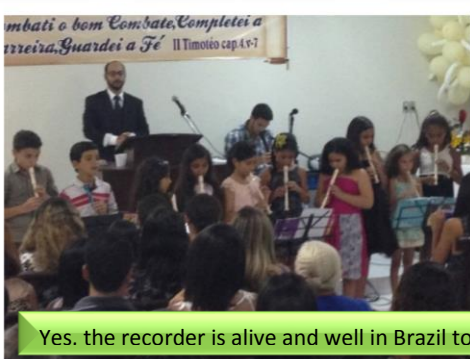




Celebration In Barreiras – Chris Boersema

It was almost 20 years ago now that former missionary, pastor Elso Venema, sent out by the Surrey Maranatha Church, began the work of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ in the town of Japaratinga, 10 minutes south of Maragogi. The seed fell mostly on "rocky ground". However, the Word did reach further, and sometime later took root with brothers and sisters who lived another 15 minutes



Yes. the recorder is alive and well in Brazil too!

south of there. So the work shifted to the area of Barreiras de Boqueirão - "Barreiras"!

Today there is a small congregation there which is part of the IRB church of Maragogi. As an instituted church the "Igreja Reformada de Maragogi" has four congregations under her care - Barreiras, Maragogi, Barra Grande, and Colombo. The latter is a missionary congregation nearly 3,000 km south of Maragogi, in the state of Paraná. This is where missionary pastor Adriano now has been called to minister.

The congregation in Barreiras has endured many challenging years. As an elder in the church at Maragogi it is part of my duty to lead services in

this congregation three or four times a month, aside from also leading services in Maragogi and Barra Grande. I witness and share in the sentiments of a congregation who meets twice every Sunday attending to God's call to worship. From the front of the church I look out on about 24 pews where only 4 to 6 brothers and sisters sit each week to faithfully worship and hear the Word of God.

"Barreiros" (Bah-heer-hos) The name comes from the rich red clay soil excavated in this area

Our God is faithful. He has kept Christ's church in Barreiras through the years. So this past Saturday evening we sang praises to the Lord and celebrated His faithfulness in 14 years of this congregation. It was a wonderful evening, and VERY encouraging to those few who regularly attend. The building

was packed and overflowing. We enjoyed the presence of brothers and sisters from the churches in São José, Barra Grande, Maragogi and Barreiras.



You too can thank the Lord for His faithfulness and preserving Christ's church not only in Barreiras, but throughout Brazil and the world.

Please pray also for the church at Maragogi who is going through some very trying times.

Trip Of A Lifetime – ATC Board, Yarrow

The ATC (Aldeia Training Center) is getting ready to welcome 6 volunteers from the CaRC in the month of October! This group has been preparing for some time now raising funds, applying for Visa permits, & brushing up on their Portuguese. **Henk & Rita Visscher, Ron & Denise Meyer, Nadine & Seth Bouldman** are all getting their bags packed for an experience of a lifetime!

Under the guidance of the ATC committee, and our Mission Aid Worker Chris Boersema, the volunteer team will split their time doing mostly work at the ATC, visiting the local members



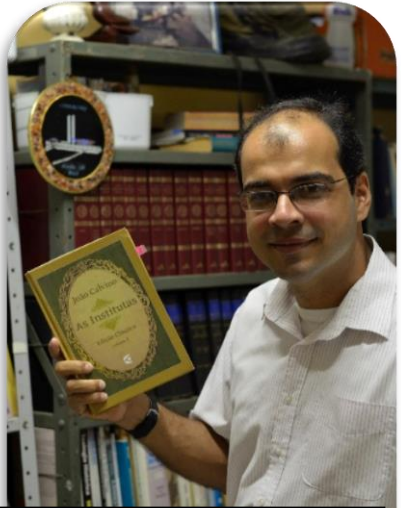
and churches, and no doubt do a little sight-seeing with some beach time thrown in!

This will be the 3rd "STV" (Short Term Volunteer) team that's gone on an organized trip. It's a great commitment of time and finances for these individuals, and we wish them a wonderful time and the Lord's blessing.

Update: Pastors Library Fund - M. VanderWel

As the federation of the Igrejas Reformadas do Brasil matures and grows so does the number of office bearers. Today there are about thirty pastors; nine of them being Ministers of the Word and twenty one ruling elders. The Lord has graciously blessed this federation with very capable men who are faithfully expounding the Word every week to our brothers and sisters in Brazil and pastoring them on a daily basis.

Although these Godly men are faithful in their work there is no end to the maturing in the development of gifts and growing in the knowledge His Word. A pastor's personal library



"Today, by God's grace, I serve the Lord Jesus as His minister. The Lord continues to use books as instruments in perfecting me for the ministry He has entrusted me with. And now I have more reasons to praise the Lord, for there are brothers and sisters who will help me and other ordained servants to have access to more books at a more accessible price." Pr. Adriano

is one of the essential tools to that end. Here in Brazil it is considerably more expensive to buy good theological books.

In order to support our brothers who pastor in Brazil we launched the "Pastor's Library Project" almost two years ago. Mission Aid Brazil is sponsoring this project which reimburses 50% of the amount paid for any new books purchased by a pastor or seminary student for his personal library.

This project has been very well received and continues to benefit many office bearers in the IRB.

Update: Church Building Fund – M. VanderWel

To start it is appropriate to say, “Thank You!” to all those who have contributed to the Church Building Fund. We have raised now \$100,000, which is around R\$200,000! With these funds we hope to provide loans to churches that are well-established and have shown initiative in regards to constructing their own church. As they pay their loan off, the fund will be replenished and provide loans to other churches.

This project will potentially have a big effect on the churches in Brazil and our desire is to help, not to create a crutch, or leave a church with a loan that is overwhelming. The purpose of the fund is to provide the churches with access to money, rather than working through the banking system which not only is very bureaucratic, but also charges a high % minimum for construction loans.



The policy regarding the utilization and distribution of these funds has taken more time than we had hoped for, but it was important for Mission Aid to allow protocol to be established by members of the IRB, rather than it being a North American driven project. The committee is hard at work and will be soon ready to submit a proposal.

We are thankful to God for the positive response He has provided through your generosity. Please pray that these funds are used for the up-building and growth of His church here in Brazil. To Him be the glory!

Mission Aid Brazil does not assess the churches with any set amount in order to meet our budget requirements. We depend solely on the generous donations of individuals, business and church deaconries. We are most thankful for these donations, and strive to use them in a stewardly and fiscally responsible manner.

Cheques can be made out to Mission Aid Brazil and mailed to the following address. Alternatively, donations can be given to your local deaconry, with the request to direct it to Mission Aid Brazil. You can also make on-line donations by going to the website below, and clicking on “How to Help” under the Mission Aid “Contact” tab and then following the link to the Canada Helps page which directs donations to Mission Aid.



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