

November, 2017

Dear friends and family,

Toronto to Miami to Manaus to Porto Velho in 14 hours! That's the shortest time ever! Well, of course that's from takeoff to final touchdown... Add in three hours before takeoff at the airport, an hour to the airport and a 5-hour drive from Porto Velho to our city of Ji-Paraná. But we were impressed and thankful to the Lord that we and our luggage made all the transfers.

It was delightful to spend a day with Toni and Marlene, the Brazilian couple first sent up here as missionaries and who requested a missionary couple to help with pastoral training in order to open more churches in this pioneer area. Their son, Pastor Marcelo, drove us to our city the following day, stopping half way to say hello to another of our pastors.

It's good to be back. Already we have two weekly counselling sessions as well as one monthly session. Ron participated in a District Board meeting and I have taught junior church once when someone else couldn't be there. We are involved in Sunday evening church, Thursday evening Bible class, and Tuesday evening cell group. Ron continues to work on slides, exercises and tests to accompany the SIMUB (pastoral training) lessons.



Toni and Marlene Ramos

Ron's commode chair tipped forward and he landed on the floor Thursday evening, Nov. 16. X-rays on Friday revealed both the tibia and the fibula of his right leg broken about 1 inch below the knee. Doctor Rodrigo says surgery would be more risky than leaving it to heal on its own. Ron is using a splint and props his leg straight out in front of him. The leg is black and blue but some of the swelling has gone and Doctor Rodrigo thinks it is coming along. We will take new X-rays and see him again in 2 weeks. We are trusting the Lord to cause the broken bones to heal.

Two years ago, I was very concerned about Maria de Souza, a former group home child, now adult. She married and had 2 sons. However, her husband had a drinking problem, became abusive and did not provide for her or their sons. She battled with depression and suicide. But God does wonders. This year both she and her husband are deacons at their local church! She is calm, he is sober and the children happy and cooperative. I know that many of you have prayed for these children (now adults). God does hear and answer.

Plans for Christmas dinner are to include several of the former group home gang here for barbeque steak on the grill!!! Not your traditional Christmas fare.

Please pray for SIMUB students as they finish this year and start classes again in February after the summer holidays. Pray for those with whom we are counselling and for us that we will be sensitive to God's directives. Also, we appreciate all prayers for the healing of Ron's leg.

Thanks for your faithful support.

Blessings,

Ron & Jeannette



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