

## July Update on June 2017 Missionary Letters

### **Jim & Lydia Johnson – Brazil Gospel Fellowship**

Construction on the Morada Nova church building has been the focus. The walls, beams and ceilings have been completed. Next focus will be electricity, doors and windows. Deadline to move out of rented facility is July 6<sup>th</sup>. We will move into this building as the work is completed on the floors, bathrooms and plumbing. Highlight of this last month was visiting the city of Caninde for the church's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We were a part of the history from 1990-1993, our first ministry☺ The second highlight was the Antioch Bible Institute graduation and we rejoiced in seeing Maicon graduate. He is from Limoeiro do Norte and will be working with our local team in Morada Nova and Alto Santo during our furlough. We are marking our furlough calendar and look forward to seeing as many as we can while in the states. Thank you for your continued prayers and supports.

### **Jessilyn Ochs – Summer Mission Trip to India**

She is excited to update everyone on her time in India this summer. After a 24 hour flight, she and 8 college students stepped foot in India and were greeted by the long-term staff who were anxious for their arrival. They have met a lot of people and have shared the gospel message. The natives are very friendly and welcomed them immediately. The group began learning about the Indian culture and the Hindu belief-system where they worship over 330 million gods. They are intrigued to hear our message of Christ. Many have heard bits and pieces of it previously, so getting the entire message to them is most important. Most have never understood that they can have a personal relationship with God. But because of the fables they are taught, they only recognize Jesus as another god. Please pray that God will cultivate the hearts of the Indian people that were are meeting over the summer. And that they would desire to know about Jesus and follow Him as their only Godhead. Pray that our team would walk deeply with God and that our love for Christ would cause people in India to desire to do the same. Pray that eternities would be changed as a result of our efforts. Thank you again for your generosity towards seeing the people of India come to know Christ.

### **International Students, Inc., Kansas City; Bear Trap Ranch**

Twice per year, International students from Kansas and Kansas City ascend to Bear Trap Ranch near Colorado Springs for a week of adventure, community and spiritual discovery. One of the essential ingredients for a successful week was that our group, which contained many strangers, would become one big family. This started to take place right away and was one of the most lasting and powerful evidences of God's presence with us. I think the students discovered a lot about themselves and God during this time. One of the members shared that "for the first time she feels her life might be valuable to God". We talked in groups about evidence for a Creator, suffering, hell and resurrection. It was sad to see the week come to an end. Please pray for our continued relationships and for the echoes of Eden to lead the students home to Jesus.

**Candy Preston – The Evangelical Alliance Mission (TEAM)**

Thank you for your prayer for our trip and retreat. A couple of mission/church leaders were confronted with the need for them to get training for member care. Many members have been in the tribe for over 10 years with very little structure and strategy. They took it very well and have arranged for the necessary trainings. We came in 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> in the race and afterwards had a time of prayer with the teams that we raced with. There are 3 young girls in the Yan tribe where there has been a lot of fighting (rebels against the government). Ara is the newest member and told us to pray for her because after they were evacuated, she started exhibiting some unique behavior and realized she needed help. Her mission organization helped her get some counseling. Her team was returning the next week and she asked for prayer. I will include more in my upcoming email letter. Besides having fun, we heard many stories of how God is at work—people are coming to Christ every day! Pray for a movement!

**Boaz & Ruth Glad – Avant Ministries**

Morocco has been celebrating RAMADAN the past 30 days. This is a month long fasting in which all adult Muslims fast from dawn to sunset. Eating or drinking during the day is considered a crime and punishable to 6 months in jail if not honored. According to Muslims, The Quran was given as a revelation to Mohammed the prophet during this month and they believe the evil spirits are abound and the doors of hell are closed, while also the doors of heaven (paradise) are open. This is the reason why they, even nominal Muslims, become very religious during Ramadan. Christian believers in Morocco are forced by their society to fast. They are not allowed to meet together to worship Jesus freely during the day but can meet after sunset. Some groups will share a meal together in the evening when fasting has ended. Please pray for us, especially new believers who are experiencing their first Ramadan as Christians and still live at home with their parents. Commit yourself to continually pray for your brothers and sisters who live in Islamic societies. Thank you for being part of our prayer warrior team!

**Danny & Nicole Goeking – Springfield MO CRU**

Spring break was spent in Panama City Beach where they attended a conference geared specifically toward training in evangelism. Sam transferred to MSU fall semester and got plugged into CRU immediately. He tried out for a major leadership role within CRU as emcee and has a trip planned to Cote d'Ivoire West Africa with one of southwest MO's partnership programs. Please pray for him and the team to be able to connect with students there. And for key volunteers to step up and become leaders. We will be in Fort Collins, CO this summer receiving training for being the MTL's (Missional Team Leader's) of Southwest Missouri. Mabel Annabelle was born 2/16/17. Her name means loveable. What a blessing after Nicole went through a severe "Jones Fracture" in her 5<sup>th</sup> metatarsal during her 8<sup>th</sup> month of pregnancy. She had to remain non-weight bearing for 7 weeks and wait to find out if she was a candidate for surgery. Praise God for His healing power—with a 3 week old in tow, the foot continues to regain strength and she is able to put weight on it. And she does not need surgery—praise God! Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

**Sergio & Alejandra Herrera – International Partnership Ministries, Chile South America**

Only one hurdle remains in the construction of the church. This includes \$4500 to complete minor details within the youth room and the pastor's office. After staying with Sergio's twin brother for three months, they felt their privacy as a family was suffering. They have started renting a house that exceeds the cost of living in Mexico. Please pray for God's provision. That He will meet all of their needs. They ask for prayer for Mrs. Nelly whose marriage is broken. They preached the gospel to her and pray for her and her husband to come to know The Lord. Their daughter Sharon has changed her wedding to now take place in Guatemala. Her fiancé's brother-in-law was a Peruvian missionary in Guatemala and was killed. His wife was 5 months pregnant and they have a 5 year old boy. The wedding has been changed to accommodate her in not having to travel to Chile. Please pray for us to have the \$2400 in resources to travel to Guatemala for the ceremony in October. Pray for their son Joel and daughter Priscilla as they must legalize their titles in order to be able to practice their given professions in Chile. Sergio is continuing to work alongside IPM as a missionary to Cuba. God is at work in their lives continually and they are full of gratitude.

**Craig & Shirley Colbert – International Friends/Interface, Columbia MO**

They will begin planning for the Fall New Student Outreach including the Passport to School (August 7-11) program for newly arrived international kids to help prepare them for public schools, our annual Household Give Away on Aug. 19 and New Student Orientation on Aug. 14-15. Please pray for these events as well as safe travels for their trip to Virginia and back, the trip to the ARK Encounter and Creation Museum this fall with 12-15 international students, and an invitation to attend the graduate school orientation for new international students. They closed on their condo on June 15 and they will move out of their apartment by July 14<sup>th</sup>. New address: 3800 Saddlebrook Place, Apt 804, Columbia, MO 65202.

**Nathan & Jenna Fuller – Navigators**

They challenged their students to go big before going home for the summer and asked them to share their faith and testimony with a complete stranger before the semester ended. They were taught how to draw out the gospel on a piece of paper using Romans 6:23. By God's grace, every freshman in the ministry decided to do it! Each one successfully shared the gospel with someone in the student center on campus. They were nervous, but conversations were natural and comfortable. Testimonies were shared with Hindu students, atheists and even deists and each one was very interested and asked great questions. Please pray for these words to be heavy on their hearts, as Gods Word does not return void. Pray for a staff member who will be training and fundraising this summer. Pray for the Fullers summer projects. That God moves over the speaking engagements and blesses them with creativity around campus.

**Marty Zide – Midwest Messianic Center**

Marty has been serving St. Louis as Director of the Messianic Center for 29 years. God has done so many wonderful things, saving people for His glory, causing spiritual growth to take place in the lives of so many through this center and allowing Marty to speak in

so many different places. Thank you for your faithfulness to this ministry through your prayers and gifts. It is what has helped to make it all possible. Your partnership is truly an encouragement to them.

**Paul & Vicky Craine – Child Evangelism Fellowship, Waynesville, MO**

Their last Good News Club for the spring had to be cancelled because of the flood☹️ The water level was 10' above ground and eventually the river took the house off it's foundation. In spite of it all, praise God there was not more damage or loss of life. God's protection and provision is amazing! Please pray for the Jenkins family, a young man who lost his life in the flood, he had attended school with their grandchildren. He was a senior and had attended his prom the evening he died. What a tragedy. Pray for summer opportunities to reach the children for Christ. Thank you for being a partner with us in serving Him. You have been a blessed example for us in ministry. Thank you for caring!