

Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the

#### JULY - AUGUST 2023

Dear Pastor and Church Family:

"AS COLD WATERS TO A THIRSTY SOUL, SO IS GOOD NEWS FROM A FAR COUN-TRY." - PROVERBS 25:25

I am writing this letter from the country of Brazil. We have been here about six weeks, and we are having a great time visiting the churches here and around the area of Franca, Sao Paulo. We just preached at a meeting about two hours away, where the church celebrated 36 years of existence. The Lord blessed in the meeting.

We are preaching just about every service till our Youth Congress in September. Our pastor, Clay Collins, and his family are arriving September the 5<sup>th</sup> to preach the Congress, and then we will all return home on the 14<sup>th</sup> of September. Pray for the meeting, that our young people will be set on fire by the Holy Ghost and souls will be saved. Five states and 20 churches will be involved in the Youth Congress.

A great piece of news for this month's prayer letter. Our son, Jonathan Smith, has been accepted as the future South American Field Director with MWBM. He is starting the deputation trail to raise his support. I would like to ask all our supporting churches to consider this continuation of our ministry for Brazil and support him and his family. He was born here and speaks the language fluently and has the approval of the missionaries on the field. We are continuing with missions and MWBM, as the International Consultant. We are not QUITTING OR RETIRING from what God has called us to do. We plan to be in missions at the rapture, which I believe could be soon. Jonathan's number is 864-706-6729. Pray for him as he starts a new era in his life. We are happy to have him and his family on board.

The Lord is blessing here in our churches in Brazil, but the devil also is at work. Pray for the salvation of souls and the power of the Holy Spirit. Nothing can be done without the power of God in our midst. We have a youth camp that is still being improved and additions being added on for more people to attend — and it need funds for building. They are finishing eight more dormitories that will bring the total capacity to 400 young people. Also, a new kitchen is being enlarged to triple its size. If you can help, send it to the mission and mark it — Camp Construction. Thanks in advance for your love for God's work.

THANK YOU for your support and prayers for the Smith family. We need your support and prayers to get the job done for the Lord. THANKS for your faithfulness to HIM and us. We love you in the Lord.

In His Service,

Dr. Robert and Cathy Smith

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# THE SMITH FAMILY

Jonathan, Heather, Katie, Kyle, Kaden, & Kipton

## South American Field Director

For the non-Spanish speaking countries



### August 2023

Dear Friends.

Let me begin by thanking God for saving me first of all, and calling me into the ministry. I am grateful that He would love me enough to save me, even more that He would call me to serve Him in the ministry. I will never get over how good He has been to me and my family.

There is so much much to share and tell on how God has brought us to the place we are right now. After salvation, I ran from the calling to preach... literally out-of-state. God brought me to a broken place and showed me at a missions conference, where Bro. Caudill was preaching about the alabaster box. Before God could use the oil, the box had to be broken. I'll never forget how God used this message! Heather, my girlfriend at the time, had been quizzing me if I was supposed to preach or not. I finally surrendered to the call, and a few months later, Heather and I got married (2004).

I surrendered to serve Him full-time after hearing a message from Bro. Ricky Gravely on "Have you really gave God your all?" Literally that same night, I had a voicemail from Dr. Steve Ward in Valdosta, GA, waiting for me when I got home. Long story short, we moved there and served in various capacities. In 2013, we moved back to South Carolina, where we served faithfully in our home church in various capacities as well while working a job as a Funeral Director. I then went back in to the business world. All this time, God was preparing me for what was to come.

In August of 2020, God led us to our current home church, Brooklyn Baptist Church. God had a plan, and this puzzle was now all coming together. I never had peace to accept a church, even though I candidated for a few through the years. God even opened up a door to help three churches that were seeking for a pastor, as a pulpit supply, and for advice. I am happy to say, 2 of these 3 churches now have pastors! We are also active at our home church.

I've always had a deep desire to serve at Macedonia World Baptist Missions, but I didn't feel I was supposed to live in another country! Earlier this year, it all "hit home." God showed me

He wanted us to serve as Field Director in the continent I grew up in. Taireauy knew the language, the culture, the contacts, etc. So here we are! Heather told me when I came home from a missions youth conference, "You surrendered to missions, didn't you?" She knew about this before I got home! We are excited to see what God is going to do. You can contact me with our information on the letter. I would love to share the whole story on how God brought us to this opportunity. I know I'm saved, I know I'm called, and I know He will provide! Please consider having us to present our ministry, and consider supporting us in this ministry. I look forward to working with and for you in South America!

"In His Grip!" Bro. Jonathan Smith Isaiah 41:13

#### Sending Church:

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#### Serving Through:

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Are you <u>ENLISTED</u> in God's Service? Will you <u>send</u>? Will you <u>go</u>? Or will you disobey?