



“*And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him; gold, frankincense, and myrrh.*” Matthew 2:11

The wise men were “Jesus Seekers”. They sought a personal encounter with the Savior and when they found Him they “rejoiced with exceeding great joy!”. Their joy was comparable to finding a buried treasure of great value, receiving a tremendous inheritance, a jump up and down, shout-out-loud kind of joy. They knew Jesus was God’s Son, the King, worthy of their worship and adoration, and they brought Him gifts accordingly; gold to represent His deity as God’s Son (fully man and fully God), incense for His

purity (sinlessness) and myrrh in preparation for His death. Priceless gifts, the best they had. God gave us Jesus, His precious and only Son that Christmas morn, the best He had. Jesus paid the price to be our Savior and Lord. God gave us Jesus. What can we give to Him?

Jesus is the “reason for the season” as they say. He is our hope, our joy, our peace, our purpose, our life and our eternity!! He is the reason we are here in Brazil so that others may know that Jesus is the only way to God and wants to be our Savior, Lord and King.



Asas de Socorro (Wing of Help)

Giving wings to those who give their lives

December 2008

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



It’s awesome to see what God is doing here through your prayers and support. In October we had a mission conference for mission staff of north Brazil. The weekend was spent in spiritual renewal, family fun and fellowship and addressing several key issues of the mission and it’s ministries. We spent a lot of time together in prayer for Rosirene, one of our co-workers who delivered her first baby at six months after many years trying to start a family. It was an extremely hard and emotional time as they both fought for their lives because of infection. Ester Vitória is now with the Lord and Rosirene at home still waiting to have a final surgery to place skin grafts over the hole at her waist. She is experiencing God’s hand of healing in her life both physically and emotionally. Thank you so much for your prayers for Rosirene and Christoph.

Our newest “news” is that one of our planes, the Caravan (amphib) is being used for mission flights, but also for commercial flights for an official commercial air taxi. We can do what we have done all along,

but are now able to give official receipts for flights. This means we will be flying more and hopefully soon be able to use the commercial flights to subsidize mission flights and some maintenance.

Wilson is the only pilot who can fly the Caravan right now and has flown a lot since we have returned. There have been clinic flights, church flights and commercial flights (which mostly involve working with government people or taking fishermen into fishing camps in the Amazon). The neat thing is that commercial flights do not necessarily mean a step away from ministry. Wilson has been able to minister to and witness to government personnel, the governor and fishermen. He has also met Christian fishermen who are such an encouragement to us and some times make donations to the Asas de Socorro ministries after they learn what we are all about.

In November, we held meetings for ten days with key men from the USA, mission leaders and church leaders throughout the Amazon (Manaus, Parintins and Santaém) to formulate strategies and seek ways we can all work together to reach the 17,000 unreached river communities and Indian tribes in the next several years. We discussed what is already being done, learned of new tools available for reaching the lost (such as Orality-a method used to reach the illiterate through story telling) and shared ways in which we can implant these new tools and strategies to spread the Gospel more rapidly and effectively. Please pray that God will continue to give us wisdom and direction. We know there is still so much to be done and are trusting God to show us how to make the necessary changes to meet the needs.

As we prepare for the holiday season, we rejoice to be serving a living Savior! We celebrated and worshiped together with the mission staff in Manaus at our end of the year pot luck dinner. Wilson will be doing all flights until the other pilot comes back sometime in March and we would appreciate your prayers for flight safety since rainy season is fully underway. We have been without a car since September and finally found a used engine (smaller) that will be installed and adapted. It will be so nice to be able to get around although we both love to walk.

Joshua, Julie and Jessica stayed in Branson for Thanksgiving to work. They had a special time and dinner with their Uncle Ken, Aunt Patty and cousin Aaron and Lydia for a couple of days before Thanksgiving in between work schedules. It was a hard, intensive semester at school and they did a great job. Julie loves her job on campus teaching at the preschool. She and one of her friends signed up to be Sunday School teachers to a class of 3 year olds at church and enjoy the challenge of loving and working with the little ones. Julie was accepted to the St. Francis School of Nursing in Peoria for the Fall of 2009! She will move to IL in the Spring of 2009 to take the rest of her prerequisites at ICC and live with Ken and Patty until she can move into the dorm at St. Francis. We know this is a tremendous answer to prayer...your prayers and ours and another of God's wonderful blessings for Julie. Thank you so much for "being there" for her!! Both girls will spend Christmas in Illinois and Joshua will be working and spend Christmas with his two roommates. Julie and Jessica wanted to send you our Christmas greetings.



Did you reflect on the question at the beginning of this letter? God gave us JESUS, what can we give to Him? First of all, we can give Him our life, trusting in Christ as our Savior. We can give Him our time, our talents, our attention, our worship, our resources, our JOY. What would you like to give Him this year?

Merry Christmas from all of us and a most blessed New Year.

*The Kannenberg Family
Wilson, Lori, Joshua, Julie and Jessica*

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1-800-359-7623 (donor department at MAF)*

Manaus Morsels

Here is the first of what I will call Manaus Morsels: What are holidays like here? We have holidays all year long and about half the time even the Brazilians can't remember what they are for. When the holiday falls on a Thursday, or Tuesday, the weekends are extended and you take an extra day off. We take time off for some holidays, but we use some of them to get caught up on our work. What is life like on holidays? The city is quiet, there are mostly reruns on TV, and EVERYTHING is closed, except a few restaurants and the mall which opens after 3:00 pm. The nearest city to visit is 1 1/2 hours away. What can you do? Go to some club (if you are a member-which we aren't), drive out to a fazenda (they are all a short distance out of town) or a friend's house, have company or veg out at home. For Christians, there are often special activities: retreats, seminars, special services and events, cantatas, etc. Since many people are out of town, the streets are free (no road rage), and the robbers are about the only ones who are busy at work!