

Siméa and Ian's News - September 2010

Hospital

After treatment with BCG and all that trouble, Ian had to go to hospital again to do another cystoscopy. This time to verify the results of treatment. Two days in hospital, the doctor applied anesthesia epidural on the back, and after 40 minutes, the doctors came out with the Good News: Ian is very good. [Siméa] [I've always thought that but I think Siméa means no more signs of infection] Some discomfort following the exam but getting over it.

Now we just have to wait for the final biopsy results and then hear from the doctor how he plans to watch Ian over the next five years.

Sometimes we feel frustrated with all this time on physicians, clinics, hospitals ...

But we have seen new things on our daily walk. More maturity in the use of our time, both at work and in family.

We have met many other pastors fighting cancer, in various stages of treatment we have been able through the experience to draw near to these pastors and their families, in moments of balance, maturity and joy.

We praise God for the people who support us with prayers and words of encouragement. For the church people who understand our absence at times.

But we have done everything to live as if nothing had happened, because the joy of the Lord strengthens us. And we see great results in the church, because every day it is growing and producing fruit.

CHURCH



[Photo Ian and Siméa during the Mission School]

This year, even with all the health problems with Ian, we are thankful to God for having been a very blessed year so far. God has given us many opportunities for growth.

In the community in which we work many families live with great difficulties. The typical family is very different to what we would consider normal, father, mother and children. The families that make up Living Waters church, are far from this ideal. Mothers that fail to offer basic care and security, even for small children who must learn to fight for their food and security, and are thus pushed into the hands of gangs and drug dealers.

A few families are more organised, but even so they are influenced by the values of the local community.

. The children suffer the pressures of other children, and mothers may suffer marginalization by neighbours. That's when the church's presence is seen as a lifesaver.

Therefore, we have invested in building groups by age and interests. Our vision is to restore, restoring the childhood, they never had. Restoring adolescents, young adults restoring social, community and family values, everything within the biblical perspective.

The results have been wonderful.

We can see a group of children, adolescents and young people, doing things appropriate for their age, moving away from things that destroy their lives. And this has been visible to the community as well.

They are learning that the Bible teaches us that there is time for everything. And that the will of God is acceptable, and perfect.

Last year we were able to employ a secretary to the work of the Parish, but the church's finances are very small, and this is no longer possible. Now, we are praying for more resources, as it is very important to have the documents and accounts. Because despite being a poor church, with poor members, our agenda is very active.

We were blessed with an offer of help with "Strategic Planning", which began last year.. But facing the challenges of risk among children and adolescents in the region. We decided to move the focus of planning for our most important partner in this area: the NGO – My Father's House.

MY FATHER'S HOUSE

This partner has an important role in the area of mobilizing public resources, that, the church is not permitted to. The contacts with society are limited when it comes to projects in partnership with governmental and non-governmental groups.

But to achieve this professional level, the NGO has to have certain requirements imposed by large investment organizations, ie it has to be professional in its governance

Another requirement of secular organizations is that NGOs does not have any legal connection with the church. This leads us to take great care in selecting the directors, to be evangelical, who have maturity and have a recognised in society. For to be a director in Brazil, you have to have social recognition and recommendations. Preferably they are professionals or businessmen, who do not have a relationship with the inner life of the NGO. This neutrality provides greater certainty to investors, because they know they are experienced in working life.

Therefore, for our church, which is formed of poor people who live near the dump of Olinda, it is extremely difficult to find this profile directors from within the local church. So we have to open new relationships in churches in upper middle class. That is difficult and takes time. -And this has been my contribution to the directors of the My Father's House. I have had many meetings with possible future leadership of the NGO.

Family.

[photo: Ian and John on John's 23 birthday
17.08.10]

Timothy, 30, unemployed. Still far from Christ. But we do not cease to pray for him and his reconciliation with Christ

It is very difficult to live with, but our hearts do not give up fight to see him saved.

We have learned a lot through him. We can feel the pain of parents who now face children who use drugs and suffer from bi-polar disorder

As we dream of his transformation, please pray for Timothy.

John. Now 23 years old. He hopes to finish the university course in business administration. At the same time he is trying to establish a small computer company and now also working with electronic security. But cannot yet afford to pay his own expenses. We are praying that he can finish university by the middle of next year. That his small business grows and that he becomes independent

John is very involved in the NGO - My Father's House, and at church he continues to play drums.

Hudson. Turned 20, he is halfway through university also reading business administration. At the moment he's also having his first work experience in a small factory. But his goal is to work in a large company, where he can grow with the experience of the company. Without talking with him, I and Ian perceive him each day more and more engaged with the ministries he is involved in the church

Us. - We are living in very strange days, with the retirement of Ian, despite a growth in demand in both the church and in the NGO - The My Father's House.... We have tried to grow in organization and teamwork.

We are looking forward to our trip to South Africa. We feel both that we need to take more opportunities to travel together and take advantage of these conferences that empower the leaders of the churches. -We will have opportunities to hear new things and renew our strength and vision for the future.

Please Pray for :

1. The Ian's health. After this new cystoscopy, the result of new biopsy will be given on September the 8 th. Depending on the outcome, Ian will then make periodic examinations during the next five years.
2. My Father's House- For leadership, the Shelter House, the Christian Centre for family support, and the projects we have sent out seeking financial support, not only in the House and Prevention Centre, but also for projects that will help the NGO become more self-sustaining.
3. The Church. – Leadership for, women, men, children, adolescents and young adults.

Pray for the ministries leaders of the church: Sunday School (Aline, Phillippe, Elias and Felipe) Women (Conceição and Helena), Praise (Ian Hudson and Flavio) Teens (Claudemir, Raphael); Youths 18 + (Andy and Rose), PCC (Rosely, Enoch, Raimundo, Edelvan, Juraci and Vera), Lay Minister (Josiah) and other leaders for support.

4. With the fall of the British pound, the family budget is increasingly tight. And many expenses from church, tend to fall on us, because the income from the church is far from being adequate for basic expenses, such as light, water, and the wage of the caretaker

5. We are praying for the possibility of being able to afford a secretary to assist in administrative services in the church Office, and give me support on home visits, especially in dangerous places. Therefore, we have prayed for it to be a man.

Open air during Mission School**Training Course**

In Jesus Love, Siméa and Ian.