

The Olimpios

RENAN, JAHVONA, NOAH, LIZA & LAYN

A WORD FROM US

Hello team!

We've reached the end of October, and a lot has happened. From the kids' program to the presidential election!

On October 12th, we celebrate "Children's Day" in Brazil, so we put a program together dedicated to the kids. We wanted them to feel special and loved by God, so we had food, games, and a bible story. The challenge was to get all our supplies to the village since the drought is severe and we can't get there by boat anymore. We made it happen. The second challenge was to get there as a family. One of our missionary fellows picked us up in town, and after 2 and a half hours, we made it to the village. The river was so low that we could only get there by a small boat. It was a fun trip for the kids, who spent most of the time counting the alligators on the way (don't worry, it was safe). About 40 kids came to take part in our program, where they had lots of fun and even got toys donated by a local church. We ate chicken and drank pop for lunch.

After that, Renan had to travel by car and boat for several hours to vote in Brazil's presidential election in Itacoatiara County. Voting is mandatory, and penalties for skipping it include being unable to renew your passport. Thankfully, Jahvona and the kids stayed at the Itacoatiara base, enjoying the pool and company of fellow missionaries. Towards the end of the month, we had our team retreat in Manacapuru. We had such a great time together eating and playing games. We understand how important it is to bring people in our team together.

Last month, our boat wouldn't start, so we took it to a mechanic. He found multiple problems, and after replacing three motor components, it still isn't working properly. We hope to fix it this week. Thankfully, the river is low, and we had fewer trips scheduled.

Thanksgiving Day is just around the corner as I write this, and I'm reminded that being thankful for life's little blessings is a spiritual practice. Across the internet, the conversation seems focused on Black Friday and its deals. Let's not let this moment draw us into wishing for more or better; instead, take time to cherish what God has already given us. Since Thanksgiving isn't a major holiday in Brazil as it is in the US, we'll certainly miss the family gathering and delicious food from Holmes County, OH. Even from here, we're grateful for your support, love, prayers, and thoughtfulness.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

We are thankful for:

- Safe trips and the provision of our basic needs.
- We got new chairs for our homeschool.
- We had a successful Children's Day program.
- Our team retreat was so much fun and a much-needed quality time with our partners.
- Liza is almost reading and is doing really well in school.
- Layn started to say more words-We started to be concerned since he is almost 2.



We pray to God for:

- Our family: planning for the next year, and the rest of the furniture for our house.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Since our boat isn't working properly, we postponed our research trip to the Manacapuru River. I will keep you posted on our progress and discoveries as we go. As of now, we need to gather our team in Manacapuru and plan our schedule for next year. We have lots of exciting programs and trips ahead. Renan decided to alternate with two other teams in the Purus assignment. That means he will spend one week there with a team, visiting and teaching. Since it's a very challenging trip, only he and a couple of other men will be going. Pray that this will bring great glory to God.

In December, we plan to visit the church we helped to plant in Arari River, where we hope to spend New Year's Eve with them. Pray that we may serve people around us no matter the season or the challenges. Stay tuned. Be blessed.

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS:









August fun numbers:

1 Kid's program.
40 kids attended.
1 retreat for the local missionaries.



PICTURES

1-The big helper Layn at the hardware store.
2-The missionaries we hosted for the retreat.
3- Kids' program, mealtime.
4-Our cowgirl at the local county fair
5- Bubble games: They love it!