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**inTouch**

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The Voice of Evangelical Action (Brazil)



# The New Generation

Members of Patos Church are working with 22 teenagers, called the New Generation, who used to go to our Action School.

They all come from poor families around the school. Our team do different activities with them on Saturday mornings, plus hold a service on a Wednesday evenings as a way of evangelizing them – one of them has made a decision for the Lord.

Recently our team took them to the only Home for Elderly People in Patos which is near the school. There the youngsters served breakfast (toast, crackers, fruit bread, and milk, orange or pineapple juice) and followed that with a short service and praying with individuals if they asked for it.

It was a blessed morning, and the members of the New Generation learnt a lot about having the right attitude to serve and love others.

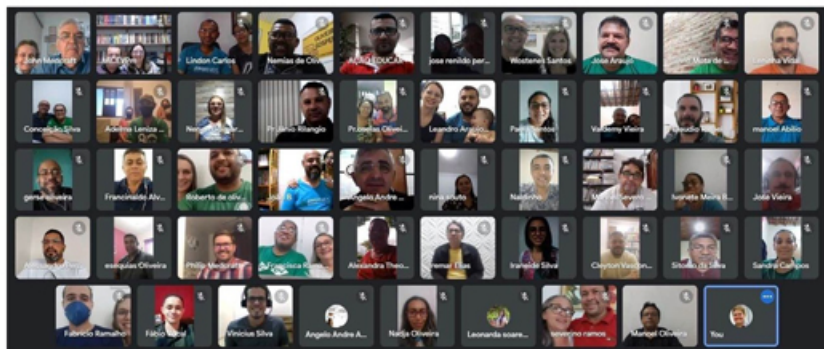


## Annual Pastors meetings 2022

ACEV (EAB's sister organisation in Brazil) held its 84th National Convention, on the Green Pastures Reserve, in São Mamede. The meeting brought together leaders and representatives from all our 89 churches.

In this face-to-face meeting, the first of its kind since the beginning of the pandemic, thematic topics were discussed with financial reports, the progress of ecclesiastical work and the projects developed with the local churches, in addition to questions on internal administration. During the consecration service at the end of Conference three new pastors were ordained.

Ultimately, Pastor John Medcraft's 50 years of ministry was honoured and celebrated for his dedication and impactful ministry throughout that time, not only in ACEV, but in society at large. Pastor John's example of leadership and pastoral ministry were highlighted. They have been decisive to the formation of new leaders and in the persistent work of spreading the gospel in the country as a whole.



# Action Schools Are Growing

By faith we are launching our 16th EAB Action school at the very needy village of Água Grande where we found the children could not read or write properly.

The children will be truly blessed by having the support of an EAB school to help them keep up with pupils from the government school in the town. The leader there is Sandra Nogueira from the local church. Please pray for this new venture.

EAB's Action Child schools are growing all the time with well over 700 pupils between the ages of 4 to 12 years when they go to the Secondary School. Each child, no matter how poor, receives free extra help with their education. This will enable each child not just to be able to read, write and be able to do simple sums, but will receive encouragement, individual help, a meal, sports activities, social events, as well as being taught about Jesus.

We run a Schools Sponsorship scheme where supporters can donate a one-off gift or a regular payment of any amount, and that will go to support the schools so that we can give positive help to more children. Supporters who choose this option and receive a newsletter 3 or 4 times a year.

Child sponsorship is available at £20 a month. You will have a named child and are encouraged to write to them. Twice a year you will receive a letter from them, photos of them from their school, as well as a note from their teacher, and the newsletter about the schools.

We believe that giving a poor child a quality education can change their lives.



If you want to join either scheme or have any queries, please contact Marian Rashleigh, details are on the back page.



## PROJECTS

José Anderson, Iramar (wife) and Helena (mother) at Sipó community in Santana de Mangueira County are new recipients of EAB's market garden project. They are very happy and very grateful.

God is good and helps people help themselves.

We are also working on the 4-Legs goat rearing project in a variety of communities and on another toilet/shower unit at Barra de Oitis.

# 50 Years Of Serving God

by John Medcraft

50 years serving God in Brazil is a lifetime. I have lived in Brazil for more than double the time that I lived in the UK.

When I left England on August 2nd, 1972 my father asked me to phone when we got to Patos to let them know we were alright. Well, I tried by using the one public phone and I shouted as best I could. In the end I gave up and decided to send a telegram.

Today there are more mobile phones than people in Brazil.

When I arrived here there were no supermarkets, but today there are many of them in Patos. The road from Patos up the mountain to Teixeira and all the way to Princesa Isabel and Manaira was an earth track full of craters and holes. Today it is tarmacked.

So too have the churches and church leaders developed a tremendous amount. We today have 89 churches and 71 registered church pastors and leaders. God has blessed mightily, and we give Him all the glory. These churches have given over 300 wells to very poor and thirsty communities. "The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy". (Psalm 126:3)

Now we press on for the glory of God. While we have health and strength we will continue to preach and practice the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We shall also continue to equip young ministers to further spread the good news of Jesus.



# Covid in Brazil

Like most other places all around the world, Brazil has been in the grip of the Covid pandemic.

Businesses were running on fewer staff and some even closed down as they had so many off sick with Covid. Some of our churches cancelled their services. Across our churches all were affected and some people were so ill they were in intensive care.

When the third wave of Covid Omicron hit us this year our own services in Patos were low in numbers. We even found it difficult to get a worship team together sometimes! During all this time we were having Zoom meetings on computers and not mixing face to face.

This all went well and saved our pastors hours of travelling time!

Gradually the situation became increasingly serious again and it looked like we might have to cancel the Carnival Camp due to be held in a month's time.

In the end we decided to cancel holding the camp and have it over the Easter weekend if possible. Thankfully this went ahead and was enjoyed by all who attended.

As the weeks passed the situation in Brazil became much better and we were able to hold our General Conference for pastors and their families in May at Green Pastures. Since then things have improved further and when Patos had zero cases it was good to be back in church without masks!

By July Covid was back on the increase in Patos, and schools asked for masks to be worn again by their students and teachers. We were all back to wearing masks in church.

Now the Covid situation is much better in Patos. Church is back to normal with caution. Cases of Covid are milder and at a low ebb.



## Youth Sports

The youth at the Patos Church invited the youth of our churches in Juazeirinho, Passagem, Green Pastures Reserve, Ibiara and Teixeira to a weekend of sports events. It was a great time of sport competitions which concluded with teaching called 'Until I overflow' as the theme, based on Ephesians 5:18.



## Soccer

Green Pastures soccer team won their championship match in São Mamede. Note that many of them are bare-footed!



# Green Pastures Tour

John often gives tours around Green Pastures for school children so they can appreciate God's creation.

One recent tour was for first year senior students from Cristo Rei College run by Roman Catholic nuns. The Environmental Police came along to explain their work in finding illegally captive animals and birds, and releasing on approved Wildlife Centres such as Green Pastures. They brought along a stuffed wild cat similar to ones that are living on the Reserve.

The students were exceptionally polite, well-behaved and very interested in the work among the animals, insects and birds at the reserve.



## Travessia Outreach

A special intensive evangelistic weekend was held at the village of Travessia in the County of Manaira. It was one weekend taking in the Friday through to the Sunday. Our churches of Manaira and Caróá joined together for the event.

Good crowds gathered to hear the Gospel and much personal evangelism was done too. Three people made commitments to Jesus Christ over the weekend. Please pray that these new Christians may become strong in the faith.



# Festas Juninas

Festas Juninas, a celebration of the nativity of St. John the Baptist, is the annual Brazilian celebration which marks the end of summer and the beginning of the harvest.

The typical clothes worn at the Festa Junina are inspired by vintage rural fashion as the themes of harvest and rain are central to the festivities. Those attending the festivals are treated to typical Brazilian food, will dress up like farmers and their wives, enjoy bonfires and dance the quadrilha, a popular traditional dance of the region, which are without a doubt the highlight of the Festa Junina. Our children at the Green Pastures Action School held their own celebration.



## WELLS

During 2022 we hope to have drilled or dug 3 wells to help people who have no easy access to clean water.

It is not always easy – when there are heavy rains drilling rigs would sink in the mud and get stuck! However this does not deter us from making plans.

Our projects team has held another meeting recently with the community leaders at Santo Agostinho in Teixeira County with the possibility of us drilling a well there.

The community has 164 families with 156 women, 156 men and 112 children. They stand in great need of a permanent clean water supply. Santo Agostinho is 18 km from the town of Teixeira up in the mountains. It is an area which is difficult to hit water in when drilling. Please pray.



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## Christmas Gift Card Scheme

Accompanying this edition of InTouch are copies of the Christmas Gift Scheme with some new items you might like to support. Perhaps you could order some items as Christmas presents for special friends and family?

You will receive a card for each gift you order, to give to your friends and family so they know what has been donated to bless those in great need.

Last year we raised £6,030 for the various projects. It would be wonderful if we could match this sum this year!

Photocopies of the form will be honoured, as will orders emailed to [missionmr@ntlworld.com](mailto:missionmr@ntlworld.com) when the correct finance is sent through the bank to our account at Lloyds Bank, Evangelical Action Brazil, Sort Code: 30-91-85  
Acct number: 02385564



# Make a difference with EAB

If you would like to make a donation towards the work of EAB, please send your cheques made payable to 'Evangelical Action Brazil' to Mrs Beryl Gough, 6 The Glade, Langley, Southampton SO45 1ZP.

Alternatively, if you want to make a direct payment from your bank, our banking details are:

Lloyds - Account Name: Evangelical Action Brazil  
Sort Code: 30-91-85 / Acc No: 02385564

If you use this option please email [eabfinance@gmail.com](mailto:eabfinance@gmail.com) giving brief details of the donation. Donations can be made online at [www.eabrazil.org](http://www.eabrazil.org). Any gift, no matter how small is greatly appreciated and will be used to further God's work in Brazil. If you are a UK tax payer and would like to 'Gift Aid' your donation, please ask Beryl for a form. Thank You!

LEGACIES: If you are interested in leaving EAB some money, or gifts, in your will please contact the treasurer (her details are on the left) and ask for the legacy details.