

April, 2017

Dear friends and family,

Well... We arrived in Porto Velho, Oct. 31, and it was great to be in Brazil again. But on Nov. 16, Ron's shower chair tipped forward and he fell and broke both bones just below his right knee. He used a splint while the bones were to knit together. The splint held his leg out straight in front greatly affecting his mobility. Our church is just around the corner, so he could attend services. However, he couldn't get into the passenger seat of a car and only with the help of 2 strong men was able to get into the back seat of our car to go to doctors' appointments and/or get x-rays. Ron had an appointment with a specialist the end of January, who changed his medications. Then on Feb. 12, Ron became delirious and was in the hospital for a week. Apparently, the changed medication brought down the levels of sodium and potassium causing mental confusion. At one point he didn't recognize me; it was frightening! Alexandre, who lives in the same yard as we do, and Adriano, head of the pastoral training project, acted like sons. They organized men from the church to stay with Ron in the hospital at night so I could sleep at home. A responsible adult must always be with the patient in the hospital in Brazil.

The doctor assured us that all Ron's cognitive functions would return to normal with time, but his recuperation was not a quick as we had hoped.

When we realized that Lee and Krista's 2 boys would be returning to Canada on March 17 after visiting Lee's family, we thought it wise to change our return date to be on the same flight. We had to do Brazilian income tax, sell belongings we wouldn't need, arrange for an executor to look after our car and bank business, cancel our cell phone contract, pack the things we wanted to take to Canada and say our good-byes to our beloved friends. SIMUB arranged a graduation, (the class of Ronald and Jeannette Faw) during that time as well.



For now, it seems wiser to continue SIMUB work from Canada. Working with our World Partners leadership, a time line for a formal retirement date and our continuing relationship with our sister church in Brazil will follow. No, Ron hasn't stopped working on SIMUB material; I'm so happy that his cognitive functions are now normal! He got the tests and exercises prepared for "General Epistles", the subject that is currently being taught, before we left Brazil.

The Lord has been so faithful in looking after all the details during this very difficult time. What He is doing through SIMUB is exciting. We are so glad to continue to be a part.

Thanks for all your prayers and support.

Blessings,

Ron & Jeannette



Ron and Jeannette Faw, ronjanfaw@yahoo.ca