



NORTHEASTERN
Brazil

Leland, Naomi, Lincoln, and Lauren Johnson

February 26, 2022
Medical Furlough Update

I know this update reaches you several weeks before our normal update, but we know that so many of you have been praying for our situation that we wanted to keep you updated whenever we have news.

Thank you for praying for Naomi's surgery on February 11th. The surgery was successful and there were no complications. She has been recovering, and even though she is still in pain from the other issues that she has been experiencing, the surgery-related pain that she had been feeling has greatly diminished.

The most important part of the last few weeks came yesterday as we met with a primary care doctor at Johns Hopkins hoping to get a referral to the specialists that deal with Naomi's condition. The appointment went very well! The doctor was very empathetic as we related the things that have been going on since May. Not only did he refer her to the hematological unit, but also recommended a neurologist to see if there is something that he can do about the pain that she is dealing with daily. We left the appointment very excited.

Unfortunately, when we arrived home and called to book the appointment with the hematological unit, our excitement wavered just a bit. We were informed that the referral is not the final phase in the process. Apparently, that unit does not take on all cases that are referred to it. Once the referral has been made, all of the medical records must be submitted (by fax, can you believe it) to them, and then they determine if they will take the patient or not. We took the 22 pages of records that they requested, found a fax machine (would you believe that the UPS store charges \$1 per page to fax something? I mean, seriously, it's not 1992!), and sent them over. Unfortunately, we do not know how long we will have to wait to receive a response; they would not give us an ETA. Fortunately, we know who holds the king's heart in His hand and turns it in whatever way He wills.

I am actually writing this update from the airport. We have known for some time that we would need to make a trip back to Brazil to handle some things church and personal things. At first, we were hoping to only be in the US for a few weeks, but God's plans are not always our plans, so it has become necessary to make a trip back. We will be there for about eight days to give me two Sundays and one Wednesday with the church there. Since there is only one follow-up appointment scheduled within the next two weeks, and Naomi has both Lauren's and her parents to help her, this seemed like the perfect time. I was actually looking to go a few weeks from now, but was able to find some very reasonable, last-minute tickets.

Pray that God will open the doors at Johns Hopkins; pray for our trip to Brazil that God will bless in a special way, and pray for Naomi's swift recovery. We are praying for you all as well.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Leland, Naomi, Lincoln & Lauren
(704) 751-0015
Johnsons@pastorplanting.org
www.pastorplanting.org

SENDING CHURCH

Crossroads Baptist Church
5811 Hoffmans Lane
Bailey's Crossroads, VA 22041
Dr. Kenny Baldwin, Pastor

MISSIONS AGENCY

Baptist International
Missions, Inc. #1528
P.O. Box 9
Harrison, TN 37341