

1 week ago

Dirty Hands and Petit Gâteau: Brazil Day 21 AIM Newsletter



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Finally reunited with some of my wonderful friends!

Today marks Day 23 of being in Brazil as an Associate in Missions. I started typing this newsletter on Day 20, but finding the time to sit down and think doesn't happen often.



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When praying about Brazil in 2016, God reminded me of a song that says,

"It's time to get our hands dirty. Be love there's a whole lot of hurting."

My first week here was very laid back--I was able to unpack and settle in while spending a lot of time trying to get used to the 4 hour time difference. I was able to reconnect with the amazing people that I met when I was here in October, including my sweet friend/translator Flavia, and so many other familiar faces. I spent a couple of days painting with my friend/neighbor, Helen, and her husband Gil, (the paint DID NOT wash off) and cleaning around the property. We had regular weekly church services, and I was even asked to preach for the youth service. I began to notice new faces that weren't here in March, as we would go to church services on Sunday and Wednesday, and even to the youth service. **God is working in such a way that even as the Cooper family is on deputation, the church here in Mairinque has continued to grow!**

At the beginning of my second week, we started a twice-weekly English class for both beginner and intermediate students. I am teaching the intermediate class of one student, and we have been focusing on vocabulary review, sentence structure, pronunciation, and other things like that.



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English Class: Night 1



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Those of you that follow me on social media have probably already read my testimony about how God has taught me, the person that talks 24/7 (even in my sleep), that communication, friendship, and love is so much more than just words. I have learned that showing love and building relationships can be done in many more ways than just by speaking. If you want to learn about who someone is, sometimes it takes more effort than just asking questions. This is true for my sweet friend, Paula, the church/Bible school/orphanage administrator (basically--Wonder/Super Woman). She has kept me supplied with food, taken me to run errands (she is my transportation), answered questions, and so much more while I have been here, but even more than that, we have laughed and cried, and shared some exciting moments. But--she doesn't speak English. And I barely speak Portuguese.

The second and third weeks, I have spent much of my time filming, photographing, and writing about the families that the Jubilee Orphanage has impacted over the last few years in an effort to update the website, Facebook page, and create an Instagram profile. I have compiled testimonials of two individuals and three families that Jubilee has been a Place of Refuge to over the last few years, along with photos of the things that Jubilee has been able to bless them with because of people that have supported such a great cause. Please visit www.jubileeorphanage.org/donate to make a donation TODAY!

Many people from my home church and my place of employment were kind enough to donate some clothes and other items for two of the families, and getting to share the moment when the children received their gifts was so rewarding. Thank you to those that gave--these children were forever impacted. One mother said that her daughter asked when they would be buying her backpack for school. The mother told the child, "God will provide." And provide, He did! All the way in the USA, a family from my church purchased 5 backpacks, two of which went to this family. Today, Jubilee Orphanage purchased school supplies for the two families below, along with another family from the church here in



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Mairinque. These are real people who are servants who are giving back to Jubilee with their time. As Jubilee blesses them, they never cease to give back.



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"God will provide." And He did.



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One of the neat things I have come to love about the Brazilian culture is that they LOVE to cook and eat. Cooking is a group effort--when expecting guests, everyone pitches in to cook together, and when visiting someone, it is their custom to bring a cake or bread. Being that I live on the São Paulo District Campgrounds, I was able to help cook dinner for the district leaders a few weeks ago. And by cook, I mean juice the oranges for the orange juice. A few days later, I decided to try my hand at baking Petit Gâteau. It turned out fairly well, and I was able to share it and coffee with some of the wonderful administration staff that makes the world go-round here in Mairinque. It must have tasted fairly well because I think they each ate three.



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Coffee & Petit Gâteau after a long morning of work!

It would take me somewhere around 20 pages to write everything that has happened over the last three weeks, but I will end with a few thank-yous. When God gave me a burden for Jubilee Orphanage two years ago, He also placed so many people in my life that I shared my burden with and they, in turn, began to feel the same burden. Three of those have been very instrumental in helping with fundraisers for Jubilee. Daniel & Samantha Wilson hosted a clothing party in my home through their business, Samantha Wilson LuLa Roe, and Daniel donated many ties through his non-profit business, Mission Men Ties, and were able to make substantial donations to Jubilee. This Valentine's Day, my sweet friend JoyBeth and her family baked, decorated, and sold hundreds of gourmet cookies to raise money for Jubilee. Through these individuals, we will be able to reach out to so many more families. Jubilee is counting on people like them--people like YOU!

Thank you for your continued support--only eternity will tell what impact your giving has made on the lives of others.

Thank you, and God bless!

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Katie Rhoads, L-COTA



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Brazil: AIM2go

Posted 1 week ago by [Katie Rhoads](#)

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