

# Borbas' Report

## September & October

### 2021

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*May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.*

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 (NIV)



# Dear partners in the Gospel!

## How are you?

Wow!! It's hard to believe that we have completed the first year of our mission work here in South Florida! It was an amazing year of adjusting and getting to know the new area, making contacts with the Brazilian community, and serving alongside our brothers and sisters with the church in Coral Springs – and all of these things in the middle of a pandemic and a visa crisis! The Lord saw us through each moment as He continues to and always has! GOD IS SO GOOD! We can't forget that it's also because of you who have partnered with us that we have been able to be here and do what we have been doing! THANK YOU! We're super excited and hopeful about the future and what the Lord has in store for us, especially now that the Lira family will be coming to join us in our work!

## INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP ENGLISH CLASSES

- I currently have 6 active students who have been individually studying English with me. Mauricio and Riley have a handful of students as well. Our Wednesday evening group class has been attended by around 8 students every week.
- I continue to sporadically do some advertisement on social media and just in the past week three people have contacted me to get information about the free English lessons. Unfortunately, the vast majority of people only have availability in the evenings after around 6:00 pm and that is our busiest time. I only have two evenings open for lessons and all the time slots have already been taken.
- In addition to our group class on Wednesday, I plan on rearranging some of the individual lessons that I currently have and start offering a second group class probably on Thursdays from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. This will start next year in January (there's no use starting this class now because of the holiday season) and the plan is to do some good advertisement now in December.

**UNIT 2, LESSON 1**

- to begin, began:** to do the first part; to make a start.
  - We **begin** class on time.
  - Simon **is beginning** to fish.
  - James **began** to talk to Andrew.
- to help, helped:** to give or do what is needed.
  - I **help** my husband and my children.
  - He **is helping** Simon's mother-in-law.
  - Jesus **helped** many people.
- to tell, told:** to put into words.
  - We **tell** our friends about Jesus.
  - Simon's wife **is telling** Jesus about her mother.
  - I **told** James and John to begin.
- to take, took:** to lay hold of, to grasp.
  - I **take** my child's hand to cross the street.

An English lesson on Zoom. Her name is Michelle.

**We bought a bilingual Bible to Dayse, our most faithful LST student. She loved it and was so appreciative!**

Liked by tatymachadoborba and 21 others  
daysevellyn I am very thankful for this gift 🙏, thank you from all my heart! may God bless you more and more. @tatymachadoborba @maikonlb

## BIBLE STUDY IN PORTUGUESE

- We are now studying Acts 21 and plan to finish the book of Acts by the end of the year.
- The local attendance continues to be low, unfortunately. However, we still have great participation online via Zoom and also a few individuals who join in via Facebook Live.
- Our plan for next year will be to change the evening of the study to probably Tuesday. We also intend to start meeting in houses now that the pandemic is no longer such a big issue as it was at the beginning of the year when we started.



Our Bible study in Portuguese, which is streamed on Zoom and Facebook Live.

## WORK WITH THE SPRINGS CHURCH OF CHRIST, IN CORAL SPRINGS

- As mentioned before, we are so thankful for our partnership with the church in Coral Springs. As you all know, we came to South Florida by ourselves hoping to be able to start a small house church – in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic. All of a sudden, we met the missionary families in Coral Springs and naturally joined forces with them and started helping. We have had a church to call home and a support group to mutually serve, help and encourage each other. Looking back, we can only imagine how much harder it would have been if we had stayed by ourselves throughout this whole first year. We feel like our involvement with the congregation in Coral Springs has given us purpose and helped us adjust to the area a lot better. It's also helped us by allowing us to have a building and facilities to use for LST lessons and Bible studies. Thank you, The Springs CoC, for embracing and supporting us throughout this year!!
- The changes that were implemented during the summer concerning the full bilingual service and the Bible class continue to be really well-received by the congregants at church. For several weeks since last September, we have had our biggest crowds since we moved to South

Florida. For most Sundays these past few months we have had 50+ attendants and that's super exciting. Most people that had been home watching the service on live stream are now back attending in person. We've also had many people visiting.

- Several of these people who have been visiting are Brazilians and/or speakers of Portuguese.

- Carlos and Erika Guzman: the couple are faithful members of the church and have been helping us at the congregation in Coral Springs pretty much since we moved here.

- Some of the LST students: Cristiano and Dayse, for example, continue to sporadically attend church on Sundays.

- Some are church members who have moved to the area. One of these examples is Carmen, a Brazilian who is a member of the church and has moved here from New Jersey. She is married but her husband, Michael, is not yet a believer.

- There is also Vanessa, whose father is Brazilian. Her brother-in-law, Zachary and his family, has been attending with us for several months and now Vanessa is coming too and is bringing her two children with her.

- We are very hopeful that – now with the Liras joining us – we will likely be able to start having a bilingual service in Portuguese-English soon. Once we are able to offer a service in Portuguese, we believe several other LST students will be more interested in attending. We expect to have a group of around 12 people to start with and that is a good number.

- Since early September, we have proposed and started advertising for a church family camp which will take place now in early December. The idea was incredibly well-received and most families have signed up. We will have quite a few guests as well (our LST student Dayse will attend). This idea was brought to the church by Tati and me and we are so happy that they listened to us and have liked it. It will be the first time that the church organizes a camp like this, so everybody is very excited. The camp will take place on December 4 and 5 and will be in a campsite in West Palm Beach, which is about 1 hour north from us. The theme that we have chosen is "Rest in the Lord", which will serve as a closing for the overall theme that we have developed with the congregation this year ("Moving Forward"). A couple from the church in West Palm Beach will help us by being the speakers and bringing the Bible lessons. We expect to have at least 55 attendants. The total cost for the camp will be around \$2,500 – the attendants will have paid around 1/3 of this amount and the church will have to cover the other 2/3. We have come up with some fundraising campaigns and many of you have donated to help us meet the goal. Thank you so much!!



**We've had great attendance in the past two months!**

**Between 70-75% of the people stay for the Bible class after the service**



**With Erika and Carmen, two of the Portuguese speakers who have been attending with us.**

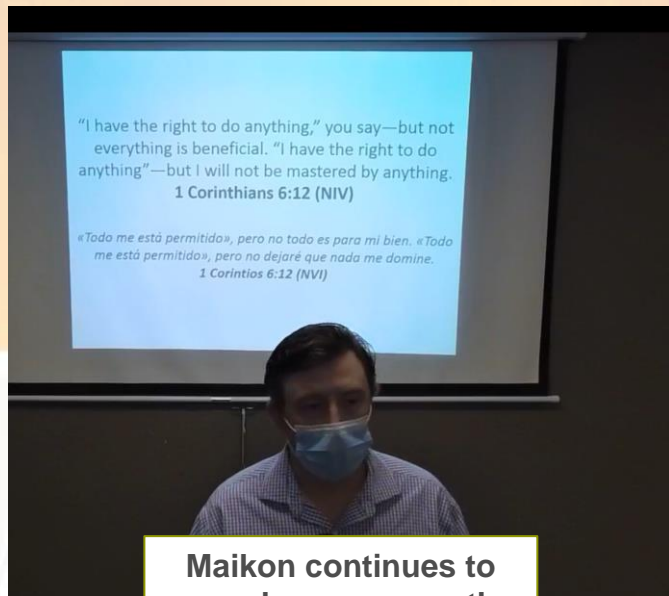


**The two kids' Bible classes which take place during the adults' Bible class.**



**Having Aura and her son Oscar for dinner in our home. Aura is not yet baptized but we're working on her!**





Maikon continues to preach once a month.



**THE SPRINGS CHURCH OF CHRIST**



**FAMILY CAMP**

**2021**

**REST IN THE LORD**  
Time to reflect and place God above all things.

**WHEN?**  
Dec 4-5

**WHERE?**  
Everglades Youth Camp in West Palm Beach

**HOW MUCH?**  
\$10 for kids 1-4  
\$20 for kids 5 and up

*Sign up and pay by Nov 7*

The flyer for our church camp in December.

## TEAM FORMATION

- The Liras are finally coming! They should be here with us November 30 and we are super excited!
- The plan is for them to spend most of the month of December with us. This survey trip will serve as a great time for us to get to know each other better and bond. It will also be an amazing opportunity for them to get to know the area and meet people.
- During our time together we also intend to work on our church plant project (now being part of a proper team) which we will be presenting to our sponsors sometime in early January.
- We are so very thankful to our Lord that we will now finally have another family joining us in the work here among the Brazilian community! We are so hopeful and excited for what the Liras and we will be able to do starting next year!



Junior and Patricia saying goodbye to family and friends at the airport in Brasilia. They will have to quarantine for two weeks in Mexico and then they will be able to enter the USA.

# VISITS TO SUPPORTING CHURCHES AND FAMILIES IN ARKANSAS AND TEXAS

- October 4-18 we took a little furlough trip to visit our many supporting churches and families in Arkansas and Texas. We loved seeing so many people whom we love and also love us back. It was a wonderful opportunity that we had to present a report for our 1st full year in the mission field.
- We started off in Searcy, Arkansas, where we got to visit with the Cloverdale CoC. Besides visiting with the church, we also got to walk around Harding University and see again the professors and many special friends. Searcy was our home for four years and it felt like coming back home.
- Our second stop was in Hot Spring Village, Arkansas. The Village CoC is our sponsoring church and we got to participate and help during their Mission Emphasis Week. Maikon preached on Sunday (October 10) which was the opening of the week. We later found out that the congregation was able to not only reach their goal but to also go beyond it. God is so good!
- We then moved onto Daingerfield, Texas. The Daingerfield CoC is one of our supporters and have been involved with us for over a decade! While we were there we got to celebrate Joanna's birthday which was on October 14.
- Our last leg of the trip was Dallas, Texas. We have three special supporting families in Dallas and it was great to spend some time with them there.
- This was, without a doubt, our longest road trip to this day! We drove over 3,000 miles!!! Joanna was such a good sport and we're also very thankful for our new car which drove very smoothly.



**On our way to Searcy we got to eat lunch with Howard and Amy Kuang in Memphis, TN. Howard was Maikon's best friend in the Bible Program at HU.**



**Attending the EQUIP (former CAMT/BMIN) chapel at HU.**





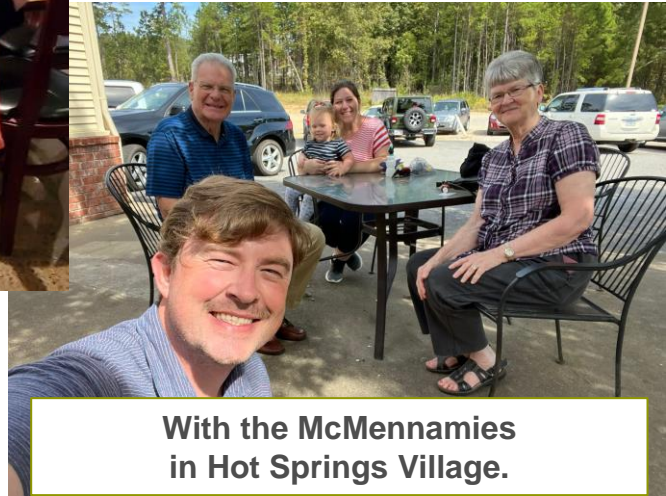
**With the Blands in Searcy.**



**At Harding University.**



**Joanna playing with Caleb and Eli Veatch.**



**With the McMennamies in Hot Springs Village.**



**On our way to Hot Springs Village, we took Joanna to a pumpkin patch in Little Rock.**



**Celebrating Joanna's birthday with the church in Daingerfield, TX.**



**Maikon preaching at the Village CoC.**



**Eating dinner with the Cubsteads in Dallas, TX.**



## NEW VISAS

- The “soap opera” is not over yet! As you know, Maikon’s paperwork for the new R1 status arrived at the end of July. Tati’s, however, still hasn’t. She continues to be out of status and unable to drive. Please help us pray that her document will come in soon.
- We also found out that when we go to Brazil to visit next year, we will have to schedule an appointment at the American consulate in Porto Alegre (our state capital). This is because the paperwork that we are given here in the USA is not a visa and we will need our new visas stamped into our passports so that we will be able to re-enter the USA.
- As soon as Tati’s R2 paperwork comes in, we will schedule the appointment with the consulate in Brazil and buy our plane tickets to go. We miss our family and friends so much as it’s been over 3 years since we last were in Brazil. We are hoping and praying that we will be able to go sometime next year around April or May.

**This is still the latest update we have concerning Tati’s case with USCIS.**

**WAC2030950815**

Case Was Updated To Show  
Fingerprints Were Taken

**I-539**

Form

**Jun 17,  
2021**

Last Updated

**158**

Days Since  
Last Update

As of June 17, 2021, fingerprints relating to your Form I-539, Application To Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status, Receipt Number WAC2030950815, have been applied to your case.

If you move, go to [www.uscis.gov/addresschange](http://www.uscis.gov/addresschange) to give us your new mailing address.

## COVID-19

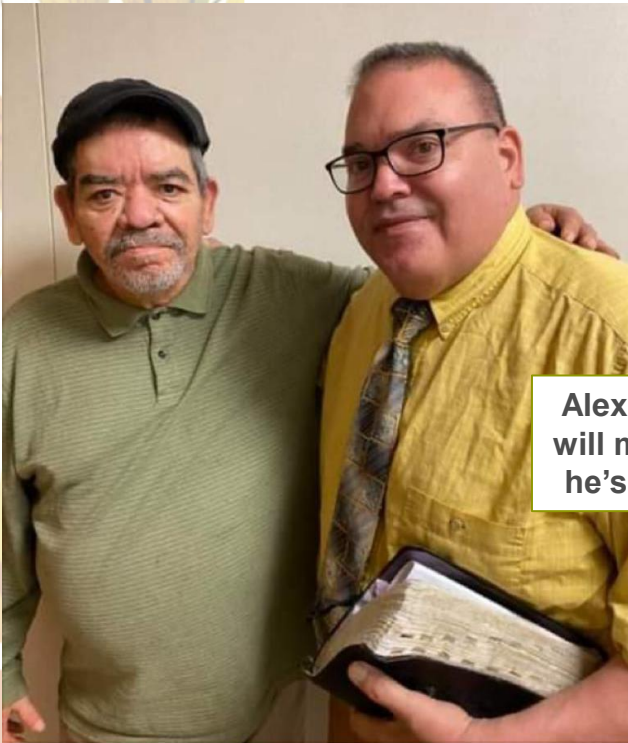
- After being hit by the Delta variant wave in August and September, things seem to have calmed down again here in South Florida. Florida went from being one of the worst places in the country to now being one of the best in terms of cases. We are so thankful!
- We do pray that as things clear up people will once again feel less reserved and more open to forming friendships and meaningful relationships.

## ALEX JR.

- Alex Jr. had been hospitalized for over 10 weeks and we thank all of you who had been praying for him. Unfortunately, he passed away now in early November. We are so sad but at the same time we rejoice in the knowledge that he is finally resting with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
- We also want to thank so many of you who have helped us collect funds to help Alex and his father, Mr. Sanchez. We are so sorry that we will

no longer be able to help Alex in life with these funds. However, we would like to inform that all the funds that were collected have been used to cover Alex's hospital bills and funeral expenses. Also, since Mr. Sanchez is now alone, we will work with a lawyer who will help us sell their estate and create a trust for him. Mr. Sanchez will be staying in a full-time assisted living facility. We would like to assure everybody that the funds that were collected will be held in the most honest and transparent way.

- We would like to say a massive thank you for brother Carlos Guzman and Alex's former employer, Wayne. The two have been directly involved in taking care of Alex and his father since the beginning.
- Through his life Alex gave us all a great testimony of what a Christian man should be like. He was a good son who took care of both his mother and father, and he was also a faithful disciple. We loved to hear so many beautiful stories that people shared about Alex at his funeral.



**Alex Jr. with his father. We will miss Alex, but we know he's in a better place now.**

## **JOANNA**

- Joanna turned 2 on October 14! Can y'all believe that? We are amazed by her and every day thank our Good Father for the wonderful gift that she is to us.
- Joanna got to have two birthday parties, one in Texas (on the exact day of her birthday) and another one here in South Florida (on October 23) where she got to celebrate with her little friends from church. She was so happy and beyond excited!!
- She just had her two-year-old appointment with her pediatrician and everything is in order. She continues to grow both physically and cognitively.

• If we're able financially, our plan is to start sending her to a part-time day care next year. This way she will be a little more challenged intellectually and will also be able to socialize more with other kids her age. We are doing research and would love to find a sort of Christian academy that would not be too expensive.



**Joanna is such a joy and blessing in our lives!**



**Celebrating Joanna's birthday again, this time in South Florida. She had a Minnie Mouse-themed party and she really enjoyed having family and friends there!**

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

- Besides Joanna, Maikon and Tati also celebrated their birthdays! Tati turned 39 on September 25 and Maikon turned 38 on October 3.
- Tati is set to finish her certificate in Bible studies with Harding University now in December. She is now taking her last online class which is a survey of the Old Testament. She's so happy and excited.
- *Sprechen Sie Deutsch?* Maikon began learning German again. He took two years of German back in Brazil in 2010-2011. For the past several weeks he's been doing daily lessons on Duolingo – which is a free app to learn a second language. This will be Maikon's 4<sup>th</sup> language!
- On October 31 we went trick or treating with Joanna and another missionary family from the congregation here. We went trick or treating in a safe neighborhood (nearby the church building) and as a requirement no one was allowed to dress up as anything scary or evil looking (Joanna went as Snow White). After we passed by each house we handed the family a little container with pumpkin candy and also a flyer with a Christian poem and contact information for our church. It was a little way to bring Christ to this tradition and also to turn it into something meaningful. It was a teaching moment to our kids as we want them to always know that we are to share the light of Jesus to the world!

**Having a small celebration for Tati's birthday. Her family in Brazil joined in via WhatsApp!**





**Adding a very important Christian touch to Halloween!**

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- Please continue to pray for the following:
  - Our work with the church here in South Florida.
  - The COVID-19 pandemic and our hopes that it will soon go away.
  - Our LST students.
  - The Lira family and our team formation.
  - Mr. Alex Sanchez who is now by himself in this world.
  - Our families in Brazil. Tati's grandmother hasn't improved. Maikon's grandmother is doing better.

We love you!

In Jesus,

**The Borbas**