



# Phillips' Forum



Chip, Laurie, Reed/Joy, Caleb, Alison, Susanna, Julie

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## Open House Grows

Each year Laurie coordinates a neighborhood outreach that involves cooking and fellowship. During the weeks before Christmas nearly 20 children from the surrounding area cluster around our kitchen table and make assorted snacks. Sometimes it is an assembly line and the final product takes shape as it passes down the table. Other times there are multiple groups all following the same recipe in tandem. Often there are concomitant math lessons that help the children understand how to double or half a recipe. By Christmas Day our freezer is packed with goodies. On the day of the open house Laurie completed the meal with a chicken lasagna and chili com carne with rice.

This year the Open House was on Tuesday, the 26<sup>th</sup> and it was a cold day – which by Amazonas standards means it probably dropped into the upper 70s. By

six PM no one had showed and we wondered if we would be eating Christmas snacks in June. But we live in the Amazon and things rarely start on “English” time. At 6:16 our servers, the neighborhood children, started to arrive and the first adult showed about 6:30. Soon the flood gates opened and our dining area was filled with over 60 people and despite fans some people were fleeing the heat to the cooler outside air. 122 people signed in.

The Open House is a wonderful time to sit down and catch up with neighbors. One businessman who sells much on credit told Chip he has almost four million in outstanding receivables!

When the room was full Chip shared the Gospel and invited people to study the Story of Hope, an evangelistic Bible Study. Pray the Lord will use these contacts to His glory.

## Thank You

We would like to take this moment to express our heart-felt gratitude for your prayers and financial support. The Lord has sustained us through you as we have ministered for the last 19 years in Brazil. Thank you so much.

We also appreciate those who have helped with our children’s transitions back to the US for college. Reed, Caleb and Alison are all doing well and we are reminded of the verse Chip’s Mom puts at the end of every letter she writes: 3 John 4 “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.”

May the Lord richly bless each of you as we enter 2016.

## Praise

- We will continue to have many openings to share the Gospel to patients.
- Caleb and Aliso to continue to do well at Liberty Univ.
- Communities along the Içá River are beginning to develop more healthy lifestyles.
- Christmas Open House was well-attended.

## Prayer

- Wisdom as we make plans for ministries in 2016.
- Ability to help communities make long-lasting change to improve their well-being.
- The Lord to work in the hearts of patients who hear the Gospel at the Amazon Baptist Hospital.

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### Sending Churches

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



Training nationals in Child Protection and Welfare.



We encourage families in the interior to build latrines, which are simple little houses over a pit with a hole in the floor. It seems crude, but it is much better than open defecation.



When the Amazon River is low there are beaches and we can even build sand castles.

The girls Youth Group had a “Princess” night where each group was a different Disney princess. Susanna is Elsa and Julie Anne is Cindarella.