christmas Holidays. We sent gift cards to family this year and in return we received some gift cards as well. We thank each of you that sent us a special Christmas offering and we do appreciate it very much. We know the Lord is blessing each of you for your generosity.

This year of 2012 brought many new challenges.



Bill had to have a jaw tooth pulled on December 27th and take an antibiotic. After 7 days he broke out in a bad rash and had numbness in his lower lip. On January 4th, we made a trip to the Emergency Room and Bill was admitted to the hospital. He had an allergic reaction to the penicillin in the antibiotic. He spent one and a half days in the hospital but is better now. He was home in time to celebrate his 63rd Birthday on January the 8th.

Sharon fell on her left knee back in October, the day after we arrived in the States, but didn't have any pain until the middle of December. We were able to see a doctor and he requested an MRI. They found a tear in the meniscus and some arthritis. The doctor gave her a shot of cortisone in the knee and we are praying this will give relief for the pain as she walks.



There hasn't been much snow in Ohio during December and January until today – January 13 - but the temperatures have been in the 20's. This cold weather is not good for us Brazilians so we are planning to go to Texas for the rest of January and February. We will be visiting some of our supporting churches in the area. We have been attending church services in Ohio at the Massillon Baptist Temple while getting our checkups. It has been good to hear preaching in English again but we are anxious to return to Brazil and the work there.

Bro. True Hawkins wrote that Diana and he will be making a trip to Boa Vista to help in the services there during the month of February. They will stay in our house and be an encouragement to the Pastors and the church people.

We praise the Lord that the church services are continuing in our absence. The ladies are planning to have a Vacation Bible School the end of January so we pray this will bring many of the children back to church. School is out until the first of February so the month of January is a good time for VBS.

Please pray for Senhor Raimundo. He is 80 years old and has heart problems now. He was saved at our church in Caracarai and he and his wife moved to Boa Vista to live with their son. Some of the church people have been going with Pastor Paulo to have services in their home.



February will soon be here and our thoughts will be toward Valentine's Day. Flowers will die and the chocolate candy will get eaten. Cards will get lost or thrown away but the love that is shared with one another, and God's love for us, will never pass away. May you find little ways to show some acts of kindness to those you love before and after Valentine's Day this year. Hebrews 10:24.

Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support each month. God bless your faithfulness to His work!

Your missionaries in Brazil,

Bill and Sharon

Bill and Sharon Smith

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