



# BORBAS' REPORT

August &  
September  
2020

May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

***1 Thessalonians 3:12-13 (NIV)***

## Dear sponsors and supporters! How are you?

Wow, even though we are still in the pandemic, the last two months have been quite eventful for our family. We're sad that the situation with COVID-19 is getting worse in most places, which continues to make everybody's lives hard. We pray this report finds you and your loved ones fine and healthy. We join you in prayer for a cure to this virus to be found soon.

### **BABY JOANNA!!**

- As of September 30, Joanna is 11,5 months. Hard to believe that she will be 1 YEAR OLD on October 14! We're so very grateful for her, she's our most precious blessing!
- Joanna has learned so many things in these past two months. She started walking on September 2 (she was 10,5 months!!) and she hasn't stopped since. Walking is definitely her most favorite activity and she's getting pretty good at it. She's also learned to do several things, such as wave, blow a kiss and point with her index finger (she even already knows how to show that she'll be one in just a few days). We couldn't be prouder of her!
- She is still as healthy as she could be and she keeps growing. On October 20 she will have her 12-month checkup with her pediatrician, and we'll then know for sure her most current weight and height.





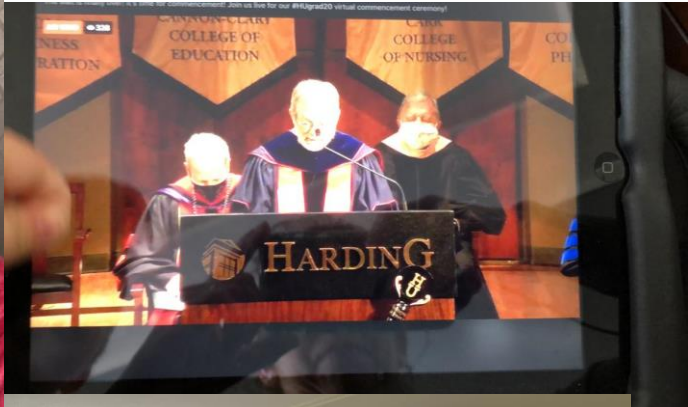
## NEW TEMPORARY HOME:

- We truly enjoyed spending time with our church family in Daingerfield, Texas. We were with them from mid-May to early August.
- We're now back in Arkansas, in Hot Springs Village. We'll be here spending time with our sponsoring church, The Village CoC. The plan has been for us to be here until the end of the year. However, we are monitoring the pandemic and we'll only move to South Florida when it's safe.
- We are renting a two-bedroom condo here in Hot Springs Village. We really appreciate Tim Gibbs and the White family for helping us bring our belongings from Daingerfield.
- Hot Springs Village is the largest gated community in the United States and we're loving to explore the several lakes, parks, trails, and the many other amenities that we have here. For more information on The Village, please visit <https://www.explorethevillage.com>.
- The main purpose of us being here is to spend time with the congregation so that we can get to know each other better. We're doing what we can but, as you all imagine, the pandemic is making it a little challenging to visit with people.



# HARDING & GRADUATION:

• Due to COVID-19 an onsite commencement ceremony was cancelled. Instead, we had a very nice virtual graduation ceremony on August 15. Harding University streamed the event on their website and Facebook page and many people got to watch it live, including many friends and family from Brazil. We know it wasn't as nice as it could have been but, based on our current situation, it was as special as the university could have possibly done. We enjoyed watching it in our living room while wearing our pajamas!



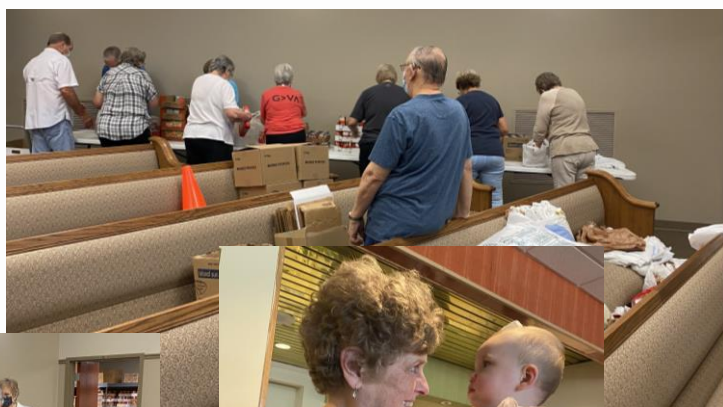
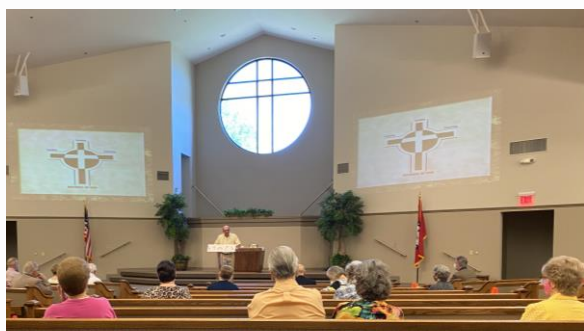
**MAIKON BORBA**

Bible & Missions  
Novo Hamburgo, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil  
Magna Cum Laude  
Alpha Chi, Omicron Delta Kappa



## CHURCH WORK:

- The Village CoC is meeting on Sundays and Wednesdays for worship service and Bible class. Individual Bible classes are not being offered, though.
- The church is following state-wide mandates (everybody wears a mask and practices social distancing). All members who come to the building are abiding to these practices and we feel pretty safe here.
- In late August, The Collins (Mr. Don Collins was one of the elders at church) moved away from The Village. Maikon helped them with their move.
- In September, Maikon started teaching a lesson series on Sunday evenings. The original plan was to pre-record the lessons and then make them available on the church's YouTube channel. However, the elders met and decided it would be better to meet in person at the building. Maikon is teaching lessons on the Spiritual Disciplines.
- Several years ago, the Village CoC started (and to this day continues to sponsor) a recovery center for alcoholics and drug addicts here in Hot Springs Village. It's called Sozo and Maikon is co-teaching a Bible study with the residents four times a week. If you like more information about Sozo, please take a look at their website: <https://sozorecoverycenters.com>
- In addition to the group Bible studies, Maikon started studying the Bible with one of the residents on Saturdays. His name is Brian Nothern and after two weeks he decided to give his life to Christ in baptism! Glory to God for one more saved soul! We are indeed very happy for Brian and gladly welcomed him into our church family.
- The Village CoC also has a food bank and they distribute food for school children in several schools in the area. Maikon is helping with packing and distribution every Tuesday morning.



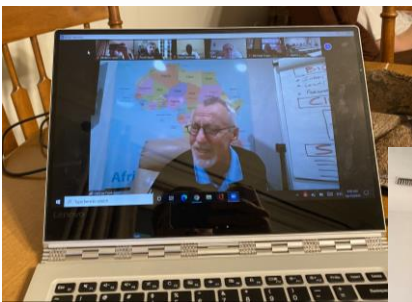


## PREPARATION FOR SOUTH FLORIDA:

- At the end of September, Maikon and Tim Gibbs (preacher/elder at the Daingerfield CoC) took a quick survey trip to South Florida. The two of them looked at neighborhoods and houses and also made some important contacts with local church missionaries and ministers, as well as some local business owners. Scott Emery (Great City Missions) was also able to accompany us during the survey trip and we appreciate his help and valuable inputs.
- By all means, the trip was truly successful! They were even able to find a home for us. It's a three-bedroom apartment in Coconut Creek and we will sign the contract (virtually) on October 15. It was a true blessing as the place is within our budget and is in an excellent location. We can't wait to do the move and be there soon to start our mission work.



- As part of our survey trip to Florida, we had a meeting with Craig Altrock from *Let's Start Talking* in Dallas, on our way back from Fort Lauderdale. We discussed the possibility of us hosting LST teams and also how to order the *Friendspeak* books to use them in our evangelistic efforts in South Florida.
- TEAM FORMATION: We're still looking for team members. Please continue to pray about it and also help us get the word out. We have a few leads and are currently talking to two couples who seem interested in our plans.
- Maikon has started taking *The Four Fields Discipleship* training course with *The Gospel Chariot* and we highly believe this will be an important tool to prepare local converts to become leaders and evangelists in South Florida.





## TATI'S GRANDMOTHER:

- Please continue to pray for Tati's grandmother as her situation hasn't improved. Tati's aunt (who had been taking care of grandma) had to go back to work in September. The family is really struggling with what to do with grandma as she would ideally need to be placed in an assistant living facility for receive proper care.



## COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

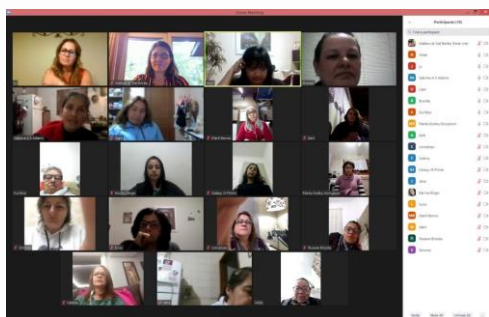
- Please pray for the situation in Brazil as it is still bad. Right now Brazil and the USA are the leading countries in number of COVID-19 cases. This makes traveling to and from Brazil practically impossible (there are even severe restrictions imposed on Brazilians coming to the USA). We haven't been able to visit family in over two years and we really miss them. However, until the pandemic remains the way it is, we won't be able to travel to Brazil nor have family come visit us.

## NEW VISAS:

- Our immigration attorney has finally been able to submit our case to USCIS. They have received our petition and our case is now being processed. Please pray that it will be accepted and that the whole process will not take too long. We know that USCIS is quite behind their schedule because of the pandemic and our case may take between five and seven months to be processed. This would be quite a stretch in time for us since our temporary work permit expires on June 1, 2021.

## TATI:

- Tati continues to host and facilitate the weekly Bible study and prayer group with our church sisters in Southern Brazil. The meetings on Zoom keep on growing and they now have dozens of participants every week.



- As part of her certificate in Biblical Studies and Christian Ministry at Harding University, Tati is taking another class this semester. The class is called New Testament: Story and Vision.

- Tati's birthday was on September 25. We were invited to eat lunch with the Yates family, and in the evening we had a low-key and small celebration just the three of us.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

- It was long overdue for us to see an eye doctor. We scheduled appointments here in Hot Springs in August and we are now wearing contacts!

We love and miss y'all and are so very thankful for your continuous support and prayers! We are excited to know that our next report will very likely (Lord willing) be sent to you from our new home in South Florida!



**In Jesus,**

**Maikon, Tati and Joanna Borba**



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