

Reaching, Assisting and Transforming Lives Through Aviation and Social Development



For so the Lord has commanded us:

"I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, so that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth." Acts 13:47

One small flame can set the world on fire!



## **MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**

We would like to share with you an excerpt of a Christmas letter we received from the Nayak family last year.

Let us all avoid the temptation to make our Christmas worship a withdrawal from the stress and sorrow of life into a realm of unreal beauty. It was into the real world that Christ came, into the city where there was not room for Him and into a country where Herod, the murderer of innocents, was king.

He comes to us, not to shield us from the harshness of the world, but to give us the courage and strength to bear it; not to snatch us away by some miracle from the conflict of life, but to give us peace, His peace, in our hearts, by which we may be calmly steadfast while the conflict rages, and be able to bring to the torn world the healing that is peace.

When Mary and Joseph presented the infant Jesus to the Lord, Simeon said to them: "Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thought of many hearts may be revealed." (Luke 2:34-35)

Christmas is not a retreat from reality but an advance into it alongside the Prince of Peace. Christ did not come to shield us from the grief and pain of life, but those who have His peace inside can thrive within the strife.

In this world of darkness God wants us to be His light to all nations, His ambassadors of the Good News of Jesus!

As we look back on the last three months, we can see the hand of God preparing us for new challenges and changes. Asas de Socorro (Wings of Help) has asked us to move to Santaém in March, 2010 and to help establish a new flight base. In 2010, we will be electing new mission leaders and establishing new goals and objectives for the next several years. Wilson will be working on the importation and implantation of the Kodiac airplanes that will be arriving starting the end of 2011. Please pray that God will give us wisdom and direction!

The months of October and November were filled with mission leadership meetings, flights and a clinic trip. Wilson flew two veteran missionary women into the Apurnia Indian tribe to finish the translation of the Book of Psalms and Jonah. They have worked for nearly forty years finishing the translation of the New Testament (2005) and their heart's desire is to finish the Old Testament before God calls them home!

The clinic flight to the Unini River was amazing. The team of medical/dental professionals worked in four different villages for three days. We began work along the Unini ten years ago. This area is extremely isolated, poor and has great spiritual oppression. The oppression is still present, but now there are four churches and several wonderful Christian leaders. The trip was difficult and sleeping conditions poor, but one woman was released from satanic bondage and gave her life to Christ, and another man became the very first believer in his village after being bitten by

a snake and having a Christian nurse and then later the mission team pray over him. Seven people gave their lives to Christ and four were baptized. What a joy to hold services and even communion in a few of the Christian homes! It's so awesome to see how God works through his servants; through YOU...your partnership, prayers and support and through missionaries who are called to "go." God's church is global and He uses His church around the world to accomplish His purposes! We are so blessed to be a part of it all!!

Our year ends praising God for all the lives He has touched this past year through the ministries of Asas de Socorro. As we begin packing and making preparations to move to Santaém, we pray fervently that God will direct our steps, help us find a home, a church and adjust to a new lifestyle and ministries. We have been phasing out of the work in Manaus, preparing others to take our place and are excited to see what lies ahead. Please continue to pray that our lives will be pleasing to the Lord and that we will allow Him to use us as he sees fit.

So many answers to prayer, so many praises. Joshua finishes his math degree at College of the Ozarks the middle of December and will continue to work at the hotel at least until May when he and his girlfriend, Leighann will graduate. She has a double major in math and computer science. Julie is a junior nursing student and is working with "live" patients now and Jessica is a sophomore in nursing. All four of them will be coming to Brazil between Christmas and New Year's Day. They will spend a few days at home in Manaus and then head for south Brazil to visit relatives. We can't wait to be together once again! Wilson and I will remain in south Brazil for another six weeks to visit churches and supporters for a short furlough.

Many have asked how you can pray for us. Please continue to pray for flight safety. The rainy season is here, and we have already had some terrific storms. Pray that God will use us in churches and homes in south Brazil to share about missions and give us safety on the highways (double lane). Please pray that God will especially guide our time with our kids and Wilson's family. We have only a few short days before they need to return to school and work, and Wilson's Dad is aging faster and getting weaker. Pray that God will pave the way for our move to Santaém. We keep you in our hearts and prayers constantly and would love to hear how we can pray for you! You are so special to us! God has used your love, prayers and support to uphold us through robberies at gunpoint, flights, tough decisions about moving and major changes, clinic trips, trips with mission teams and EVERYTHING that has happened throughout the year. God has richly blessed us through you.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS from our home to yours! Amazon, Brazil

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For more information to learn how you can support Lori and Wilson Kannenberg or if you need any information call: 1-800-359-7623 (donor department at MAF)

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