



# Phillips' Forum



Chip, Laurie, Reed/Joy, Caleb/Emily, Alison/Alan, Susanna, Julie Anne

Volume 27 Issue 3

September 2020

## God's Goodness Amidst COVID-19

In our isolated jungle town we can now look back at the COVID crisis, but we cannot look back at COVID. It continues to affect daily life. As in the US, masks and social distancing are the "new normal." Schools remain closed.

During the peak of the COVID crisis our local hospital was totally filled, including 25 new hospital beds that were added to temporary nursing wards. Our mayor was able to contract additional physicians, so we were able to split the hospital into COVID and non-COVID sections, keeping labor and delivery separate from patients infected with the novel Coronavirus. Our major challenge was providing oxygen to patients and the mayor stepped up to the plate and chartered planes twice a week to fly in recharged oxygen cylinders.

Every day Chip would go to the local radio station and update the city on the number of hospitalized patients, patients tested positive in the last 24 hours, and deaths. Some days the stats were hard to relate as they included friends.

In our last prayer letter we asked you to pray for Geovanne and his three boys as they adjusted to Fatima's death. Thank you for praying. We visited them several times a week, brought meals and

played games with the boys. The youngest, at five years old stopped praying and kept waiting for his Mom to come home. The Lord is helping them to adjust, but sometimes a child's frank questions can be difficult to answer. "Dad, why did God take our Mom to heaven when we need her and she loves us, but He left other Moms who don't care about their kids?" Or, "Dad, why did God take Mom home and not you. I think we need her more." Geovanne's faith has been strong, but his heart aches and he needs wisdom in helping his boys. Please continue to pray for him.

Raimunda had worked years ago as a nurse at the Amazon Baptist Hospital. She contracted COVID and kept a positive attitude despite the fact that she was slowly deteriorating. She was hospitalized in a bed next to Raimundo, the father of some young ladies who attend our Church. In the past, he never was interested in spiritual things, but he listened as Raimunda shared the Gospel and he made a profession of faith. The next day Raimunda was called home to be with the Lord, while Raimundo recovered. Raimunda's death saddened everyone, but her testimony was a great encouragement and example of faithfulness to proclaim Christ until the end of one's life.

## Praise

- COVID-19 passed through our city with few deaths.
- Church services have begun at Faith Baptist Church.
- Chip was able to finish two more courses toward his Master's in Biblical Counseling.
- Storefront construction is nearing completion.

## Prayer

- Geovanne as he helps his boys adjust to their mother's homegoing.
- Laurie's mom is undergoing chemotherapy for kidney cancer.
- Safety for healthcare workers at the Amazon Baptist Hospital.

### Field Address

Dr. Gordon "Chip" & Laurie Phillips  
Estrada São Salvador, 1086  
Stº Antônio do Içá - AM 69680-000 Brazil  
+55 (97) 99159-1674 (cell-Chip)  
Email: gphillips@abwe.cc



### Sending Church

First Baptist Church  
216 Sunset Road  
Willingboro, NJ 08046

# Mini-Furlough Highlights



Beautiful weather has allowed for outside church services at our sending church, First Baptist of Willingboro, NJ.



Chip and Aly biked on the Allegheny trail and crossed the continental divide. As a family we went white-water rafting with the extended Delp family.



We were blessed to spend time with all our children as well as the extended Delp Family.