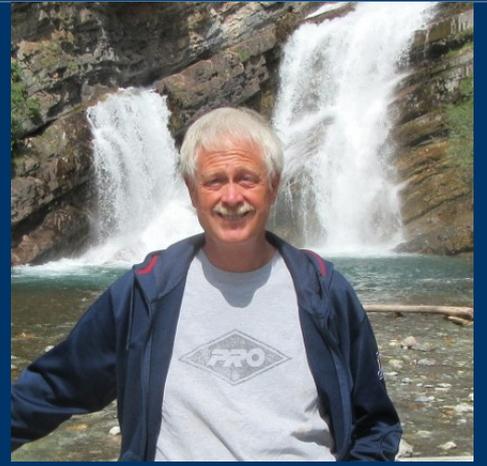


Bits from Bill

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

June, 2018



SIL Brazil Conference

It's June, and that means that SIL Brazil Conference is coming up. In the past, this took place every other year. In recent years, we have moved to having it annually. However, every other year is actually a Retreat, designed more for spiritual growth and refreshment. This was what we had last year. This year, we will be having the full slate of business meetings.

Nevertheless, we will still have our usual devotional speaker to bring us inspirational messages. And it is still an opportunity to reconnect with members from remote locations in this huge country that I normally don't get to see. Overall, Conference is still a vital part of our work here in Brazil. Please pray that every one of us would receive a blessing from the messages, and that the Holy Spirit would guide our business discussions.

Mother Tongue Translator Course

In my last Prayer & Praise Update, I shared that, for the first time since we began holding the MTT course, I would not be participating in a module. The entity hosting the first module already has an adequate IT staff, and the students do not receive their computers until the second module, so the leadership decided that travel and housing resources would be better spent on the students instead.

However, as soon as this module is over, my work for the second module will begin. We will have an accurate head count of students who will need computers, and so we will begin the process of ordering these computers right away. They will be delivered to the ALEM center here in Brasilia, where I will receive them and then set each one of them up for an individual student. Then, in January, I will take them with me when I drive over to the second module, which will be held at the Ami Bible School as before.

Please pray for the students, as well as for the staff. Pray for safe travel, for health, and that the material would be clearly taught and understood. There is a wide variation in the level of understanding of Portuguese among the students; it is a second language for all of them. Pray that they would be able to grasp the concepts involved in translation. And pray for the facilitators who work with them as a "bridge" between their cultures and the Biblical concepts which are foreign to many of them.

Office Move

As I mentioned in my last newsletter, the administration here at the ALEM center had rearranged some of the office space. Some time after that, they informed me that I would be moving as well.

Fortunately, my move was not very far—only across the hall. But I had to take everything off of—and out of—my desk. Everything off the shelves. Disconnect everything and move it over, then set it up again. Altogether, it took a couple of days to get everything moved and completely back up and running again.

On a positive note, the move was a great opportunity to go through the stuff sitting on shelves and throw out quite a bit of junk that would never be used. I was able to reorganize things and make better use of space.

And best of all, my desk now sits next to a window, so I have access to fresh air all day!

Financial Situation

As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, I will be needing to make up a financial shortfall during my next furlough. By God's grace, part of that has already been provided. During the next year, I will be able to refine the estimate of the total lack. Please do keep praying! God owns everything in this vast universe, but He wants us to communicate with Him, more than anything else.



Bill in New Office

Prayer

- For our time at the SIL Brazil Conference, that it would be a blessing, and that business would be conducted in obedience to the Holy Spirit.
- For the MTT staff and students; for health and safety in travels, and for understanding of the material.
- To be able to clearly define my financial need, so that I can set a goal to trust the LORD to reach.

Praise

- For the opportunity to “reconnect” at Conference, for the devotional speaker, and for all who are coming to help out.
- For the indigenous students who will be taking time out of their busy lives to participate in the MTT course.
- For completing the move to a new office.
- For those whom God has already called to be a part of my financial team.

May this summer be a time of blessing and refreshment, and seeing the beauty of God's handiwork...

Bill

Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

I John 3:2

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