



BORBAS' REPORT

July & August 2021

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borbasmissionexperience.missionsplace.com

This is the LORD's doing
and it is wonderful to see.
This is the day the LORD has made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118:23-24 (NLT)

Dear partners in the Gospel!

How are you all doing?

May and June were our busiest months to date here in South Florida! It was another roller coaster of emotions with having loads of church activities going on, hosting an intern, and all of it being out of status (which we had been since June 1). July and August, on the other hand, were a lot calmer with a lot less going on. We did get the great news of our new visas coming in on July 27! Wow! We're so relieved and excited and we thank you so much for being alongside with us during our highs and lows these past few months!

WORK IN THE SPRINGS CHURCH OF CHRIST, IN CORAL SPRINGS

- Starting in July we attempted the following changes for the summer months:

- Full bilingual service: instead of having two separate services (one in English and one in Spanish), we started having bilingual services at 10 AM. Everything has been done in the two languages and has been translated from one language into the other simultaneously. We believe this has several benefits to the congregation: the worship service is more attractive to bilingual families in the community and to the children and youth at church (who are bilingual and actually prefer to communicate in English). In addition, we also think it offers to our members a chance to learn some more English while they come to church.

- Bible class on Sundays: We have moved the Spanish Bible study that we had been having on Wednesday evenings to Sunday mornings after the worship service. The Bible study is now in the format of a bilingual Bible class. This change has been inspired by the fact that we had been having very little participation during the week (due to people's work schedules). Our rationale is that since most people come to the worship service on Sundays anyway, they might as well stay for 45 extra minutes and get a little bit more of Bible teaching.

- In mid-August we passed out a survey to see how the congregants have liked the changes and the responses we got were really positive. This makes us very happy and gives us the green light to continue with the new setting.

- Riley's English Bible study continues to take place Friday evenings via Zoom and Facebook Live.
- Some of Riley's sponsors from the Walnut Street CoC in Dickson, TN, came to visit us in early July (July 8-10). They helped us do some cleaning and fixups in the church building. They also encouraged us by teaching lessons and preaching on Sunday.
- We have noticed that the church building here was very plain-looking and it also had very little storage space, which made things look quite messy. So, in August, we requested our sponsoring church to send us some additional work funds so that we could use it to buy some storage cabinets and a few other supplies and decorations. Our request was approved, and we are so happy that we were able to help the congregation here in this way. We have been worshiping with The Springs CoC for almost a full year now and we feel this is just a little way to say thank you for all the support and encouragement that they have given us. Please see the pictures and notice how nice and welcoming the church building looks now! We want to send a huge thank you to our sponsors for allowing us to do this for The Springs CoC.
- Maikon has been preaching in English at least once a month and he's been helping translate from Spanish into English also.
- On July 28, Tati hosted a ladies Bible study in our apartment. Kayla Yegros brought the message and the ladies enjoyed some good fellowship together.
- Since we have moved the Wednesday Bible study to Sunday morning after the worship service, the three missionary families have committed to using this evening to invite people over for dinner and possibly a devotional. So far we have invited two families from church and one of our LST students. We believe it's a great opportunity to get to know these people better and develop stronger relationships with them.
- Andrew Diles (Allen and Laurie Diles' son) is a former Harding Graduate who lives here in Hallandale Beach. He visited our congregation with his parents a few months ago and is now attending with us.





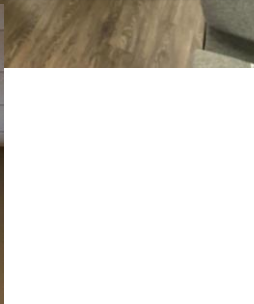
Bible class on Sundays



With Andrew Diles



With The Guzmáns

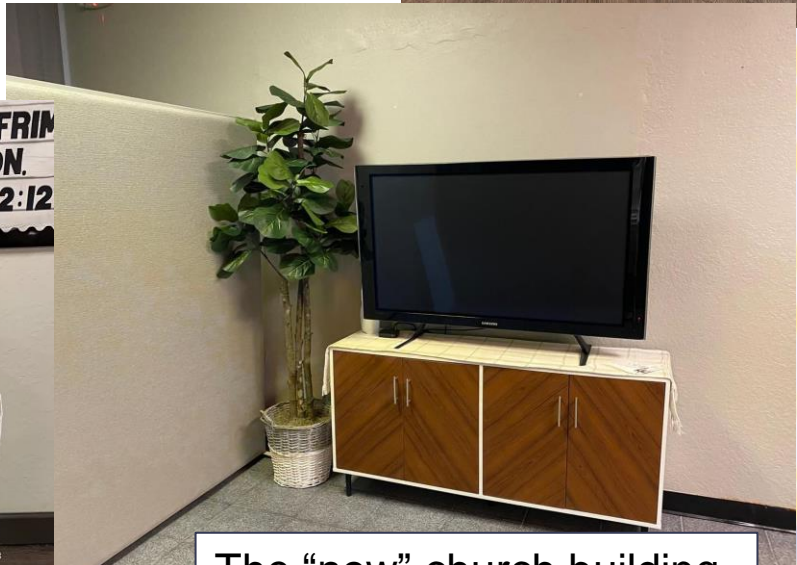


Ladies Bible Study





EN LA ESPERANZA,
REN PACIENCIA EN EL SUFRIM
RSEVEREN EN LA ORACION.
-ROMANOS 12:12

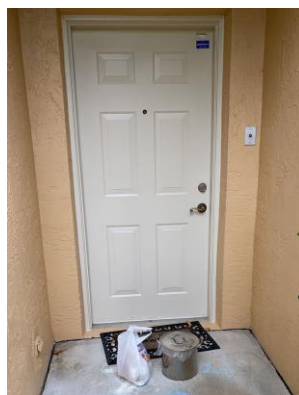


The "new" church building



COVID-19

- The Delta variant has hit South Florida pretty harshly. Four families in our small congregation here caught Covid. Thankfully, nobody developed severe symptoms, and everybody recovered within a few weeks. In one of the missionary families, the Yegros, everybody caught it. Kayla and baby Lucas struggled with the virus for two weeks and little Lucas (who is only 10 months old) had a fever for 11 days! We praise God for everybody's recovery!!
- This really affected our attendance numbers and for almost the entire month of August we had about 2/3 of our congregants who weren't able to meet in person at the building.
- Due to the pandemic, our Bible study in Portuguese as well as most individual LST lessons have transitioned to online only.
- Having several families ill allowed us to serve in special ways. We cooked meals and delivered groceries to some of these families on several occasions.
- We know many other parts of the country have also been severely hit by this new variant. We pray for you all and your loved ones.



LET'S START TALKING AND SATURDAY CLASS

- Up to the end of June we had 16 individual LST students. Unfortunately, due mainly to work commitments, many of these students have had to pause or cancel their lessons. Please pray for them and also for us to find more people to study the Bible in English with.
- I was able to maintain a handful of the students. Riley and Mauricio have a couple of students each also.

- We have started some online advertisement using social media and plan on doing a campaign to pass out flyers in the community soon.
- We continue to meet Saturday mornings with a group of students who are studying English with us. The three missionaries take turns teaching every week.

AULAS PARTICULARES DE INGLÊS!

GRATUITAS!!

PROFESSORES NATIVOS!

TODOS OS NÍVEIS!!

LET'S START TALKING

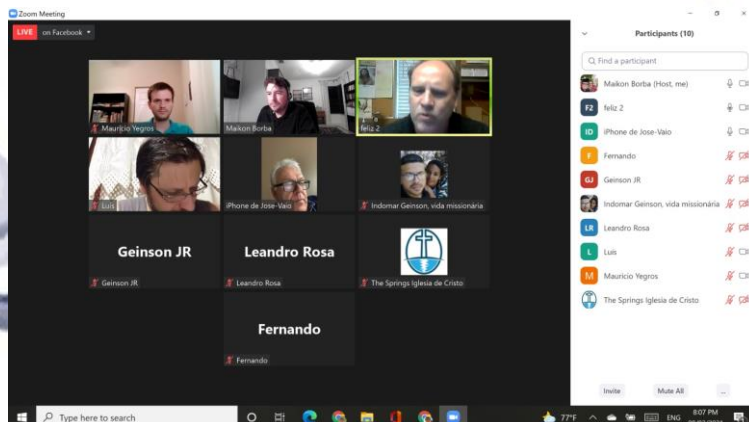
VAGAS LIMITADAS
AGENDE JÁ O SEU HORÁRIO!
maikonlb@gmail.com
817-905-9438



Our ESL class on Saturdays

BIBLE STUDY IN PORTUGUESE

- We are now in the second half of our study of Acts. We're currently studying Acts chapter 17.
- As mentioned before, mainly due to the pandemic, we have been doing the study virtually only. It's been streamed on Zoom and Facebook Live.
- Two of the brothers that have been attending in person have been sick. Alex Jr. is diabetic and has been in the hospital to treat an infection in one of his feet. As a result, his father who is advanced in age is staying in a nursing home. On top of the pandemic, we've been having low in-person attendance and it made sense to do the Bible study virtually for a while.
- Our participation online, on the other hand, continues to increase. Some families and LST students here have been logging in every week and many brothers and sisters from Brazil also.



TEAM FORMATION

- The Liras and we continue to make progress in our ideas and plans for a joint mission effort here in South Florida! We are so excited and hopeful!
- We have been having weekly meetings on Zoom to plan and put together a team project for our church planting among the Brazilian community here in South Florida. We also recently started having a daily moment of prayer and devotionals on WhatsApp.
- Junior and Patricia Lira are set to come to the USA now in October and will be here for several months. They will first spend some weeks here with us in South Florida to do a survey trip. It will be great for us to bond and also for them to get to know the area and some of the locals. While we are together, we will finalize our team project and present it to our sponsoring churches in early November. After they leave South Florida they will spend time with their supporting churches – The Central CoC in Amarillo, Texas; and The College CoC in Searcy, AR.



VISITS FROM FRIENDS

- On August 11 we had some very special friends over. The Morgan family were in Miami for a few days and came on an afternoon to see us. They're originally from Trinidad and Tobago and we were colleagues in the CAMT/BMIN program at Harding University. They're sweet people and we loved to see them!



NEW VISAS

- Praise God on July 27 we received the great news that our new visas had been approved!! We want to thank you for all the support and prayers during this waiting period! We appreciate your love and care for us so very much!
- After a few weeks, our sponsoring church in Arkansas received the form in the mail and then forwarded it to us here in South Florida. With it, our legal status has been reinstated and I was quickly able to renew my driver's license.
- Tati's case, however, is still pending but according to our immigration lawyer, we should not worry. Her visa is dependent on mine and should be on its way soon.
- We also learned that the document that we received from USCIS is a mere form that gives back our legal status, it is not a proper visa. This means that we can stay in the USA legally but if we leave the country, we won't be able to re-entry. To solve this problem, when we're able to travel to Brazil we will have to schedule an appointment at one of the US consulates there and get our passports stamped with a proper visa. We have been waiting for the boarders and the consulates in Brazil to re-open so that we can start planning a very anticipated trip to Brazil – it's been over 3 years since we last were able to visit family and friends!

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
I-797A | NOTICE OF ACTION | DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
 U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES

Receipt Number: IAC200900753	Priority Date: 09/09/2020	Case Type: I-29 - PETITION FOR A NONIMMIGRANT WORKER
Notice Date: 07/27/2021	Page: 1 of 2	Petitioner: VILLAGE CHURCH OF CHRIST Boulevard A111 534 120 LAUX BORBA, MAIKON
PETITIONER: VILLAGE CHURCH OF CHRIST c/o JERRY HUNT 210 BALBOA RD HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE AR 71909		Notice Type: Approval Notice Class: R1 Valid from: 07/26/2021 to 01/25/2024

The above petition and accompanying request for a change of status have been approved. The status of the named beneficiary(ies) in this classification is valid as indicated on the I-94 attached below. The beneficiary(ies) can work for the petitioner pursuant to this approval notice, but only as detailed in the I-94 and Form I-29. Petitions for a Nonimmigrant Worker.

The dates in the I-94 attached below might not be for the same dates as the petition validity dates above because the I-94 below may contain a grace period of up to 10 days before and up to 10 days after the petition validity period for the following classifications: CW-1, E-1, E-2, E-3, H-1B, H-2B, H-3, L-1A, L-1B, O-1, O-2, P-1, P-1S, P-2, P-2S, P-3, P-3S, TN-1, and TN-2. An I-94 for H-2A nonimmigrants may contain a grace period of up to one week before the petition validity period. However, the beneficiary(ies) may not work during such grace periods, unless otherwise authorized by law. The decision to grant a grace period and the length of the granted grace period is discretionary, final, and cannot be contested on motion or appeal. Please contact the IRS with any questions about tax withholding.

The petitioner should keep the upper portion of this notice. The lower portion should be given to the beneficiary(ies). The beneficiary(ies) should keep the right part (the I-94 portion) with his or her other Form I-94, Arrival/Departure Record. The I-94 portion should be given to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection when he or she leaves the United States. The left part is for his or her records. A person granted a change of status who leaves the U.S. and is not a visa-exempt traveler must normally obtain a visa in the new classification before returning. The left part can be used when applying for the new visa if a visa is not required, he or she should present it, along with any other required documentation, when applying for reentry based on this approval notice at a port of entry or pre-flight inspection station. The petitioner may also file Form I-823, Application for Action on an Approved Application or Petition, to request that we notify a consulate, port of entry, or pre-flight inspection office of this approval.

The approval of this petition does not guarantee that the beneficiary(ies) will be found to be eligible for a visa, for admission to the United States (if traveling abroad and seeking re-admission), or for a subsequent extension of stay, change of status, or adjustment of status.

THIS FORM IS NOT A VISA AND MAY NOT BE USED IN PLACE OF A VISA.

Please see the additional information on the back. You will be notified separately about any other cases you filed.

California Service Center
 U. S. CITIZENSHIP & IMMIGRATION SVC
 P.O. Box 90111
 Laguna Niguel CA 92667-0111
 USCIS Contact Center: www.uscis.gov/contactcenter

PLEASE LEAVE LEFT FORMS UNREMOVED FROM AND CLIP TO YOURSELF TO KEEP UP TO DATE.

Detach This Half for Personal Records	889792140 A2
Receipt# IAC200900753	Receipt Number IAC200900753
1-94# 889702140 A2	US Citizenship and Immigration Services
NAME LAUX BORBA, MAIKON	194 Departure Record
CLASS R1	Petitioner: VILLAGE CHURCH OF CHRIST
VALID FROM 07/26/2021 UNTIL 01/25/2024	14. Family Name LAUX BORBA
PETITIONER VILLAGE CHURCH OF CHRIST, 210 BALBOA RD HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE AR 71909	15. First (Given) Name MAIKON
	16. Date of Birth 10/01/1983
	17. Country of Citizenship BRAZIL

BABY JOANNA

- Joanna is now 22.5 months (as of the end of August). Next time we write to you she will be 2 years old!!
- She continues to be as smart as she could be and she's more and more talkative and independent!
- We've been working on getting her dual citizenship. In early August we went to the Brazilian Consulate in Miami and got her Brazilian birth certificate, and we are now working on getting her Brazilian passport as well. This will make things a lot easier for us when we travel to and from Brazil as she will be a citizen of both countries.



MISCELLANEOUS:

- The three missionary families celebrated the 4th of July together at the Hendrixes'. It was a lot of fun and we even enjoyed a "private" firework display that their backyard neighbors put out!
- On July 24 we celebrated our 11th anniversary! We went out to celebrate and ate dinner together in a nice Italian restaurant near our apartment.
- In late July we attended an online conference with the mission committee and other congregants at the Cloverdale CoC. We got to share with them about our work here and it was so good to see so many people that we love so much.

- Our old Dodge Grand Caravan broke in early August. It had over 160K miles on it and it was already showing several issues. We decided it was time to let go of it and get a newer and more reliable car. We gave a small down payment and are now financing a 2020 Mitsubishi Outlander. We know it's a new expense that will affect our overall monthly budget, but we feel like this car will give us more peace of mind for everyday driving as well as to take longer road trips to visit our sponsors.

- Maikon has been attending weekly training sessions for the 4 Fields Discipleship Manual with the Gospel Chariot. It's an amazing tool that has been used in Africa and Asia and is proven to be extremely successful in evangelizing people. Maikon is excited about the possibility of using this methodology here in South Florida.

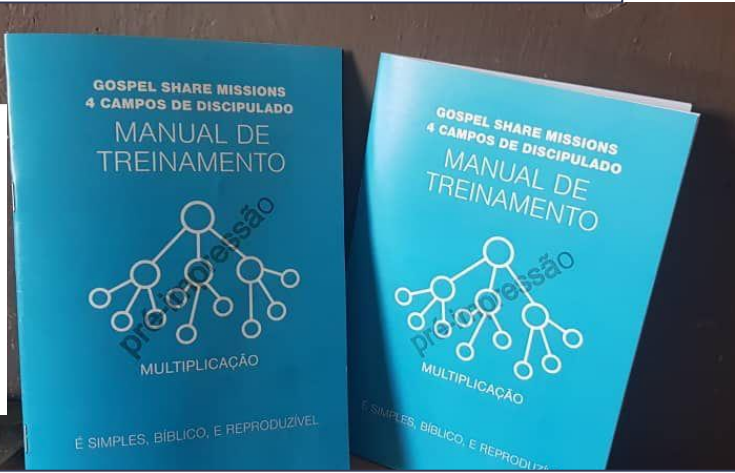
- On the same note, Maikon was invited by brother George Funk to help translate the 4 Fields Discipleship Manual into Brazilian Portuguese.

- Mrs. Nelcy Dullius, Maikon's grandmother, fell in Brazil at the end of August and broke several ribs. She's 97 years old and will have a hard and painful recovery process now. Please keep her in your prayers.



Zoom conference with the Cloverdale CoC

USA/ASIA Session 3
4 Fields Discipleship
Tuesday 8/31/21



Translation of the 4 Fields Discipleship Manual

Our "new-to-us" car!



Tati's and Maikon's grandmothers

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Please continue to pray for the following:
 - Our work with the church here in South Florida.
 - The COVID-19 pandemic (Delta variant).
 - Our LST students.
 - The Lira family and our team formation.
 - Brother Alex Sanchez and his father.
 - Our families in Brazil, especially our grandmothers who are both sick now.



We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all your love and everything that you do for us! We couldn't be doing what we do without your amazing support!

In Jesus,

The Borbas