



**São José, SC Brasil**

**May 22, 2018**

**Dear Friends and Supporters,**

Psalm 29 v3: “The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; The God of glory thunders, The Lord is over many waters.” What kind of God must this be? If His voice is as majestic and powerful as the Psalm states, His acts and character most certainly must be without limit. As we survey the things that are before us, the challenges spoken and unspoken, we are comforted by this limitless God and His unmeasurable power. At the same time we have heard this voice and found it to be tender and kind, the voice of a shepherd, calling us to simply follow Him.

Thank you for your prayers for our family, and thank you for your financial support. We are grateful to God for each of you. In this letter I want to share with you the good news about the building project, some opportunities we have been given to study the Bible, and some prayer requests regarding our furlough, now 6 months away. Thanks for reading!



In Christ,

*Jon and Denielle, ElliAnna, Carter  
and Noella*

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*Construction!* Well, what started with a prayer at the end of November last year has continued to progress. The walls were completed early in March. The men built windows and doors on the weekends

in April and now we are putting down the concrete that will one day receive the flooring. We are excited about the insulated corrugated steel roof even though we still owe R\$18,000 (about \$5000). This week the stage will begin to be built and the hole was dug today to put in the septic tank.

We have a pretty courageous goal to hold the inauguration of the building together with the celebration of the church's 7th year. That's coming up fast on June 23 and 24. It is obvious that we will not be able to have the building done by then but we hope that it will be closed up, with lights working, and at least one bathroom functioning. The sooner we can get out of rent the better (at least that is the thought).

Typically two or three days a week, men from the church gather to work on different projects. Last Saturday the ladies did a yard sale out front while others mixed the concrete. Thankfully we have enough experience among us to get the work done. Above all, we praise God for His provision, for the generosity of His people, and for the gifts of interested supporters and friends. Please keep praying and asking that God will be glorified through this project!

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*A Bible Study in Palhoça* During the last two weeks we have begun meeting with Renato and Juliana, Milton and Rosa, and Denise with her two boys, David and Jean. We have begun a three week study with each family and hope to continue studying with them at the conclusion. As we desire for ourselves, we hope that God's Word will penetrate our hearts and transform us to be more like Christ. Please pray with us! And pray for the church members pictured, that we would faithfully proclaim the gospel.

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Finally, we are beginning to take some concrete steps as we prepare for a shift to ministry in the States at the end of the year. Here are a few of the things we are working on as the weeks tick by:

- transitions out of ministry at IBR. We are thankful for the leadership that is being formed. Please pray that we would be wise.
- thinking about plans for the Bible studies we currently lead. Pray for the believers meeting in Garopaba to grow in grace this year. Pray for the future of the Bible studies in Palhoça and people who might be able to continue in our absence.
- what to do about housing. Please pray with us as we consider the purchase of a home (a pretty reasonable price but still beyond our reach) or if we should plan to rent a storage unit for the year we will be in the States.
- where to spend our time in the States. A couple of people have already made contact for 2019 (Bible Camp and a Missions Conference) but mostly we are just beginning to put together a framework. Preliminary plans look like this: South Dakota/Nebraska from January to May, mobile travels through Colorado, Kansas, Missouri and Illinois in June to August and Minnesota from September to December. (Did I mention that this is preliminary?)

Thank you for reading to the end. Congratulations, you made it. As always we appreciate hearing from you. May God bless and may you ascribe to the Lord the glory due to His name.

**Jonathan & Denielle, ElliAnna, Carter and Noella**

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