October 2018 Newsletter from Paul and Becky Abel

No obedient believer can say, “World evangelism? That is not my thing.” Jesus’ Great Commission is an imperative, an order from our Lord. We (P&B) are ordinary people who have been trusting in God’s faithfulness to use our lives to make a difference in Brazil. Those who remember to support us and other mission endeavors with your gifts and prayers are also trusting God’s faithfulness. Together we are being obedient to Jesus’ command to "Go and make disciples." As we obey this command we find that the weeks and months just whiz by. Babies are born (Zoey Beatriz on July 9) and loved ones pass on from this world to the next (Becky’s Dad, Dick, on August 21). Some people are born into the Kingdom of God and others continue dead in their sins and rebellion against God. There are reasons for rejoicing and reasons for deep concern. The political situation around the world, the lukewarm attitude of many Christians (which God says is repulsive to Him) and the outright rejection of God’s truth in many sectors drive us to remember how much the world needs Jesus. We must work the works of Him who called us while it is day, for when the night comes, no man can work.
**Journey Missions and more**

We hosted a great team from the U.S. in June. This involves quite a bit of pre-planning and much "high energy" while they are here. The group helped with many projects as well as seeing the work in three areas of Brazil. We also had the privilege of having a quick visit from former missionary colleague Connely Dyrud and family.

![Journey Missions team](image1)

![Blessing the Poor](image2)

![Camp Preparation](image3)

![Children's Camp](image4)

**Camps at the ARCA**

The family retreat in June at the ARCA went well. In July our Children's Camp started the day after the Journey Missions team left. We had a "full to capacity" children's camp using the World Cup event as a basis for helping campers realize that they have been chosen by God to fulfill a special purpose. It was great to have a wonderful group of counselors to minister in the lives of the children. Our photographer friend, Erlend, took photos for the last time (for while anyway) as he has moved to France to work this year.

![Accompanying Young Missionaries](image5)

**Accompanying Young Missionaries**

When Matthew and Ednay returned from their furlough they lived with us for two months before moving into a cute little house about ten minutes from us. They ended up staying longer than they had planned because little Zoey arrived two weeks early. She waited just until camp was over to make her grand appearance! She is a darling addition to our family.
John and Hannah Lee and their 2 little girls lived with us for about a month, too, while they were getting used to a new reality. We helped them with a myriad of details involving renting and furnishing a house, making doctor appointments, finding a language teacher, working on documents (very bureaucratic in Brazil) and more. They are happily settled now and we enjoy visiting back and forth. Hannah’s mom and sister came to help when their third daughter was born on Aug. 28. The next step for both couples is a trip to São Paulo to register the births and get passports for the new little ones.

**Annual Conference**

Annual Conference will be held at the ARCA this year November 2-4. We ask you to pray for this event and that our Free Lutheran people will be committed to participate and enjoy this time of fellowship and decision-making. Our term as President and Secretary will be ending. We pray that the Lord will raise up capable and willing officers to take our place for the next three-year term. There are several things to get in order before we pass on the baton to the next group. We are committed to helping our people preach Jesus and stay focused on Biblical doctrines as we are inserted in a society with many bizarre teachings.

**The Poor you will have with you Always**

We have often shared about our outreach to those who are struggling to make it from day to day. For the last several months Paul has been "inventing" work for Vicente, Juarez, Vitor and Milton. There is always work to do around here but it’s hard to find the money to keep everything going. Our Social Work Fund is empty right now and we are asking the Lord to provide through His people who "have" to help those who "have not." Maybe in the next letter I'll tell you the stories of these men. We are rejoicing greatly because Juarez and his wife stopped drinking in May and are doing well as they are growing in their faith. Juarez and Leandro and their families and Vitor went with us to Campo Mourão last week to work on a construction project at the camp in Campo Mourão. It was a wonderful experience for these families that haven't ever traveled far from Bateias. Gifts to help the poor can be given to the ARCA Social Work fund through AFLC World Missions.
On the Move

We have been "on the move" way too much since May. Between trips to the U.S. (because of Becky's father becoming terminally ill and passing away) and trips to Iguaçu Falls and then to Campo Mourão twice we are feeling "lonesome" for some time at home. However, there are two more trips planned for the near future so we cannot get too comfortable right now. Pray that wherever God takes us we can be a blessing!

Prayer Requests

Continuing ministry at the Mighty Fortress Lutheran church.
Construction of a prayer room at the ARCA in memory of Becky's Dad.
Annual Conference at the ARCA Nov. 2-4.
Construction of the parsonage in Bateias.
Provision for the projects and people with which we are involved.
Spiritual understanding and freedom from addictions for Juarez e Milton e Vicente.

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For a printable PDF version of this letter click here.

Thank you for being involved with Missions through your gifts and prayers. Click here to contribute to our ministry!