

## Beautiful Brazil!



Greetings from Action Brazil



Thinking about a "new perspective"



Samuel, Luciano and Cisero



Ruth, our mighty team leader!

## February 2019 Newsletter

# In Step with the Reeds

*"...encouraging one another, and all the more, as you see the day drawing near," (Heb. 10:25, NASB).*

Searching through the garbage in the sewer, the little 6-year-old girl hoped she would find a discarded doll, but only finding parts of one, she sighed, and resigned herself to playing with old margarine bins and oil cans. Later, her grandfather would have her carry drugs for him to buyers in the favela. She knew when she got home, her mother, addicted to cocaine and alcohol, would repeatedly beat her before leaving her to care for her younger siblings. Much later, as a teen mother, and desperate to get away from her home, she would marry another drug trafficker. She swore she would NEVER go back to that house again!! But God used a praying Grandmother to make all the difference.



Josue and Cintia

TODAY, 16 years later, that "house of HORRORS" has become a "house of GRACE," and Cintia and her husband Josue, both totally transformed and freed through Jesus Christ, began a ministry there. They offer hope, help, and the same transforming Gospel of Jesus to the prostitutes, drug dealers and vulnerable children in that same favela!

Josue and Cintia were just two of 52 ACTION missionaries and their children that we spent time with in Brazil this last January! Our days were filled with teaching, testimonies, singing, listening, praying, encouraging, discussion, laughing and bonding with the team at their Orientation and Team Retreat near Sao Paulo! They are truly a multi-cultural team representing Bolivia, the Netherlands, Canada, Austria, Switzerland, New Zealand, United States, Scotland, and of course, Brazil!

Knowing they pour themselves out for the desperate and marginalized in their country and beyond, we sought to encourage and spur them on. Of the many topics addressed, we personally focused on, "Building Resilience," "Finding Healthy Balance," "Conflict Resolution," "Church Relationships," "Living Loved," and "Ending the Race Well."

Our last 7 days in Brazil were spent in Fortaleza, visiting two families who were not able to attend the Retreat. As it turned out, both had family members fighting significant illnesses, so we were able to pitch in and help in very practical ways! Each of them affirmed the Lord's perfect timing in our presence with them! What a blessing to spend quality time with them and their children!

Tim and Lindsey Bayne wrote: "These last few days, we had John and Georgie Reed visiting us! They are missionaries with ACTION International Ministries as well, and they focus on member care. Which means they are here to serve the missionaries on site through counseling, encouraging, and of course great humor.



The Baynes

They are the first of our friends and family to visit us, and



what perfect timing their visit was. We are so thankful for their humor, wisdom, truth-speaking skills, and excitement to serve and encourage. They prayed with us, with our kids, and we had some deep, heartfelt conversations that brought us refreshment. Thank you, John and Georgie!"



From Matthew and Elsiene Carroll: "Thanks so much for loving on us and taking care of us when we needed it most!" ♥.



Thank you all for making these trips possible!! We couldn't do it without

your prayers and financial support! The fact is, you are as much a part of this ministry as we are, and we hope these reports encourage you!



**So, what's ahead now?** First, we fly to Calgary, Canada the last week of March for the annual International Council Meetings. There, our mission leaders from around the world will gather for prayer, vision-casting and fellowship. This event gives us a rare opportunity to care for, and pray with our leaders!



**Beyond that,** we are planning to join a team at an Orientation for new Global Workers in late May near Dallas. From there, we will grab a flight to Honduras to encourage Mike and Lisa Brenner, who are new to that field. Please pray with us for God's direction while we continue to finalize the details!

**Before signing off,** we couldn't resist throwing on a few recent pictures of our kids and grandsons!



"Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God.... for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ..." (Philippians 1:1,5)

Each Picture has a story!  
Ask us about them!!!

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Rejoicing in Jesus!  
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