



News from

The Yelles

Serving the Lord in

Caxias do Sul, Southern Brazil



April 13, 2022

Dear Friends,

On this day thirty years ago we arrived in Manaus, Brazil, to begin our church planting ministry. Working with Neila's parents, Joe and Elaine Hawkins, John learned Portuguese and the basics of church planting. Being raised on the field, Neila right away began working with the children's and ladies ministries. In January of 1997, the Lord moved us nearly 1,900 miles south to Caxias do Sul. After 25 years in the city, the Lord has established one autonomous independent Baptist church and we're currently in our seventh year of a church plant. What a blessing and adventure our ministry has been. We praise God for the privilege of serving Him in southern Brazil!



The newlyweds,
Conrad & Leila

We're presently in the United States for a five week stay. Our middle daughter, Leila, married her God given love of her life, Conrad Carpenelli, on April 10th. Last week was hectic and full of emotion, yet the blessings were numerous. I think now we can relax a bit!

The week before the wedding we participated in our sending church's annual missions conference. What made it very special was that our daughter and son-in-law, Jeremy and Joneia Bennett, also were there presenting their ministry. We had a rare opportunity come our way, and were able to vote with our church to take them and the other missionaries on for support! We are excited for them to come and work with us in Caxias do Sul. They have nearly 40% of their support needed after only eight months of deputation. Their goal is to have the needed funds by Christmas 2022. Please pray with us for them.

This week we are visiting with Neila's 91 year old mom. We've been helping her by cleaning and organizing in her small apartment. Next week we fly to Washington State to visit with John's parents for a few days and will minister to them however needed. Our return to Brazil is marked for May 2nd.

The work in Brazil is being headed up by Jonir and Vilson, who take turns with the preaching and teaching. All the ministries are continuing in our absence. The news they relate to us has been all good, praise the Lord!



Ieda Terezinha

In February, we held our first baptism service of the year. Five adults were baptized on that day. In March, three adults made professions of faith: Gregory and Seda, and João (John). João (in his 70's) has extreme health problems and is confined to his home. The Sunday after Gregory and Seda received Christ as their Savior, they were baptized along with Ieda Terezinha in obedience to God's will. The Lord is working in a wonderful way in Caxias do Sul. Since July 2021, we've baptized thirteen adults and one adolescent.