

Leland, Naomi, Lincoln, and Lauren Johnson

missionaries to **Brazil**



December 30, 2019

We do not normally devote letters to “waxing nostalgic” or “year in review” type concepts, but just this once, please bear with me.

**DECEMBER
2013
DECEMBER
2015
DECEMBER
2019**

At about this time in December of 2013, I was pastoring a church in North Carolina. Naomi and I were dealing with the thought that God may be calling us to Brazil as missionaries. At this time in December of 2015, our family had sold most of our belongings, packed the rest, and left for the field of Brazil. This year, in December of 2019 we are back in the USA having completed our first term in Brazil.

When we stop to consider where we were six years ago, the journey seems hard to believe. After going back and reading many of our prayer letters from the past several years, it is amazing to see all that God has done; He has truly been good and gracious. That does not mean that there have not been ups and downs along the way, but it does mean that He has not failed on any one of His promises.

When we stop to consider where we will be one year from now, it seems just as amazing. Upon our return to Brazil in a few months, we will be planting the Igreja Batista Nordeste or Northeast Baptist Church. The name serves a dual purpose. We will be planting the church in a suburb northeast of the city of Salvador. In addition, Salvador is the chief city of the northeastern region of Brazil, and we have a vision to plant churches throughout the entire northeast of Brazil. Spiritually, the Northeast is one of the most difficult areas of Brazil. It is also one of the regions most neglected by independent Baptist missionaries. We believe that God wants to do a great work there.

As you start off the new year, please add the planning for this new work to your prayer list. Everything that has been accomplished since we started in 2014 has been proof that God responds to the prayers of His people. Over the past several years, we have seen scores of people saved because God’s people have prayed. We do not have years for the work to crawl along, we need God to do something great from the very beginning. This means that we need the foundation of powerful prayer to be laid in advance. Please pray that God will begin prepare the hearts of the people in Salvador. Please pray that God will continue to bless with financial provisions. Please pray that God continues to protect our family.

**PRAY THAT
GOD WILL
BEGIN TO
PREPARE THE
HEARTS OF
THE PEOPLE IN
SALVADOR**

Additionally, the past several weeks on the road have been a whirlwind. We have been mostly on the East Coast and God has continued to bless. We have seen several hands raised for salvation and many altars full through the preaching of God’s Word. Pray that God will continue to make us effective during our time here. Merry Christmas and have a blessed 2020.

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