



Phillips' Forum



Chip, Laurie, Reed, Caleb, Alison, Susanna, Julie Anne

Volume 8 Issue 2

August 2001

Furlough Ministry Begins

“Have you been shocked at changes in the States?” is a common question we receive. Actually, though, we have noted little differences. The same shops are near our parents homes and the same talk show hosts are on the air. We have also found old friendships just as sweet as when we left nearly 5 years ago.

“What will you be doing?” is perhaps our second most frequently encountered question. Since this is our first furlough, we are still finding our way. But we have several goals for the next year.

First, we would like to report to our prayer and financial supporters. About three fourths of these meetings have been set up. Our first meeting was help at the end of July and went well. If you would like us to present how we have seen the Lord in the Amazon over the last four years, please contact us. We would be delighted to present to churches, church related groups or informal gatherings.

Second, Chip would like to update his medical certifications and expand his training. He has already taken and passed advanced cardiac and trauma certifications and on October 19th he is scheduled to take a recertification exam in surgery. This is a major exam and will require much study prep.

Third, Chip would like to gain practical obstetrical and orthopedic experience. When he contacted the trauma group with whom he worked before going to Brazil, they offered to make arrangements for him to gain this experience and also requested that he help with trauma coverage at a Level II trauma center near Philadelphia. These can be combined so that Chip can work four to five 24 hours shifts a month and also spend time on the delivery ward or with the orthopedic surgeons on his “down” time.

Fourth, Chip will maintain contact with the missionaries on the field to help keep some ongoing projects alive. He will also work on finding additional income sources for the hospital. Plans to participate in the Brazilian “medicare” system are still moving ahead slowly. He also will try to raise additional funding for the medical endowment fund. If you would like more information about the endowment or have ideas that might help Chip fund the hospital please contact us.

Praise

- Good housing situation.
- Our children have adapted well to life in the States.
- Several of our individual supporters have entered or are entering active ministry.
- Brazilian neighbors

Prayer

- Dr. Thompson's family needs to restart their visa process from scratch.
- Salvation of Maria and Assis and spiritual growth for Tartaruga.
- Replacement of support lost from those entering active ministry.
- Hospital's long-term financial stability.
- Chip's preparation for his surgery exams.
- Our children's adapting to a regular school environment.

Field Address:

Chip & Laurie Phillips

A/C Hospital Batista do Amazonas
Est. São Salvador, 937 - Campinas
69089-000 Santo Antônio do Itá, AM, Brasil

Email: ChipPhillips@xc.org



Sending Churches:

First Baptist Church
of Willingboro, NJ
New Life Baptist Church
of Darby, PA

Brazilian Neighbors

We are now settled into Cedar Lane Missionary Homes in Southern New Jersey. In 1949 a home mission was started to assist missionaries on furlough ministry. We and about 10 other missionary couples live in a development of single and duplex homes. Our home is fully furnished and has three bedrooms and a study. There are also many missionary children here and ours have really enjoyed our new living situation. As parents we have been delighted to be in an area where are children can play outside without fear of traffic or sinister influences. These missionary homes are also located halfway between our two supporting churches. This has allowed us to be in contact with both and hopefully will allow us to help out with both ministries throughout the coming year.

One of our neighboring families is a Brazilian couple that works with Word of Life's Bible Institute in Brazil. Marcelo and Erica Silva have two children and are in the States for a year of study. We have been able to help them get settled in, and at the same timework on perfecting our Portuguese. This has been a great blessing since many missionaries loose some of their language aptitude during furlough. Marcelo and Erica are also interested in using the hospital site for promoting Brazilian missions in the students. Pray with us that this friendship can grow into joint ministry opportunities in the future.

Hospital Update

The physician who was overseeing the hospital during our furlough, Mark Thompson has run into a visa difficulty requiring that he and his family return to the United States. The normal visa process for missionaries is to have a one-year temporary visa that is renewed for another year before applying for a permanent visa. After the Thompsons had renewed their first temporary visa they were informed that they were already in process for their permanent visas and were to just wait. This was confirmed by phone on several occassions until...they were informed that their temporary visas had expired and they must leave the country.

When Dr. Thompson inquired about the prior assurances he had received he has just informed that the person who had misguided him was misinformed. Unfortunately he had no other recourse and he and his family are now reapplying for missionary visas. This occurence was remenessent of one of our single missionaries who had a visa flatly refused because she could not prove the existence of her children...she had none!

We are so thankful that the Lord saw fit to let our visas go through without any many difficulties. At the time it seemed like a slow process, but it went through without any major hitches and we now have out permanent visas in hand.

Chip & Laurie Phillips

Mailed via Alpha Secretarial Services
RR1 Box 127-H
Susquehanna, PA 18847-9413

*Missionaries to BRAZIL with
ABWE
P.O. Box 8585
Harrisburg, PA 19175-8585*

Non Profit Org. U.S. POSTAGE PAID South Gibson, PA Permit No. 4

Address Correction Requested