



Dear Friends—

October 27, 2018

Each year, Brazil River of Life Ministries is asked to submit annual reports and financial data for various supporting churches. Because you have been a part of this ministry, we want to make sure you stay informed of the details as well. So, we've merged the Q&A's from a couple reports to give you a snapshot of all that is going on in the Portuguese-speaking world through BROLM.

We cannot tell you how much you mean to this ministry. Your prayers, giving, and encouragement are vital to God's kingdom work.

Many blessings to you and yours this Thanksgiving season!

LeAnne Blackmore  
BROLM Secretary

P.S. Jeff and Monica will be in the U.S.A. November 7 - December 14. Their schedule, as of today's date, looks like this:

Nov 6	Leave Brazil
Nov 7	Arrive Tri Cities, TN
Nov 11	First Christian Church, Johnson City, TN — Mission Booth / Prayer
Nov 11-18	Cincinnati, OH — ICOM 2018
Nov 19-24	Thanksgiving Week — Family Time
Nov 25	Seymour Heights Christian Church, Seymour, TN — Presentation; Missions Mtg
Dec 1	Drive to Bumpass, VA
Dec 2	Bethany Christian Church, Bumpass, VA — Preach 2 Services; Speak in S.S.
Dec 3	First Christian Church, Johnson City, TN — Missions Team Mtg
Dec 4	Johnson City, TN — BROLM Board Meeting
Dec 8	Fly to Dallas, TX
Dec 9	Cornerstone Christian Church, Dallas, TX
Dec 9-11	Kansas City — ICOM 2019 Meetings
Dec 11	Fly to Johnson City, TN
Dec 14	Return to Brazil

## 2018 ANNUAL MISSIONARY REPORT

### NAME:

BROLM — Brazil River of Life Ministries (Jeff & Monica Fife)

### MAILING ADDRESS / CONTACT INFO:

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**BOARD MEMBERS:**

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Secretary: LeAnne Blackmore ([bmore@comcast.net](mailto:bmore@comcast.net))

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**MISSION FIELD AND PEOPLE GROUP:**

Portuguese-Speaking World (Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, East Timor, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, São Tome and Principe, Portugal, and USA)

**MINISTRY MISSION STATEMENT:**

Mission: Reach the Portuguese-Speaking world for Jesus Christ so they can reach the rest of the world.

Vision: Reach the lost through Evangelism, Mentor and Equip through Discipleship, Plant New Churches, Provide Assistance and Justice where needed.

**IN THE PAST YEAR, NON-CHRISTIAN INDIVIDUALS THAT HAVE BECOME CHRISTIAN INDIVIDUALS AS A RESULT OF THE WORK WITH WHICH GOD HAS ENTRUSTED BROLM:**

Over 200

**HOW LONG SERVING ON THIS FIELD:**

Monica and I have been serving in the Portuguese-Speaking World together for 30 years. BROLM been serving this same people group since 2001.

**ORIGINAL TIME COMMITMENT TO THIS MINISTRY AND CURRENT TIME COMMITMENT TO THIS MINISTRY:**

Our original commitment to this ministry is for life and it continues to be for life.

**HOW IS GOD CURRENTLY WORKING THROUGH YOUR MINISTRY AND WHAT WERE YOUR PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST YEAR?****GOD'S WORK THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF THE PAST YEAR:**

1. BROLM is accomplishing its goals through evangelism, discipleship (personal discipleship and "Hands On" Bible College) and new church plants, promoting social work and justice where needed.
2. During this year BROLM promoted an average of 3 evangelistic outreaches per month throughout the churches that BROLM has planted in the Southeast, Midwest and Northeast Brazil.
2. BROLM offers monthly discipleship materials to all the BROLM churches and to many other Christian Churches throughout the Portuguese-Speaking World.
3. The "Hands On" Bible College is being offered at 4 BROLM congregations in the Southeast, 1 in the Midwest, 1 in the north, and 1 in the Northeast. BROLM coordinates the "Hands On" Bible College in Mozambique and Portugal.
4. BROLM did help plant the church in Areias, Recife. This church is doing very well and it is totally autonomous.
5. All the BROLM Churches are growing and at the same time, BROLM is preparing new teams to plant future new churches.
6. Jeff and Monica have invested their time in strengthening the leadership at the local churches. Thus they have promoted several leadership training events, they visited all the churches and are encouraged to see each of them growing.
7. BROLM has been giving assistance to the work in Mozambique since 2003 where they will celebrate 22 years of ministry in Oct 2018. The churches in Mozambique continue growing. At the present there are 94 churches planted with over 2000 members. The grade school has over 1000 students. The Hope Home has the boys and girls homes with about 100 children.
8. Jeff is also pastoring two local churches, Pirituba and Bom Retiro. New pastors are currently being trained to pastor these and other churches through the "Hands On" Bible College.
9. BROLM promoted the fifth National Leadership Summit in September 2018 where Eric Barry, Tim Stapleton and Sergio Santos from Team Expansion trained over 60 leaders from the BROLM Churches to make disciples. The training is called Jonathan Training and it is part of DMM (Disciple Making Movement). Shepherd Church, CA, through their 30 City Initiative - Impacting the World's Megacities (This year, Shepherd Church is showing the love of Christ to 30

megacities—cities with 10 million+ people) funded the training in Sao Paulo. The Metropolitan Region of São Paulo, also known as Greater São Paulo, is the largest metropolitan region in Brazil, with about 21.5 million inhabitants, and one of the ten most populous metropolitan regions in the world. We thank Shepherd Church and pastor Dudley Rutherford for their generosity.

10. BROLM was blessed purchasing almost 6 acres of land to build a retreat/camp and we are working on approving construction plans. We need US \$120,000 for the first phase and we have already raised US \$36,000. The whole retreat estimate cost is US \$500,000.

#### DESCRIBE YOUR OUTREACH TO AND WORK WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND CHURCHES:

BROLM churches do several outreaches monthly.

We reach children, adolescents, youth, ladies, men, and couples, families throughout specific programs at the local churches and also on the streets.

Every Sunday we reach the homeless by serving them breakfast on the streets and we gather them at square and they are evangelized. The homeless are invited to come to the evening services (our Sunday services are in the evening, many do come—we serve them dinner) and many have given their lives to Christ. We have helped many homeless go back to their families, get jobs, and be restored among society and most importantly—restore their relationship with Christ.

Through a joint effort between the church and the health department, every Friday we offer Blood Pressure Measurement, Dextrose Control, Quick HIV, Syphilis and Hepatitis Testing for the community. We focus on a monthly theme (Sept Yellow Suicide Awareness, Oct Pink Breast Cancer Awareness, Nov Blue Prostate Cancer Awareness and etc.).

BROLM offers the Hands On Bible College at the BROLM Churches and we have several students from other churches. Actually, many pastors that did not have the opportunity to study and were ordained by their denominations, are studying with us.

Our services are streamed live online and we have thousands of views all over the globe. We also have received many messages from sick people in their homes and hospitals that live in our community thanking us for the service and how much it encourages them.

The BROLM churches have several gatherings during the year with all churches gathering at one of the churches to celebrate and encourage each other.

I (Jeff) meet with the pastors of each BROLM church once a month, with all of them together every three months and we have a Leadership Summit for all the church leaders once a year.

These are just a few ways that we do outreach and work with the local community and churches.

#### PERSONAL HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST YEAR:

Monica and I are very happy to see our sons growing and maturing, however more important, it has been to see their commitment with the Lord!

Isaac started his junior year at Johnson University this fall. He came to Brazil for his second internship this summer and it was a great blessing. Isaac preached, led worship, did Communion and Offering Mediations and worked with the youth groups. His commitment with the Kingdom is contagious!

Roger is studying and working in the USA.

Overall, the biggest highlight in our personal lives is to be found by God to be worthy, and it is He that makes us worthy, to work for Him in His Kingdom! In spite of us, He is merciful and He uses us for his honor and glory!

God has blessed us tremendously to see so many souls reached for Christ and His kingdom growing. It is an honor to be used by God in His Kingdom!

#### TYPE(S) OF MINISTRY:

Evangelism, Church Planting, Equipping/Discipling, Missionary Assistance, Benevolence, Missionary Preparation, Translation Services, Counseling and Short Term Missions.

#### DESCRIBE YOUR TYPICAL DAY AND PRIMARY MINISTRY ACTIVITIES:

In the mission field there are no typical days, however here are some of the things we are sure to do every day:

Devotional (Prayer and Bible Reading).

Teaching and Sermon preparations.

Contact Church Leaders and Members.

Answer e-mails and other correspondences.

### Family Time.

Here are some other activities:

Every Sunday – Preach at Bom Retiro and Pirituba Churches.

Every Monday – Teach at “Hands On” Bible College at Pirituba.

Every Tuesday – Day Off.

Every Wednesday – Discipleship at Pirituba

One Thursday per month – Discipleship at Campo Limpo Paulista.

One Thursday per month – Discipleship at Jundiai.

One Saturday per month – Teach at “Hands On” Bible College at Sao Mateus.

Once a month meet personally with the church pastors.

Every couple months – Teach Thursday, Friday and Saturday at “Hands On” Bible College at Palmas, TO.

Every three months – Meet with all church leaders (pastors, elders and ministries leaders).

### DESCRIBE HOW YOU TAKE TIME FOR YOUR OWN PERSONAL GROWTH:

1. Daily Bible reading and devotions—this is the first thing of the day...without this we cannot sustain ministry.
2. Read the whole Bible once and the New Testament twice—this is a practice we have maintained for several years.
3. Read books on evangelism, leadership, church planting, and counseling.
4. Take time off for a personal retreat at least twice a year.
5. Take one day off per week to refresh.
6. Attend the national gathering of pastors of the Christian Churches in Brasilia.

### WHAT MARKERS HAVE YOU USED OVER THE PAST YEAR TO MEASURE YOUR MINISTRY'S EFFECTIVENESS? HOW WELL HAS YOUR MINISTRY MET THESE MARKERS? PLEASE EXPLAIN.

The markers we use to measure our ministry effectiveness are:

1. God's approval – Everything we do is first presented to God in prayer, as we pray we ask God to show us where He is working so we can put our hands with His. When God opens the doors providing the volunteers to do the work and the resources we know that He is approving.
2. People to be reached, baptized and disciplined - For each congregation we set tangible goals and as we start to do our part through evangelism we see the Holy Spirit do His work of saving souls in our midst and the churches have grown. We try not to focus only on numbers, but on lives transformed by God's grace; thus we work in discipling.
3. Hands On Bible College – We have set a goal to have a HOBC at each congregation and we have seen this goal happen before our eyes, with more students at each location.
4. Church Plant – We focus on planting new churches that will grow to become strong congregations that are ready to plant other new congregations. After moving back full time to Brazil in 2015 we have concentrated on helping make these congregations stronger and God has given the blessing to see them grow stronger with vision for the future every day.

### GOALS AND VISION FOR THE NEXT YEAR:

1. Continue to help the local congregations and future church plants evangelistic outreach.
2. Continue to produce monthly discipleship material for the local congregations and other churches throughout the Portuguese-Speaking World.
3. Continue to offer the “Hands On” Bible College at the local congregations in Brazil, Mozambique, and Portugal. The goal is to offer the “Hands On” Bible College at all BROLM Churches; for this to become a reality we are training new teachers.
4. Promote leadership training by visiting the local churches and encouraging them.
5. Promote the sixth national Leadership Summit.
6. Start 20 new Small Groups.
7. Work as ICOM 2019 president.
8. Raise funds and start building the retreat/camp.

### PERSONAL HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST YEAR:

Our personal highlight is the fact to be found by God worthy to work in His Kingdom.

Even though Monica has so many health limitations, it is great to see her commitment with the Kingdom and always looking forward to what God has next.

God has given us health—especially spiritually and mentally.

To see our sons, Roger and Isaac serving the Lord and willingness to come to Brazil and add to God's Kingdom!

#### CURRENT FURLOUGH PLANS:

Monica and I will be in the USA from Nov 07 to Dec 14, 2018.

#### CURRENT PRAYER NEEDS, FAMILY NEEDS, AND FINANCIAL NEEDS:

- Please, pray for Monica's health. She has had many health problems through the years and she has had many of the same symptoms that she used to have before she had the brain tumor removed in 2008.
- Pray for our sons Roger and Isaac who are studying in the USA. Roger feels that his calling is teaching and he is being prepared for that and Isaac has a calling for missions and he is being prepared for that.
- Pray that God will give me (Jeff) wisdom to do His will and lead the ministry among the Portuguese-Speaking World with good health for His honor and glory.
- Please, pray for each church and church leaders for God to give them wisdom to do His will.
- We are in many ways attacked by Satan. The battles are many, but we know that Satan and his kingdom are defeated in Jesus name. We all need to keep our focus as we have seen his big trick is to take us off course attempting to change our focus. Thus we need your prays to "deliver us from the evil one".
- To launch the "Hands On" Bible College at other local churches in Brazil and to keep the "Hands On" Bible College in all the locations in Brazil, Portugal, and Mozambique we need \$10,000 per year.
- To build the first phase of the retreat/camp we need to raise \$120,000. This first phase will make it possible to accommodate 100 campers.

#### IN REGARDS TO YOUR FINANCES, PLEASE SUMMARIZE HOW YOU HAVE MANAGED YOUR BUDGET THIS PAST YEAR AND SHARE ANY PRESSING NEEDS THAT YOU HAVE AT THIS TIME.

God has provided throughout this year in a way that we have met most of our 2018 budget, however, we will only use the resources as God provides them. As we work to be good stewards, we control the ministry expenses so we are never in the red. God has blessed us with great supporters and with great people that help us manage the resources that He has provided, and we are very conscious in using these resources for His honor and glory.

BROLM 2019 Yearly Budget for the ministry in Brazil, "Hands On" Bible College, Mozambique, Operations, Living, and Mission Trips is \$83,400.00. If the supporters that have supported BROLM in 2018 continue with their regular support in 2019, between churches and individuals that support the ministry in Brazil and Mozambique, we have committed \$64,716.00. Furthermore, for BROLM to reach its goal for 2019, we need an additional 28.87% OR \$18,684.00 IN SUPPORT.

BROLM is planning to begin building the Retreat Center in Brazil in 2019. The estimated cost is \$120,000.00 and we have received \$36,598.50 so far.