



The True Hawkins Family

November/December



Institute graduation

Dear Co-laborers,

Church Activities – The last pastor’s breakfast was held on December 9th with 23 pastors and missionaries present. The annual calendar for 2018 was set up, which includes the conferences, camps, graduations, and youth and adolescent activities for the year.

Diana organized the last Ladies Fellowship for the year on this day also, and had 33 present from 5 of the churches here in Manaus. They raised an offering to help send kids from needy families to youth camp next year.

Construction Projects – The glass is in the windows at the Purupuru congregation. Only 3 panes did not make the 60-mile trip interior, and will be set this month. Missionary Marcílio has advanced on the building at Cumati (850 miles upriver); it will be used for the first Bible institute in that region.

Conferences – The organizational conference of the Missionary Baptist Church went well, with 180 in attendance on Saturday night, and 124 on Sunday; I challenged the new church to focus on molding their church to the New Testament model in the Scriptures. There were many visitors, and I expect that this church will grow quickly.

The anniversary conference of the 26 of November Baptist Church (23 years organized) went very well, with over 140 in attendance on Saturday night. Diana and I built this church from February 1987 through November 1994.

Bela Vista Baptist Church also celebrated their annual conference, with almost 200 in attendance. We began this work in 1994, and turned it over to national leadership in 2004.

Bible Institute – We had three graduates from the Bible institute here in Manaus (IBBA) on December 2nd. Elionai is from a town on the lower Amazon River, and Renã and Jackson are from Manaus. We had 17 students this semester, and have some very promising young men and women continuing next semester, along with some new prospects for next March.

We launched a new program from the IBBA that will take the teaching into the local churches two nights a week. Our first task is to train Sunday School teachers and to equip the church for the children outreach programs.

Missionaries – Missionary Valmir arrived December 5th from the São Gabriel area. He cares for The Baptist Church on the Rock (690 miles upriver), and travels the Rio Negro and tributaries evangelizing, and helps the local churches with their building programs. He is in town to receive a 40 H.P. outboard for his new wooden canoe, which will make his trips much easier and much more efficient. He was using 2 tiny 5.5 H.P. motors, and was barely able to “pass” the rapids. Due to a very generous offering from a couple in the U.S., he has a good used motor. He is very happy, needless to say; the last trip that took 24 hours, will only take 7 now, and he will save on fuel (US\$ 6.21 a gallon).

Missionary Marcílio called and told of his trips evangelizing the Warekena people in Brazil and Venezuela; it was very encouraging to hear how God is blessing.

Thank You – We really appreciate each and every one who has prayed faithfully and given generously to our family and ministry here in the Amazon. We count it a privilege to represent you, and to be co-laborers with you in this great work. It is a joy this Christmas season to share the good news of our Savior’s birth with the Brazilian people, in the cities, towns, communities, and villages scattered over this great basin; your prayers and finances are proclaiming “glad tidings of great joy to all people”. Thank you for standing with us!

In His Service,

True and Diana Hawkins



Conference



Ladies Meeting