



March 2017

Dear Praying Friends,

As I write this, we are a week away from leaving Brazil to return to the United States for our first furlough. I have been able to get in touch with many of you about reporting back on the work that the Lord has done here. Please let me know quickly if you would like for us to report in your church about how God has used your support and prayers. Our schedule is filling up quickly, and we need to raise additional support from new churches during this furlough. Our furlough ministry presentation should be available online within the next few weeks, and I will be sending out links to this for all of you. We are excited about what the Lord is going to do through this furlough, but still very conscious of the work that we are leaving behind with Dan and Becky Bennett, our co-workers. There is a distinct need for us to be back on the field without too much delay. Please pray that our calendar will fill up quickly with churches that will be able and willing to take us on for support.

One of the most exciting things for us has been the growth of the study in Arujá. This is a decent sized city on the northeastern side of São Paulo. By public transportation, this is about two-and-a-half hours from our church and over three hours from where we have been living. By car, it is possible to cut around the city and it only takes about an hour and fifteen minutes. We have one couple who have faithfully been attending our church for over 18 years. They have opened their home to us, and we began this monthly Bible study six months ago. This month, we had 35 in attendance. We have had three saved so far, and it looks as if we could be starting a church there now. The people there are hungry for God's Word. The preaching alone regularly runs an hour and a half, and they are begging us to preach longer and hold more services. We are praying about locations and exactly where the Lord wants us living at the start of our next term. Please pray that we would have wisdom and that the Bennetts would have energy to continue the work at such a distance.

We will be basing out of the Kings Mountain, North Carolina area. We do not yet have a specific rental location lined up; however, you can always reach us by mailing us in care of our home church at the address below on the letterhead. You can also always reach us through our Skype number at 704-750-9997, which is available from any regular phone and has voice mail. Our Internet may be sporadic to begin with, but we will do our best to reply quickly if you contact us.

Please also be in prayer for our health. We have been battling sinus infections as well as some other health problems. I (Jon) just had confirmation through an MRI that I have damaged a few vertebrae at some point, so we will hopefully have some answers about that soon.

God has brought us through a lot of different circumstances, and we are looking forward to a time of rejoicing with those who have prayed for us for so many years. Again, please get in touch with us if you would like us to come for a meeting during this furlough. We would love to see everyone. God bless and keep you.

Jon and Hannah Speights

Contact Information: Jon Speights - São Paulo, Brazil - Skype: 704-750-9997 - jspeights@baptistworldmission.org

Sending Church: Emmanuel Baptist Church - 102 Canterbury Rd. - Kings Mountain, NC 28086 - 704-730-7855 - w.ebckingsmountain.com

Mission Agency: Baptist World Mission - P.O Box 2149 - Decatur, AL 35602-2149 - (256) 353-2221 - w.baptistworldmission.org