



# **BORBAS' REPORT**

**March & April  
2022**

**Lord, you have been our dwelling place  
throughout all generations. Before the  
mountains were born or you brought  
forth the whole world, from everlasting  
to everlasting you are God.**

**Psalm 90:1-2 (NIV)**

Dear mission partners!  
How are you doing?

2022 is already shaping up to be a really good year for us here in South Florida! We're so thrilled to share with you a summary of our long-awaited trip to Brazil to see our family and friends! We're also equally excited to share some of the amazing plans and activities that we will be involved with this coming summer!

### BIBLE STUDY IN PORTUGUESE

- As you know, since last year, we have had great online participation in our Bible study. Several people connect from Brazil with us via Zoom. Because of this, Junior and Maikon talked and decided to split the study into two groups while the Borbas were in Brazil. Junior and Mr. Carlos led the study here in South Florida and continued meeting in homes. In the meantime, Maikon met with the brethren at the church building in Novo Hamburgo, his hometown. Maikon continued to stream the study on Zoom so that other people in Brazil could also participate.

- In early April, Mr. Carlos invited some friends and neighbors to participate in their Bible study which was taking place in Junior's apartment in Boca Raton. For everybody's surprise, the invitation was very well-received and people started attending the study. To accommodate people's needs and schedules better they changed the day of the study to Friday evening. On one given Friday, Junior reported that they had 20 people (adults and children) who attended.

- Junior maintained the format of the study which consists of a hot meal, singing, scripture study and prayer time. People seem to really enjoy it!



Maikon met with the brethren in Novo Hamburgo.



Junior met with the group in Boca Raton.



## LET'S START TALKING

- In the month of March, Mauricio Yegros and his family traveled to Paraguay, his home country. While he was gone, Maikon helped him with his LST students.
- When it was our time to go to Brazil, Mauricio and Riley as well helped Maikon with his students. This way the students were not left unattended while Maikon was away.



One of our group classes at the church building in Coral Springs.

## THE LIRAS AND TEAM FORMATION

- The Liras moved into their apartment in Boca Raton in early March. By now it already feels like a cozy home and it's mostly furnished! We're so happy and excited for them.
- Patricia's pregnancy is progressing really well. Both her and the baby are super healthy! They've already done the ultrasound and now know that it's going to be a baby girl! They picked the name Hannah Sophie!! Patricia is due at the end of July and prayers continue to be appreciated.
- The Liras initiated their visa process and it's moving forward quite fast! We pray that Junior's R1 and Patricia's R2 will be in their hands soon!

Junior and Pati were the hosts for our Bible study while we were in Brazil.



## **TRIP TO BRAZIL**

- After virtually 4 years since we last had been able to go home we were so eager for this trip!! We were finally able to go in March!
- The trip was originally planned for March 28 but due to Maikon's grandmother being very sick in the hospital, we were able to change the tickets and anticipate the trip. We ended up leaving on March 18, instead. We really appreciate our sponsoring church, The Village CoC, for allowing us these extra ten days.
- Maikon's grandmother had been in the hospital for the past couple of weeks when we got there. She was very weak and in critical condition due to her advanced age (she was 97). We're so thankful to God because we were able to see her alive and she got to meet Joanna. She passed away about a week after we were there, on March 27. We're especially grateful because if we had left on the planned date (March 28) we wouldn't have had enough time to see her alive. God is indeed good in all things!
- Arriving at the airport was so exciting! We missed our family so much and everybody was so looking forward to meeting Joanna. Tati's mother was the only family member who had met Joanna when she came to the USA right after Joanna was born. The hugs and kisses at the airport were filled with emotions!
- During our 6 weeks in Brazil we stayed with Tati's parents in their apartment. We spent most of our days helping Tati's mom take care of Tati's grandmother who is still sick and bedridden.
- We also spent most evenings and weekends visiting friends and family! Joanna loved being in Brazil so very much! She had such a great time playing with other children and being pampered by our families.
- On weekends, we got to take a few short trips with Tati's parents. We took them to the beach and also to the mountains. It was great especially for Tati's mother, because she's been exhausted taking care of her mother during the week. Tati's father still works full time, so these few days away to relax were excellent for him as well.
- We also used our time in Brazil to take care of several errands that we needed to run such as checking our bank account, talking to our accountant, getting Joanna's official Brazilian birth certificate and renewing our voting licenses.

## **NEW VISAS**

- One of the main things that we had to do while in Brazil was to renew our visas. We needed to schedule an appointment with a US consul so that we would have new visa stamps in our passports. Without those we wouldn't have been able to reenter the States.
- The interview went great and we were granted the new visas.

However, the consulate only gave us 12 months – in spite of the fact that USCIS has given us legal status until 2024. According to the agency that we hired to help us with the visa process in Brazil, it is now standard procedure to give only limited time for visas such as the R1-R2. This means that next time we go to Brazil, we will have to renew the visas again.



Family reception at the airport in Porto Alegre and that long-awaited hug from grandpa Derli!



Joanna meeting her great-grandmothers, Nelcy on the left and Celoy on the right!



Cousin Lucas (Maikon's nephew) and his girlfriend Fernanda!



Tati's aunt Mari and cousins!



Joanna doing her aunts' nails! These are Maikon's three sisters: Karen (left), Denise (right) and Tania (center).



With Tati's parents, Mara and Derli.



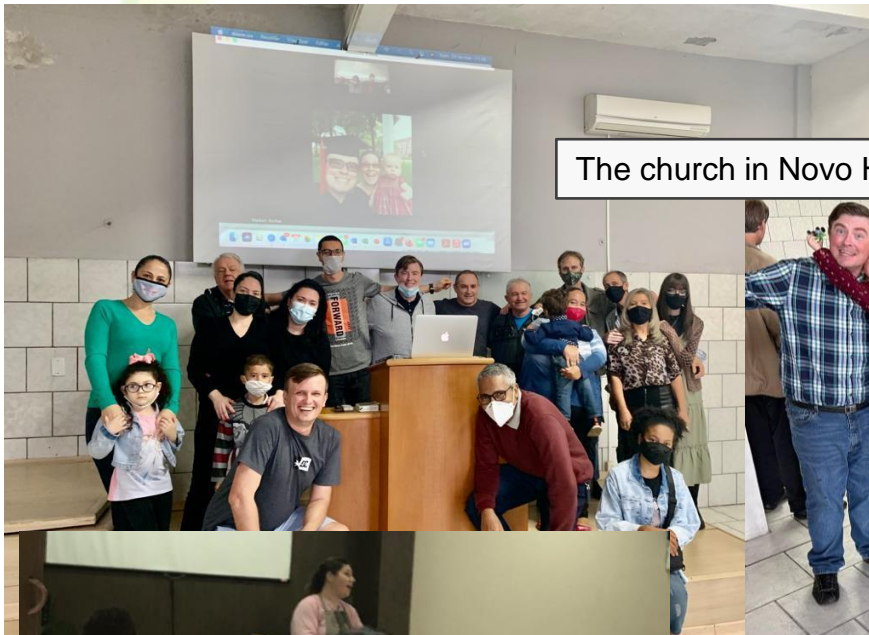


Family and friends!



## WORK WITH THE CHURCH IN SOUTHERN BRAZIL

- While in Brazil we helped and worked with the churches in Rio Grande do Sul, our home state.
- Besides meeting with the brethren during the week for our Bible study, Maikon also taught a series of sermons on Sundays at the church in Novo Hamburgo. Tati helped with Bible classes for the children.
- We donated to the church in Novo Hamburgo a spatial microphone as well as a wide-angle HD camera. We know these two devices will truly enhance the streaming quality of their Sunday worship services on Zoom.
- On April 9 Tati taught a lesson for the ladies at the church in Porto Alegre. It was their first in-person ladies meeting since the beginning of the pandemic. About 50 ladies participated and Tati said it was a very special get together.
- On April 10 Maikon preached at the Zona Sul congregation in Porto Alegre. After the worship service, the church hosted a fellowship lunch and it was a wonderful time with our beloved brothers and sisters in Christ.



The church in Novo Hamburgo!



Tati teaching the ladies at the church in Porto Alegre!



This is brother Delmar, who baptized Maikon in 1996!



## SUMMER 2022:

• We're very excited about this coming summer as we will be having lots of fun activities which will hopefully promote wonderful contacts within the community:

• LST lessons: We will continue with our English lessons. There's a family coming from Arkansas and they will be here with us from June 6 to July 6. They are Jay and Victoria Beamon + 4 children. Jay and Maikon were classmates in the Bible program at Harding University. They will be helping us with the English lessons and they will be teaching the students that are more intermediate/conversational while Maikon will keep the ones that are more basic. We will also be doing some intense advertisements before they get here so that they will have more students. This is very similar to what we did last year when we had an intern from Harding University with us.

• Bible study in Portuguese on Friday evenings: We will continue to meet during the week in our homes. Now that we're back from Brazil, Maikon will lead the study again.

• VBSs: we will have two weeks of VBS in the month of June. The groups that will be helping us are the same two groups that came last year: the Parkway CoC from Fulton, KY; and the Netherland CoC from Rickman, TN.

• Christian arts camp: this is a collaboration between Harding University and the Cloverdale CoC in Searcy, AR. They will be here with us for about 10 days in July. We are still having Zoom meetings with them to help with planning and should be soon ready to start advertising.

• All of these summer activities will be taking place at the church in Coral Springs and will be happening in partnership with them. All the contacts we make in the community will serve to help them but also us as we gather more Brazilians.



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



The Beamon family who will be helping with LST this year!



We're so excited about VBS coming up in June!



Jesse Robertson and Luke Dockery will be leading the group that's coming from Searcy in July!



## JOANNA

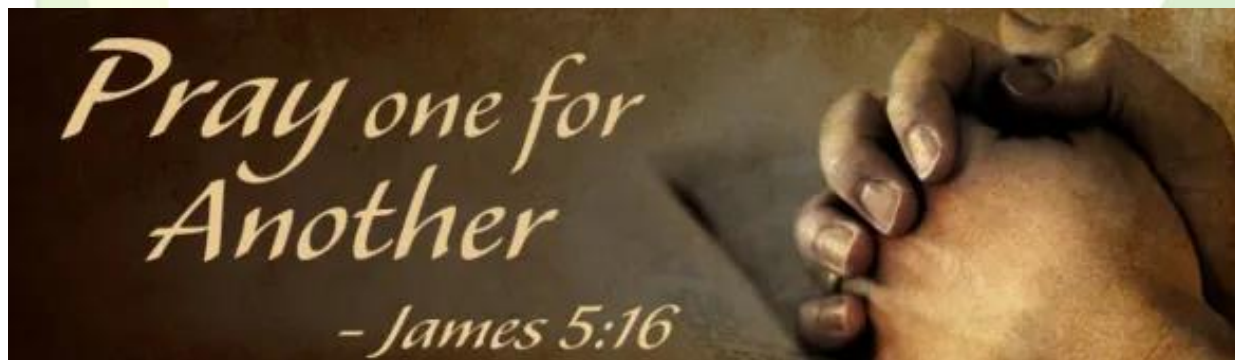
- Joanna is now 2,5 years old!
- This summer we intend to potty train Joanna! We feel like she's more than ready for it!
- We are looking for a part-time daycare for Joanna. The plan is for her to go either all mornings or two full days (Tuesday and Thursday, for example). This will help with her social skills and also allow her to be more academically challenged. In addition, it will free up Tati and give her some more-than-needed alone time to be able to do something that she really enjoys.



Joanna with neighbors and best friends, Bia and Rafa!

## **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- Please help us pray that we will find a good Christian academy/daycare for Joanna that will be within our budget. Because of visa restrictions, Tati is still not allowed to work, and this makes it even harder for us to consider sending Joanna to school while Tati still can't work to help with our family income.
- We know the economy is making things more expensive all over the nation. As you're probably well aware by now, the price of housing is skyrocketing here in South Florida. We have heard of several people close to us who are having to return their apartments and look for new homes because their landlords want to raise the rent. One of our students, Marcus, told us that his rent is going to increase \$800 per month and he's currently looking for a new place! We are afraid that the same will happen to us when it's time for us to renew our lease in October.
- Please pray for our families in Brazil. Special prayers for Tati's grandmother who is still sick and Maikon's aunt Joseane (who used to take care of his grandmother).
- The Liras' baby who will be here soon!
- The Liras' visas.
- Our English students.
- Our many summer activities this coming summer.



**We want to say a huge thank you to all of you, especially those who have helped us in special ways for us to go on our trip to Brazil! We love you!**

**In Jesus,**

**Maikon, Tati and Joanna**