



Phillips' Forum



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Program Adjustments

AIDS Program: This program has been well accepted and we have been asked to organize the county AIDS diagnosis and treatment program. A site survey is planned for July. Chip has been asked to participate in an AIDS treatment-training module in August.

Prenatal Classes: This program has given us access into virtually every family in the county (every family has new babies). We are in the process of expanding the four pre-natal lectures to include four additional, classes on dealing with common childhood health problems.

Surgical Clinic: Surgical clinic continues to give us contact with new patients as we evaluate people for surgery. However, the government did not supply surgical equipment for its new hospital. We have loaned our surgical equipment to the new hospital and this month we began an elective surgical schedule.

Dr. Thompson has moved to Tonantins, a nearby city, and is working at the new government hospital there. This has allowed him to make many new contacts as he also assists the growth of a small congregation that is in that city.

New Dental Outreach

The Brazilian government has done well to improve general medical care in our region. However, it has not yet been able to develop a program for dental care. Thus, we have perceived that dental care is an open avenue to make contacts with patients. (see page 2)

Skirrow Memorial

Last year we planned to use the Sherry Skirrow Memorial Fund to build an Educational Center at the Amazon Baptist Hospital. The new ministry emphasis at the Amazon Baptist Hospital--from inpatient to outpatient services--has allowed us to convert the prior nursing wards to classrooms.

In conjunction with Sherry's home church, we have decided to use the memorial fund to renovate and expand the educational space at Faith Baptist Church in Santo Antônio do Itá. Chip is working with a team of men from the church to plan and implement this project.

Please pray that these men will have wisdom as they present options to the church for approval as well as implement the building project.

Praise

- The Lord has provided the donation of a complete dental office to begin a dental ministry.
- We have been able to function in the black since the revised outreach program began.
- Land has been identified for an airplane hangar site in Santo Antônio and a donation of the land is being processed.

Prayer

- That the Lord provide the remaining \$60,000 for the Hospital Transition Fund.
- Laurie's dating with integrity classes for young ladies.
- Men's seminar planned for July.
- Importation of dental equipment for new outreach.
- Land donation for aviation hangar.
- A schoolteacher for our children.

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Sending Churches:

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

New Dental Outreach (con't)

Last month, the Lord laid this ministry on the heart of a retiring dentist who is donating his whole office to the Amazon Baptist Hospital. Chip has been in contact with the State Health Department and they are excited about the possibility of offering quality dental care in our area. However, that does not mean we can skip the bureaucracy for equipment importation and implantation of the clinic.

Please pray that Chip will be able to navigate the importation process smoothly. He is also being oriented as to renovations needed at the hospital site to convert one of the patient wards to a dental clinic as well as how to register a dental clinic.

We already have some Brazilian dentists who are willing to do volunteer work at the hospital site. Pray that the Lord will lay this ministry on the hearts of other dentists as well. Our dream is to have a rotation of dentists who will provide free care in our city at least once a month.

Partnering with Aviation

Until recently it has been difficult for the medical outreach to partner with ABWE's pilots due to the airbase being distant from Santo Antonio. Last year the Brazilian government denied the renewal of the mission's aviation hangar license because it was a floating hangar. This has crippled the pilots' ability to do inexpensive maintenance since now the planes must fly to Manaus for most inspections.

To address this difficulty, they have seen searching for a place to put a land-based hangar that could have access to the Amazon River, and Santo Antônio is the best place for the hangar. As we looked for sites, the Lord opened up an opportunity for a land donation from the county. Chip has been working on the donation for a couple of months and this month unanimous verbal approval was received from all involved parties. Please pray that the formal donation, which involves the passage of an actual law, will go smoothly.

With a base in Santo Antonio we will have access to many more communities.

Expanding our Borders

We have been encouraged to see how our staff have adjusted to the new outreach programs as well as how they have been accepted by the community. However, most patients are from our own town. We are planning two ways to expand our ability to present the Gospel to the lost.

First, the new dental outreach will bring people in from other cities and will function much as the hospital did in the past. Second, in August we will experiment with traveling to another city to present our educational programs. This has terrific possibilities, as it will allow us to more effectively partner with small congregations that are struggling to grow.

Our dream is to visit a city, such as Tonantins where Dr. Thompson is currently working. During our visit we will focus on two agendas. First we will present our AIDS and prenatal programs to the community. As we make contact with new people we will present the Gospel and identify people interested in home visits. Concurrently we will have another part of our team work with members of the congregation to train them in evangelism and discipleship. Thus these excursions can have the joint benefit of evangelization and training in discipleship.

Godly Dating

Laurie has been asked to give a study on godly dating to a number of young ladies at church. So far the girls have been very receptive. Pray that Laurie will be able to motivate them to live pure and godly lives.

Men's Seminar Planned

At the beginning of the year Laurie ran a ladies' weekend retreat that we very well received. The men have asked for a similar event. Chip and Pastor Jacó are planning for a Men's seminar in July. Pray that the men will be open to listen to God's Word and apply what they learn.

Chip & Laurie Phillips

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