

Here is a collection of items that Lori has posted on facebook . . . .

January 4

Hi, everything is fine. We get only skpye on our computer, we are still at the hotel and have found nice take home lunches for about \$1.50 each! Looks like the barge will come Saturday. Every day we go to the house and work some more. Its half painted, the electricity is close to being installed and more than half has been cleaned.

New Years was a blessing. Wilson preached Sunday night at church since the woman who was going to preach was sick. Then on New Year's we went to a larger meeting place where all the church congregations gathered together from 9-midnight. Each pastor of each congregation gave a special verse and introduced their choreography group for a special time of praise and adoration and then Wilson gave the message before midnight. We were invited to a couple's house after church along with around 30 others.

The weather has been rainy mostly at night and sunny during the day. We have not been able to see any e-mail yet... the internet of the hotel is pretty slow. I can only get facebook on the hotel computer and sometimes we can send messages through skpye. I can't wait till we get our own at the house. I'm sure it will be better than this. The other day I was going up the stairs to our room and a big rat was on his way down! We have gone back and forth from the house to the hotel on the back of a motorcycle dozens of times. Getting to be an ole pro already. We have met some of the teachers at the university, a nurse here in town and a few others that we may be able to partner with to serve and minister to the people in this area.

Thank you so much for your prayers. Even though we have been working very hard, been some in the rain, eating food here and there where we can find it... God has given us strength and good health! There will be no official update this month until we can get better internet and e-mail. God Bless and a belated Happy New Year to you.

January 10

We are at the house now still working with the electricity and none of the rooms have been painted yet. We are sleeping on a mattress on the floor and eating out back. We hope to put beds in the house next week or maybe this weekend. We went to Tuesday night church and tonight we are going to the mayor's house for her birthday which was a very unexpected surprise.

During this month the Indians are having Bible training, and we are going to try and meet them next week at their seminary (6 ethnic groups present). We hope soon to give them classes too.

January 12

Hi everyone! I am once again at a place to do internet.

Its super rainy here but nice and last night we were cold. We dont know many people but the other night we went to the new mayor's house to celebrate her birthday! She was instrumental in helping get out container off the barge.

We are almost ready to finish painting the house. The electricity should be done by today, not quite sure when the water inside the house will be turned on. Still sleeping on the floor and eating simple take home meals, bread and granola, of course. Its been so hard not to be able to communicate. We cannot make calls as yet outside of Brazil but you can call us if need be. Our email must be so stopped up not sure if we will ever be able to download all the messages some day.

God is good. It was awesome to talk to Jessica a couple of times and keep praying that soon we will have internet at home. It's very slow, but we will go with the flow. God has allowed us to meet several people in town and church and next week we will be doing a flight with the Indian leader to go to an Indian church for a special celebration after their month of seminary training with over 150 Indians of 6 ethnic groups.

Thank you all for your prayers. We love you and would love to get a message via Facebook. Have had contact with only 5 people so far. A big thanks to John and Janet Certalic for making our Christmas so special by giving us a call. We keep you all in our prayers. Just know we are in great health, anticipating being able to actually move into the house and start getting settled soon.

January 15

Today is HOT and with no fan yet at the house and no air, it's actually nice to be at an internet house.

We are starting to clean cupboards and move a few things into the house. Today all the electricity should be done. YEAH!

Had a great time at church yesterday. God is good all the time but we are so thankful to Him for the cooler rainy weather we have had up till now to work hard on the house and not feel like we are in a sauna! The new pastor here will be coming the 9th of Feb. when we will have a welcome service. We may be housing them or church leaders in our home. Keep praying for strength. Today mine is already all used up! God Bless and hugs for all.

January 17

Hi everyone. Today it's so hot. That's a good thing. We were able to clean up the furniture, wash the couch after it fell in the mud on moving day, dry it out and start setting up house! What a tremendous relief.

We are still waiting for our bedroom window to get fixed (wood) but have a screen and it's like sleeping in a cabin. We wake up to a symphony of birds and are encouraged that the end is in sight. The house is being painted on the outside today (it had a paint that washed off as soon as you passed a rag over it and got dirty very easy). So even that is drying in record time.

Sunday we will fly to the Indian village where Wilson will give a message at the end of their month of seminary training. We are doing great although when it's time to go to bed we fall asleep immediately. We haven't had internet at home or TV for a month now and won't be having a home phone just cell phones. Still unable to cook but although our meals are simple they are good and adequate. Sending love and hugs to you all and now I can look on Facebook and see the messages you left us and pictures you have sent... whoooooo.

January 25

We actually have internet at our home now. Wilson said it is very slow. I may have to send letters and pictures during the night or early morning before anyone else wakes up... that is if they don't turn off the internet signal during the night!

The house still feels like a hurricane went through it with suitcases and boxes strewn about, workers painting, installing internet, working on electricity, laying bricks and Wilson spraying bug poison in all the rooms where I am not (I've been sick). Some things needed to be fixed, and I guess better now than later. It's exciting every little thing that gets done like installing a bathroom mirror or a towel rack or shower curtain, glass window/bricks in the front of the house so we can actually see inside the house at night when the lights are off. Amazing what a blessing these little things can be! We have been sleeping just with a screen in our window. The people

who lived here before must have had their bed against the window. The bed was probably higher than the window and they wanted the window open at night so to solve their problem they sliced off the lower part of the window right above their bed so it would open! None of the lights were in the middle of the rooms (extremely off center) so Wilson had to drill holes in each room, move the lights and cover up all the holes left behind!

We are supposed to house a pastor and church leadership around the 7th or so and not sure how that will go but still working on it. Got out two new comforters for the guest beds since the other ones were done in and left behind. Found out they are too huge for our little Brazilian beds and since I have no energy anyway, spent the morning taking them apart, cutting one side and the corners and the ends so they don't hang all over the floor and Wilson helped me take them to a sewing lady to sew the border back on and finish them off. (My sewing machine bit the dust for good too and we left that behind.) We are still looking for cushion covers for our couch and a ton of other items. They are here somewhere! What ever you do... think twice about moving! At least we have awesome Christian music on Wilson's phone to uplift and encourage us. No TV as yet so no news of how the world goes round. Some days it's cold and clammy and very rainy like yesterday. Today is hot, bright blue skies and so bright it's almost blinding... good to put the mattresses and pillows all outside today since they got sort of moldy smelly after being on the barge a month and another month here in the back of the house.

Yes, we have been busy with a lot of fixing and cleaning but have also been very involved at church on Sundays and Tuesdays and had an amazing time at "Sabonete", an Indian village a 7 minute flight away. Sabonete means soap in Portuguese and I guess that means an internal cleansing of the Holy Spirit for them since this is the Indian Conference center. We flew the Indian Christian Leader and an older Indian couple in for their Sunday service and training. There are 150 Christian Indian young people gathered there for their yearly one month of intensive seminary training and discipleship. They study in modules and some are already in their third module. Some of them talked with us, some cried of homesickness and others showed their fear and concerns about returning to their respective tribes to be witnesses and testimonies of a living God and wondering how they will answer to their families, the tribal witch doctor and those who accuse them of following the white person's God. Wilson had the joy (as well as shedding tears of awe) to minister to them that morning and taught and preached on how they can know that this God they are following is the right God. We had a lunch with them and headed for home. Wilson has also met with other Christian missionaries and businessmen along with the Indian Christian Leader Atos to discuss needs and strategies for reaching the Javari River Valley and its tribes and river villages for Christ... to find out ways in which we can help the best.

It was a complete surprise to head for Tabatinga (half hour by speed boat) with Wilson for our 29th anniversary. We had a list of things we really needed and that doesn't exist in Benjamin Constant like certain kinds of outlets, material for recovering chairs (the seat of our dining room chairs were done in after this move but needed redoing anyway), shower extension bars, etc. You name it, we looked for it and carried it walking in the rain with umbrellas and loving the fresh air and different kind of day. We stayed over night, went out for dinner and enjoyed the sights and sounds of someplace different. I got a stomach virus of some sort before we left and have been sick ever since but even so we thoroughly enjoyed our time away and out and about. I lost a little more weight than I cared to and am pretty weak, but looks like today I am on the mend. Still not cooking yet since the little kitchen out back is covered in gunk and workers coming and going but God is providing and our meals have been good and cheap and last night Wilson even found some delicious chicken vegetable soup to bring home after the meeting he had. We have so appreciated your prayers for strength, good health and wisdom. I usually don't have much resistance but even though I was pretty sick, I only felt mildly uncomfortable and just closed myself in a room and slept for hours. God knows I needed that. Wilson could use more of that for sure! Smile emoticon God is good... ALL the time and we are thrilled to now have internet so we can share once again with you all that He is doing here and how He is caring for us and showing us how we can serve.

Love and Hugs, Lori and Wilson

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#### MONTHLY SUPPORT GIFTS

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