

Dickens Digest

Sept/Oct 2016

Prayer Requests

- ◆ Traveling Mercies
- ◆ Congregation in Brazil
- ◆ Rain for Belo Jardim
- ◆ Family Health
- ◆ Joel Smothers support
- ◆ Building Fund
- ◆ Car Fund for Return



Many Comforts

In John 14:18 Jesus promised His disciples that he would not leave them alone, but would send the Holy Spirit to "comfort" and help them.

As a missionary family on furlough we are blessed to be so well taken care of and encouraged that we often take for granted just how many "comforters" the Lord has given us. God has allowed us in the last couple months to visit many of our supporting churches and see many familiar faces while making new friends. Several churches have gone way above and beyond to meet our needs and even supply some wants (three bins full of



candy, cereal and chips for our kids!!!). Beyond that, three new churches have chosen to partner with us in ministry which is certainly a blessing and an encouragement as needs grow and circumstances change both in the family and on the field. God has allowed us to participate in mission conferences and, we pray,

be an encouragement and challenge to you all as you continue to faithfully pray for and support missions in your home church. We were

blessed to spend time with our pastor and meet new friends in our home church



Roanoke Island Baptist Church.

We have heard good news from Joel Smothers as he continues his deputation and travels out west. He and Noel Ring are making wedding plans even though she remains in Puerto Rico teaching, and the Lord is opening many doors to present their future ministry. Our greatest comfort comes in the form of the Lord working in the hearts of our people in Brazil. Our greatest fear has been that the work will falter, but God has used Rafael and others to continue to reach their own people in Brazil.

Although there are difficulties, like the severe drought and desperate need of water there, God comforts the hearts and provides for the needs. We are truly never alone!

In Her Words

I thank God for the blessings of both His providence and the lessons He teaches through trials. And through the human ups and downs that we all face, my daily prayer/struggle is summed up here. I pray that it may encourage and remind you, too, of where our strength lies.

Hold my hand, Lord, be my stay;
Help me walk your path each day.
Hold my hand. Your steps are sure;
With You, I know I am secure.
For when I pull my hand from Thine
Thine
And choose the path I want to climb,
My feet, unwieldy, fail to go
The way I think they ought; and so,
Against my will that wants to stand,
I push it down with folded hands
And falling to my knees, I pray,
Lord, hold my hand and be my stay.

Cynthia had sinus surgery Oct. 7th and is recovering well. Please pray for her recovery.



Kidz Korner - Morgan Dickens

Going to the Petersburg National Battlefield with my brother, sister, and cousins Sam and Sofia (whose parents are missionaries in Ecuador) was an experience that I will not soon forget. We first went to the visitor center and watched the movie that explained about the siege that had happened there. After the video, my cousins, sister, and brother started to fill out their Junior Ranger sheets. While they were working on that, I went and looked at the exhibits that showed some of the things that were used during the siege. There were cannons and muskets and other things. My favorite part was when I, my brother, and Sam dressed up as the soldiers from the Civil War. Because I was born in Virginia, and my parents call our "home" North Carolina; I dressed as the Confederate soldier, and my cousin dressed as the Union soldier. We had fun pretending to be fighting each other and taking pictures of the different fighting positions we were in. The picture that we took of the three of us in front of the cannon was taken right after we had pretended to shoot each other with the cannon. We had so much fun doing that.



Marcelo (one of our teenagers in Brazil) took this selfie to show the blessings of God! October 12th is always Children's Day in Brazil. It has come to be almost like Christmas Day for the Brazilian children. Parents buy presents; there are special activities. Usually we try to have some special event for the children and this year due to our absence and the work schedules of our people, they decided to hold the event on the Saturday before. Our people in Brazil not only planned for, organized, and held the event, but as you can see in the picture, it was a success! Translating Rafael's report even makes this a greater blessing. The goal was to get the Gospel

From the Field

into a needy community and I believe they accomplished that goal. In Rafael's words, "Although it is difficult to keep 200 children organized, it was a blessing to be able to plant the seeds of the Gospel in Frei Damião (the name of the community). Everyone worked together to get this done and I thank each of you for truly being warriors for Christ!"

Our people in Brazil continue to grow and we thank you for your prayers. They face struggles like a desperate need for water as they have gone more than 5 years without significant rainfall. The cost for water continues to rise as it gets trucked in. They also face struggles just like you face with Christians not always being as faithful to the Lord as they should be. Please continue to pray for our congregation in Belo Jardim as they do the work of the Lord in Brazil. Pray for souls, pray for faithfulness, and please pray for rain.

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