



May 2020

**Covid-19 has not stopped our construction.**

A few love offerings have made it possible for me to purchase the tile for phase one. I was able to do so on the day before our quarantine began. Because the workers are from the church neighborhood, the two of them are allowed to continue to work. Though we won't have inner walls or doors for the restrooms, we might be meeting in a new building when we are free from this lockdown.

**Prayer Requests:**

- Building needs as we finish the first phase (Sunday school classrooms) of the building
- Funds for the second phase (auditorium)
- Several unemployed attenders/members in need
- Our youth as they grow in Christ: Vitoria, Edilaine, Isabelly, Gustavo, Henrique, João, Gabriel, Jacó, Leticia, Leticia, Felipe, Julie, Larissa, Raniel, and Mikael
- Our children to continue to display faithfulness: Kathlyn, Kristyan, Diego, Samuel, Caio, Aline, Gabrielly, João, Mateus, João

Dear Praying Friends:

You have probably used the expression, “life goes on” or have maybe used it. That is what the world is trying to do at this moment, trying to live normally in abnormal times. Like you, we are in lockdown. I’ve heard of varying degrees from missionaries around the world. Our quarantine seems to echo what many are experiencing in the States, except for the part of obedience by the citizens. My neighbors have been having parties weekly. Though we are heading into winter, the children are treating this time as summer vacation. They are meeting up in groups to play tag and ride bikes. Soldiers had to be called in to police the beaches. Cars with loud speakers circle the neighborhoods calling for people to adhere to the new norm. I’ve seen some using masks. Though there are stickers of where to wait in lines at the supermarkets, people group together like usual. Though “no species of any type may congregate” (I’m assuming that this includes the gangs of dogs and flocks of parrots.), laughter of family reunions and visiting friends are heard.

Some things have changed in the new normal, but we, as a church, have continued to have our services, visits, baptisms, and funerals. Preparation for services have taken more time. Lessons must be recorded and uploaded to different media. Live Zoom services are recorded for those who have used up their internet time or those whose internet is not consistent. Our church family has been introduced to Facebook watch parties, WhatsApp visitation, and Zoom services.

The weather began changing and our high-health risk baptismal candidates didn't want to wait for the next warm water season (Summer begins in January for us.); so on the last day that we could meet in small numbers, we held a baptism. Though only the candidates, my team, and our national pastor and wife could attend, we proclaimed it through the internet via Zoom and WhatsApp. We even had a curly, white poodle and bright, red macaw attend.

Thank You for Your Prayers,

Kelly Love

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