



# NORTHEASTERN Brazil

Leland, Naomi, Lincoln, and Lauren Johnson

May 11. 2020

This update comes a few weeks ahead of our regularly scheduled one as there is just so much that we need to tell you all. I will dispense with the pleasantries and jump right in.

First, regarding our departure date: A few weeks ago, we were notified that our return flight to Brazil on May 13 had been cancelled. Because of the cancellation, we were forced to reassess our return date to Brazil and rebook tickets. Like most other countries around the world, Brazil has instituted “shelter-in-place” orders for their citizens. Our greatest concern was that if we headed back to Brazil too soon, we would end up stuck in a two-week government quarantine (because of possible exposure to COVID-19 as a result of our presence in the USA) or that we would be unable to get housing because of the shutdown. For these reasons, we decided to reschedule our return to Brazil for June 5. Our belief is that these extra three weeks will allow the country, like the USA, to begin reopening before our arrival. Please pray that God will continue to work out the details.

NEW  
DEPARTURE  
DATE OF  
JUNE 5

Regarding the growth of the Northeast team: God, who is able to do above all that we ask or think, has done just that in the additions that He has made to His Salvador church planting team. Over a year ago, we had the opportunity to invite Wes Palla and family, missionaries in southern Brazil, up to Salvador to preach in a conference. While they were visiting, we were able to talk with them, as we do with all missionaries that we come into contact with, about the needs in the northeast of Brazil. After several months of praying, and countless conversations about what we believed that God could do in the northeast, the Palla family felt God leading them to transition their work in southern Brazil, and to join together with us in an effort to see God do something incredible in the Salvador metropolitan area. By having complementary instead of duplicated strengths, we have already seen an amplification of God’s vision for Salvador.

Please pray for us over the next several months. As the world figures out how to deal with this pandemic, the logistics of getting back to Brazil and starting a church truly are immense. But every day, more and more people are being sent into an eternity without Christ. Prudence is always in the forefront, but if we wait for the “right conditions”, the devil will make sure that the “right conditions” never happen. We continue to pray for you during this time as well.

Finally, because I consider you all as friends, I hope that you will excuse my moment of pretentiousness (as any true friend would), as I sign my name on a letter for the first time...

Dr. Leland Johnson  
(Proud virtual graduate, May 8, 2020)

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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#### SENDING CHURCH

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#### MISSIONS AGENCY

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