



Prayer Update

Volume XXIII
Issue 3
August/September
2008

“THE PURSUIT BRAZILIAN” A PARTNERSHIP IN FLORIDA



Miami, Florida, is known for its tropical beauty, its passion for sport, and its people. It is one of the cities with the highest demographic density in the United States, and its population is composed of people coming from 160 different countries. It is also second among the areas in the United States with the least Christians. According to reported data, 90% of the five million Miami citizens have not had a personal experience with Jesus.

HCM is partnering with The Pursuit Christian Church, a new church planted in January 2008, and the Florida Church Planters to begin a work among the Brazilians who live in Pembroke Pines. Ezequias (Zeca) and Gábia Sales are being called from Brazil to join the staff of The Pursuit, which is led by Matt Mehaffey. Zeca will help the church present a cross-cultural ministry, reaching the English-speaking, Spanish-speaking, and Portuguese-speaking communities. The church's Worship and Creative Arts Director is from Venezuela. The vision is for a separate Portuguese-speaking church to be planted by The Pursuit within a couple of years.



Ezequias and Gábia meet with The Pursuit staff.

Carl and Naomi Bookout met Ezequias, Gábia, and their three daughters, Talita, Melissa, and Larissa, while they were studying the Portuguese language in Brazil. Ezequias is an Associate Pastor of the Church of Christ in Brasilia, the capital city of Brazil. This is one of the largest Restoration Movement churches in Brazil, and the leaders of the Christian Church there highly recommended them to the work of the Hisportic Christian Mission.

Both Zeca and Gábia grew up in Christian homes and are both recognized as outstanding church leaders in Brazil. Ezequias is known to be a preacher with a spirit of leadership and strong interest in evangelism. Gábia is recognized as an outstanding teacher and is currently studying theology. Talita, their oldest daughter, is a Portuguese-English translator and will be able to use her skills to translate the worship services into Portuguese. All three daughters use drama, dance, music, and teaching to evangelize children and youth. Everyone in the family speaks both Portuguese and English fluently.



Melissa Ezequias Talita Larissa Gábia

Matt Mehaffey says, “After meeting (Zeca and Gábia) in May, while they were in the States, we felt an instant bond with them. We shared the same values and vision. There are thousands of Brazilians who have relocated to South Florida, which is already one of the most un-churched regions in the U.S. There is a great need for leaders, like Zeca, who are willing to take a risk and do whatever it takes to start more and more Jesus-loving, Jesus-centered churches in SoFlo.”

HCM and The Pursuit Christian Church ask that you prayerfully consider supporting this new ministry. Send donations to the HCM office designated “The Miami Project.”

Coming Events

Board of Directors Annual Meeting	November 6-8	Tomoka Christian Church, Ormand Beach, FL
Eastern Christian Convention <i>“Moving Mountains”</i>	November 14-16	Hershey Convention Center, Hershey, PA
National Missionary Convention <i>“Get Your Hands Dirty”</i>	November 20-23	Tulsa Convention Center, Tulsa, OK

Hisportic Christian Mission was represented at several recent conventions.



NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE
JULY 30 - AUGUST 3



Wi-Ne-Ma Week of Missions
Cloverdale, OR August 3-8

Virginia Celebration
Mechanicsville, VA August 8-9

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes to Bil and Karen Keefer, Vancouver, WA, in the loss of their son, Clark, 40, in a plane crash in Minnesota on July 31. Bil and Karen have been supporters of HCM since its beginning. Bil has served on the Board of Directors. From 2000 to 2002, Bil and Karen moved to Rhode Island to work in the HCM office, where Bil served as Director of Mission Services.

Myra L. Shy Suchan passed away in Burley, ID, on July 28 at the age of 102. Myra was a long-time financial supporter of HCM. Her daughter-in-law, Donna Suchan, and grandson-in-law, Tom Banks, have served on the HCM board.

Prayer Needs

- Julio Dias, Pastor of the Missionary Christian Church, Rockville, MD, accurate diagnosis and treatment
- Luciano and Andréia Rodrigues, that God will provide funding for their training at St. Louis Christian College, as they prepare for further ministry in Guinea-Bissau
- Sergio and Marcia Santos, as they study English at YWAM in Richmond, VA, in preparation for their ministry in Atlanta
- Jose and Fattima Fernandes, Canadian visa approval
- For finances to be raised and partnerships developed for the new HCM Projects in Atlanta, GA; Toronto, Ontario, Canada; and Miami, FL
- For finances to be raised to help our existing churches (rental costs and other expenses continue to escalate)
- For the continued outreach of the HCM churches

E-mail Information

In order to communicate faster with those who support the ministry of Hisportic Christian Mission and also to save money from postage expenses, we would like to send this newsletter by e-mail to as many as possible.

If you would be willing to participate, please send your e-mail address to us, either by mail to the Mission office address or by e-mail to cbookout@hcm.org.

Hisportic Christian Mission

4815 FM 2351 Road, Suite 207
Friendswood, TX 77546

Office: 281-482-3800
FAX: 281-482-3802

Carl Bookout, Executive Director
E-mail: cbookout@hcm.org
Website: www.hcm.org

Enabling Missions-minded Christians to evangelize and plant churches among Portuguese-speaking peoples in America and beyond.

