

Recife Pictorial Report

October and November 2009

We have been extremely busy during the months of October and November but by the grace of God we were able to carry out the entire plan without any major hitches.

October 1st and 24th – Rocha and Revolution - Youth Ministry



Youth and introducing them to and strengthening them in Christ is a passion of teammate Justin Moore. Two events in October highlighted those desires. One was Rocha where Roberto Signoretti from Natal taught youth workers and then Revolution where David McKinney from João Pessoa taught and strengthened the young people themselves. Both events were blessings.

October 9th, 10th and 11th – Grande Ceia – Gathering of Churches in the State of Paraiba



Over 100 gathered on Friday night to hear the messages and then brethren from many of the congregations in the state of Paraiba continued to hear during the week end as I and other speakers encouraged them to remain faithful to our God.

October 30th, 31st, and 1st of November - Pre-PAL Seminar with Earl Lavender



Earl Lavender, at the invitation of organizers of the Pan American Lectureship, came and did a Pre-PAL Seminar on his work in the Gospel of Luke and Acts and using them to tell the story of Jesus and include people in that story. Though not all could stay from start to finish some 30+ individual missionaries did benefit from these inspiring messages. Earl is head of missions at David Lipscomb University.

November 1st - Family Day Returns



After a three year break the once annual event that we call the “Day of the Family” made a comeback. What a blessing it was! It kicked off the Pan American Lectureship with a combined worship service with all 22 congregations here in Recife being invited. Not all chose to cancel their services to participate but most had brethren representing their congregation present. Don Vinzant preached. There were 650 present including 50 American participants present for the pan American Lectureship. We hope that this once unifying event is back to stay!

November 2nd to the 6th - 46th Pan American Lectureship



What a privilege it was to host this event and to be able to showcase what God is doing as he builds his kingdom here in Northeastern Brazil. During the day up to 85 people heard inspiring lessons from both stateside ministers and missionaries from Brazil. The reports concerning works all over Brazil were also inspiring. The participants also were able to see some local works first hand like the new children’s home and EBNESR, our training program. At the closing banquet 5 of our resident students sang. (Side note: Our son Alex is here visiting for Thanksgiving and will be making a professional CD of these students singing their favorite songs; acapella of course.) Kathy was honored for her work behind the scenes with a bouquet of roses as well.

November 7th and 8th - Post-PAL Seminar and Elicamp (Leadership Encounter)



Truitt Adair and Chris Swinford came to participate in PAL but stayed over two days to do a special leadership seminar at EBNESR. What a great time! We combined it with our biannual Elicamp (Leadership Encounter) and since we had it at our building where the Boa Viagem church meets we had them speak Sunday morning to our combined groups. We had 109 present for worship on that day. Truitt Adair is the director of Sunset International Bible Institute and Chris Swinford is director of international associate schools of the same. It was also Danny and Lee Bratcher's last Sunday before their 3 month furlough to the states after which they will move to Campina Grande in the state of Paraiba to establish a new congregation there. Danny happens to be a Sunset graduate as well.

November 15th - School of the Bible Certificate Presentations



25 students from our public outreach were present to receive their certificates of completion this quarter. We do it on a Sunday immediately following our services so those who are not familiar with our church can get to know us. We had 130 present for worship.

November 20th, 21st, and 22nd - 3 in 1 Conference in Curitiba Brazil



Curitiba is a beautiful city in Southern Brazil but a long way from Recife as you can see. 3 in 1 is an annual gathering of brethren to share lessons on family, church growth and small groups. Participation was down this year due to a change in the date. This area was one of the worse hit by the Swine Flu and the regular date in September had to be changed to this a much warmer month. It was still a fabulous event. Many participated Friday and Saturday from all around the country. I presented three messages Saturday on restoring the mission and vision of the church and spoke at the worship service on Sunday on restoring the image of God in our lives. There were more than 300 present.

Recent Baptisms



Richard and Carminha were baptized during this same time frame. Events are good! Evangelism is better! God did not stop giving the increase even while showing others what he is doing in the Northeast.

I could say much more about any item above but we must move on. What I really want you to see is that your missionaries are working hard to make a difference. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Blessings,

Randy