



Phillips' Forum



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Skirrow Memorial

Blueprints are in hand and a group of men at Faith Baptist Church have begun construction preparation! The project has three phases. First a two-room extension will be built next to the current Sunday School (SS) rooms. Once these are usable, phase two is to remodel the existing building, two rooms at a time. Once done, phase three will involve the addition of three more rooms. The current SS rooms form an "L" behind the sanctuary. Once this project is completed, they will form a "U" that will allow an enclosed courtyard for children's outreach activities.

Election Year Adjustments

The Lord saw fit to keep our current mayor in office. This means that the administrative structure of the state hospital will not change and Chip will continue to help João Mafra improve the health delivery at the hospital.

Over the last two years they have been able to get the hospital into the black and now the goal is to do intensive staff training. Please pray that João Mafra will continue to grow in his spiritual walk as Chip disciples him and that Chip will have opportunities to share the Gospel with staff as he trains them.

Praise

- Lord directed through dental equipment donation denial.
- Pastor Jacó is interested in Community Health Outreach.
- Tax exempt application has been resubmitted.

Prayer

- Continued outreaches at the Amazon Baptist Hospital.
- Approval of tax-exempt application.
- Development of discipleship materials for the illiterate.
- Ongoing couples outreach.

Dental Equipment Donation Denied

It was a big shock for us to receive the news that the report from the health inspection of the dental equipment condemned everything. Chip was present at the inspection and noted that the inspectors were displeased with the grime that accumulated on everything during the two years of warehouse storage. Many instruments were stainless steel and only needed to be washed! However, we need to view this as one of the ways that the Lord guides and gives us direction.

The process is now being formally closed. Please pray that there are no additional surprises.

Thank You

The Lord has used each of you to meet our needs and we are so grateful to be able to serve the Lord on your behalf at the Amazon Baptist Hospital. Thank you.

We would like to wish each a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. Together we serve a Great God.

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Sending Churches:

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

Community Health Evangelism

While on furlough ministry Chip became aware of a group that uses community health and community development as a means to evangelize and disciple. The group initially developed from a medical wing of Campus Crusade for Christ's work in Africa. By emphasizing community involvement and relationships, and not just healthcare delivery, they were able to help many make significant life change in both their spiritual and physical lives. Much of the social and cultural structures related in these materials have parallels in the Amazon and Chip wanted to explore the possibility of using this approach in our area.

In November Chip learned that a Brazilian focused training session was scheduled in Central Brazil. As Chip discussed this with Pastor Jacó, he became interested in the idea and the two of them attended the seminar. A side blessing was that it was much less expensive to fly to Brasilia and rent a car for a five-hour drive to a nearby state. The leaders of the seminar were also flying into an airport about halfway between Brasilia and the seminar location. Chip and Pastor Jacó picked them up and dropped them off and this allowed for

a lot of in-depth discussion about how this program has worked in other areas of Brazil.

The seminar focused on two main ideas. The first idea was that discipleship needs to involve all aspects of someone's life. Many times we focus only on the spiritual part of life. However, many of the struggles people face are due to social, cultural and relational problems. New believers need to know how to glorify God amidst these difficulties. And mature believers need to help these believers find biblical solutions to the problems. Many times the solutions to these problems involve working to improve the social and relational structures in which they live. The second idea of the seminar was that we can evangelize as well as disciple while working to improve these structures. But doing so must be done in a Biblical way that does not create dependence and helps the person or community develop godly character qualities.

Right now Chip and Pastor Jacó are praying about how to implement the principles of this seminar in our area. They would like to see it work both in Santo Antônio as well as in a community selected as an outreach target.



Special Gift

The Lord laid it on the heart of a couple in Manaus to purchase two bicycles for our family. Chip uses them to go to the hospital and Laurie to do shopping. The kids use them to get to church activities and ride with their friends.

Chip & Laurie Phillips

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