



Phillips' Forum



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

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The Lord Blesses As We Plan To Return to Brazil

We saw the Lord work in many ways as this past year progressed and we continue to see His protective and guiding hand as we complete arrangements for our return to Brazil. When we traveled long distances our van functioned well, and when it did need servicing it always faltered in a "convenient" location. Our children did well in a structured school environment and we saw them mature in a number of ways. Chip was able to pass his surgical recertification exam and work part-time throughout the year so that he could update himself on current medical practice. A number of individuals and churches have expressed interest in praying for us and financially supporting us, closing the gap in our support need.

In the month before our departure to Brazil the Lord also blessed as we encountered a number of difficulties.

Our short-term teacher, Rubie Sue, was initially to go to Brazil on a voluntary work contract. As we began to process her paperwork, we encountered other missionaries who recently had many difficulties

with this type of visa. We decided that she should enter on a traditional missionary visa. We quickly changed gears and started working on processing another set of papers that had to be processed through four separate Brazilian consulates. The process was turbulent, but despite all this, Rubie received her visa one week before our departure.

The day after our return to Brazil, Chip was to attend a mission leadership meeting in Paraguay. The month before our departure, his Brazilian connections changed and were incompatible with returning to Brazil with the family. Laurie then would travel alone to Brazil with our luggage and children. The Lord allowed Rubie Sue's visa to be processed to travel with Laurie. Now Chip will travel with the family to Miami and be able to help with the luggage.

Four days before our return, Paraguay changed their visa entry process and Chip was required to go to NYC to get a visa. The Lord worked out all the details so that the visa was quickly granted.

Praise

- Rubie Sue received her visa and full support.
- Chip's visa for Paraguay was quickly processed.
- Our children are excited to be returning to Brazil
- The Lord was able to use the death of Pastor Jacó's baby for his glory.

Prayer

- Rubie Sue will be studying Portuguese for 2 months.
- For Chip to be able to process hospital documents upon our return to Brazil.
- Sherry, our nurse colleague is undergoing chemotherapy.
- The salvation of Maria and Assis.
- Funding for the Medical Missions Endowment.
- Wisdom as our missionary team reevaluates its goals.

Furlough Address:

Chip & Laurie Phillips
132 Cedar Lane
Laurel Springs, NJ 08021
(856) 784-3761
Email: gphillips@abwe.cc



Sending Churches:

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

God Works in Good And Bad Health

Sherry Skirrow, our missionary colleague and the midwife who delivered our two younger daughters, was recently diagnosed with ovarian cancer. She is currently undergoing chemotherapy, which she is tolerating well. Please pray that she will respond favorably to her treatment.

During this time, Sherry is looking for ministry opportunities. So far the Lord has led her to a pre-field missionary with whom she has begun Portuguese language studies. Please pray that the Lord will give her opportunities to share her faith with other patients or her health care providers.

In our last letter, Pastor Jacó and his wife Glorinha, has a baby boy. He was born prematurely and developed breathing difficulties after birth. Despite supplemental oxygen therapy, he died several days after birth. The Lord was able to greatly use Glorinha's testimony to share her faith with the people in Santo Antônio do Içá.

Shortly after the child's death, Chip was meeting with a friend who is a neonatologist. He showed Chip that many hospitals are transitioning from fancy ventilators to a simple set-up that lets the baby breath slightly pressurized air. Chip subsequently contacted the company and they were excited to provide materials for our hospital. They even have an affiliate company in Brazil that will mail the supplies directly to the hospital.

It is exciting to see the Lord provide for our needs.

Our Short-term “Teacher”

We feel really blessed to have Rubie Sue Maybury planning to spend a year of ministry with us. Rubie Sue is already accepted into medical school and feels that the Lord may be directing her into full-time ministry. She requested a one year postponement to enter medical school so that she could spend a year on the mission field to gain insight into the Lord's leading in her life.

Lord willing, Rubie Sue will spend six to eight weeks studying Portuguese and then move to Santo Antônio do Içá. Each morning she will teach our three oldest children. In the afternoons and weekends she will have opportunities for ministry. Since she should be functional with her Portuguese, we would like her to be involved in personal discipleship and some teaching ministries. She will also be assigned patients to follow both clinically and spiritually. As she studies about their disease and follows their treatment response, she will also have the responsibility of presenting the gospel to them and doing the chaplaincy for specified patients.

Please pray that the Lord will use this time in Rubie Sue's life.

International Outreach

We have been approached about having short-term missionaries or groups come to work at the hospital from both Argentina and Romania. Might it be that the Lord will use the hospital not only to reach the Amazon for Christ, but other areas as well?

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*

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