



Happy New Year! May it be a blessed one for you and your families, filled with opportunities for growth and service.

We are back in Brazil after a very busy 9-1/2 weeks furlough. We enjoyed visits with four of our churches and had memory-making moments with all of our six children and their families. We are also thankful for quality time spent with both of our moms.

Upon returning to Brazil, we had barely unpacked as young adults rolled into camp for staff training on Friday, January 2. We are so appreciative of a competent, dedicated and hard-working staff. Camp runs like a well-oiled machine because of our beloved staff!

We are also thrilled to inaugurate a permanent workspace for handcrafts. The room still needs finishing touches, but walls are up, a roof is overhead, windows and door are in, and there is cement flooring and running water! What more could we ask for?! This new space especially puts a smile on Carol's face as she is no longer sharing a garage with 100+ campers each January and July.

As camp director, some of Dan's activities include overseeing construction and maintenance projects, encouraging staff with daily devotions on "Trusting God" and putting out fires that pop up in the process of hosting 180 people on campus. Carol extends hospitality to camp speakers and staff,

supplies the snack shop with brownies, cookies and sweet rolls, and makes sure Dan has a full drawer of camp t-shirts and shorts for each day's adventures.

Junior and Teen week were wonderful! We had full camps with perfect weather, albeit quite warm. We have seen God at work with 30 confessions of faith, and many other decisions for stronger faith commitments and baptisms.

Adventure Week is quite different with a smaller number of people sleeping in tents in our jungle. The age bracket is older and the focus is on teaching and applying a Christian worldview through different adventurous activities. We had one of our best weeks to date, but it ended with a very rainy morning on Saturday, which always makes packing up difficult. To compound the situation, our head of maintenance (Ozéas) was driving the tractor and trailer down the hill when the trailer pulled sideways on the wet grass and caused the tractor to turn over on top of him. Thankfully, there was not serious injury, but he had to be taken by ambulance and checked out at a local hospital. His abdominal region is quite sore and he needs to take the week off to recover.

We were also blessed with the presence of Douglas Goncalves. He is a new ABWE missionary who is surveying areas of Brazil to decide where he and his wife Lacey would like to serve. He was one of our speakers for teen week and spent a great amount of time asking questions of our staff and campers.

Thank you for your prayers and investment in the lives of our campers and staff.

Our next newsletter will focus on the exciting things happening with our new church plant.

Blessings from Brazil,

Dan & Carol Cook

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Our mailing address is:

1263 Old Springfield Pike, Xenia, OH 45385

Our email address is:

dan.cook@abwe.org