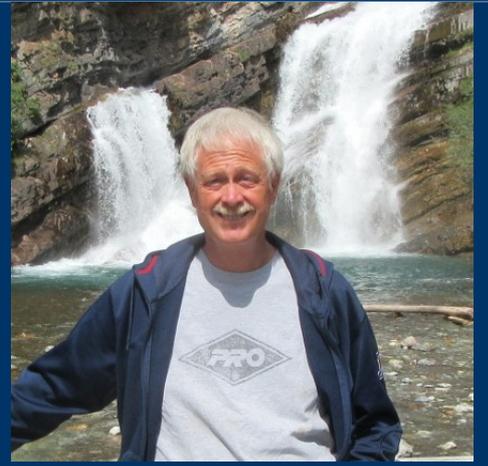


Bits from Bill

Using Information Technology to Help Bring the Word of God
to the Indigenous Peoples of Brazil

June, 2017



Upcoming Retreat

Next month, we will be having our annual SIL Brazil get-together. This year, instead of a business-oriented Conference, we are planning on having more of a spiritual retreat, a chance to get some good teaching and recharge our batteries. I'm looking forward to the chance not only to have the Retreat, but to also see other SIL Brazil members that live in other parts of the country. Pray that God would use this time for us as a team to grow together.

After our Retreat I am planning to do a bit of traveling to a couple of other Brazilian states and see some friends. Along with the Retreat, this will be a great opportunity to get away for a few weeks!

SIL Brazil Web Site

Since its inception, the SIL Brazil web site has undergone several major face-lifts. I was the creator of its first two incarnations, back when we still had a center in Cuiabá. After the move to Anápolis, we decided that it needed the attention of a graphic artist (my work is functional, not artistic), and our Graphics Department gave it a major overhaul.

Recently, the SIL International site coordinators made some decisions. First, they decided that all entity sites would have a common appearance theme. Second, they chose to use a new platform to better facilitate site design.

A developmental version of the SIL Brazil site is now on-line. While not available to the public yet, the coordinators have opened it up to people like me, so that we can add content and translate it into the national languages of the countries we work in.

The Drupal platform is fairly easy to use and quite flexible. After an hour of training, I was able to start adding and editing pages. The result is very professional looking. We still have some more work to do, but expect to launch the new version of our site in August.

Trip to Anápolis

I recently made a one week visit to our office in Anápolis. During that time I helped with some issues there, especially related to our network server. We are in the process of moving the data on it to Google Drive.

And while I was there, I was able to get rid of a lot of unnecessary furniture that I had left in storage for two years!

Network and Internet Improvement

Since my last newsletter, we have continued to make progress with improving the network infrastructure here at the ALEM center. We had a number of issues with the new Internet provider, but have managed to largely resolve them. We now have connectivity in most parts of the center. At the time of writing this newsletter, we are waiting for the arrival of several new pieces of equipment to hopefully complete the coverage around the entire center.

We give thanks to God for providing the resources to get this done. Please continue to pray as we continue with this project.

ALEM Linguistics Course

The second module of the Linguistics course is taking place. There are a total of 7 students; a low number, but sufficient to continue. Only one of them is actually planning on becoming a member of ALEM. Another is planning on working in international relations. Others either already have a specific calling from the LORD, or are seeking His direction. All of them are committed to serving Him.

The academic course will finish in August. Please be praying for these people as they then go on to serve God in whatever capacity that He calls them to.



Linguistics Students in Class

Prayer

- Quality time at our Retreat.
- Safe travels after Retreat.
- Finishing the new SIL Brazil web site and getting it on-line.
- Finishing the remaining work on the ALEM network infrastructure.
- Guidance for the Linguistics students still seeking God's direction.

Praise

- The new SIL Brazil web site, and the easy-to-use Drupal platform.
- Being able to get rid of unnecessary stuff!
- Progress with the ALEM Internet and network infrastructure improvements.
- The students taking the second module of the Linguistics course.

May the Lord keep you and those whom you love in peace, in His loving hands...

Bill

⁵Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6

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