

“Know that the LORD is God. It is He who made us and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.” Ps. 100:3

Such a well-known psalm yet a truth we don't always rest in: the Creator and Holder of this universe is our loving, gentle and faithful Shepherd. The question for us is – why do we get so worked up and stressed about life?

I am being reminded of this during these weeks in Boa Vista. After all my travels and visiting, I have come full circle, my dental work getting finished and/or redone, in the case of two of my four bridges. With several other things to accomplish and the “interruptions” that are a normal part of life's package, I haven't had much time to relax in my blue hammock on the mission apt's varanda. But it's great to know my good Shepherd has it all figured out!

After my friends 'n beaches experience with Marta in another beautiful part of Brazil, I got to taste a little of winter in the USA and spend some wonderful, though so fleeting moments with family and friends as well. Once again, I am so grateful for God's precise care, even allowing me to fly back to São Paulo first class on stand-by through my niece Sara's work with Delta Airlines.



Because of these affordable tickets, my parents caught the travel bug as well ☺ and these days they are with my sister and family in the São Paulo area. After visiting Phil & Val and others in Manaus/PQQ soon, my dad and mom will even take a quick jaunt up here to Boa Vista next week. It will be special to be together again but of course they really want to meet up with some Yanomami people. Yesterday Raul and three other men from Marari came by the mission base and when my parents arrive we will visit them and others at the Indian treatment housing just out of town. Marta and I visited the people there from Marari, together with Paulo, Daniel and Janine a few weeks ago. My coworkers are in the village now and a few days ago Coy flew out, as he will join Miriam and their family soon farther south.

The mission base was full for a while but these days I am here with Aguida and Aidil and their children. They work at the Novo Demini village and their husbands, Wellington and Lázaro, flew into the village ahead of them. I've been able to help Aidil with her two little boys, Caio just turned 3 and Davi is nearly 3 months old.

At the end of March most of the tribal missionaries and the support folks plus three men from our mission leadership will be meeting here in Boa Vista for 4 days. Please pray for wisdom, unity, humility and for the decisions that will be made. Pray for Daniel & Janine, as

they adjust to village life, start learning the language/culture and build relationships. They are willing to hold down the fort for a few days and Wellington will also be alone at Novo Demini during our meetings so please pray for him too. Soon after our gathering we should be heading back to the jungle! ☺

Please remember in your prayers our friends with another mission in Santa Isabel. The men, Gabriel, Jaime and Chris left on a 40 day trip up the river to visit all the Yanomami villages in that region. Some of the Indians are opposed to the Gospel but others are really interested in the Word. Besides the artifacts trading (their avenue into this more restricted Yanomami area), they will use this opportunity to share the Truth of God's Word. Pray also for health and protection for the wives, Cris & Ester, and their children in Santa Isabel. I often have contact with them via my cell phone. (Whatsapp is a great tool!)

I am anxious to return to my home and ministry at Marari but I know my Shepherd's timing is always perfect. Thanks for your patience with me as well! I appreciate each of the e-mails, letters and cards (some Christmas mail was here awaiting my return☺), even though I haven't been able to personally answer very many during this time. I don't know how my correspondence will be when I get back to the village, as our e-mail system has become more complicated. At the present it's not even working. I was able to talk with my coworkers on the radio this morning but that is a very limited means of communication. Maybe the good ol' letter-writing days will come back in style! Thank you for your prayers and friendship. May you feel the Shepherd's loving embrace today!



Grateful for His care,

Brenda



Aninha, Caio & Davi