

Leland, Naomi, Lincoln, and Lauren Johnson

*missionaries to* **Brazil**

May 8, 2018



In August of last year, we moved to Salvador, the city in which God has called us to work. We said then that we did not know why God was moving us at that time when our timetable was to move here this year. But it is clear to us now that God moved us here “for such a time as this.”

At the end of last year, a missionary farther up the coast from us had to go back to the USA with a medical emergency. He was supposed to be gone for a few months, have surgery, and return. The missionary that we have been working with sent his assistant pastor to cover the church for the missionary who needed to have surgery. When back in the USA, the doctors told this missionary that he needed to have not one surgery but three! As the months stretched on, they have encountered more problems with his health, so his stay has been extended.

The missionary that we have been working with has, of course, allowed his assistant to stay at the church. However, as the months came and went, it created another problem. The missionary that we are working with is returning to the United States on furlough (it’s likely already clear to you where this is going). This situation leaves two churches with two missionaries in the USA and only one assistant to cover both. We have been asked to fill in for the missionary we have been working with while his family is on furlough.

Now if this were just a little ministry, we would just need a few of you to pray about this. But that is not the case. In its over 24 years of existence, this ministry has become complex. The need is to oversee this church, the seminary, a new church plant that has recently been started and an existing church plant that is still getting off the ground; help the assistant that is pastoring for the missionary on medical leave; and help a missionary sent out of the church who has started a church several hours away. Oh, and the church is not really close to where we live either!

The next seven months will be a test of God’s grace and faithfulness to us because the challenge is beyond our own strength. But as King Jehoshaphat prayed when outnumbered by the enemy, “but our eyes are upon Thee.” Please pray specifically for several things over the next several months. First, pray for our family that God will keep us together during this time. Second, pray for wisdom in how to handle the different situations, both spiritual and cultural, that we will face. Third, pray for souls to be saved. We are not looking to put things “on hold” for the next seven months because the devil will not be taking time off! We want to move things forward for the cause of Christ and see lives changed through God’s word.

Thank you in advance for your faithful prayers and support!

CONTACT INFORMATION

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