



inTouch

MAY 2024
Edition 101

The Voice of Evangelical Action (Brazil)



60+ MOVEMENT

Pastor Lindon Carlos, and our social worker Marah Danielle, travelled with John to the National Meeting of the 60+ Movement.

This Conference is an interdenominational movement to make churches aware that Brazil has an ageing population and need to cater for the over-60s and not just the youth. The movement also seeks to make over-60s aware of the great use they can be in the work of God.

The Movement is made up of a group of Christians with different professional and ecclesiastical experiences who seek to share the vision, that even in old age we can serve God with vigor and enthusiasm by putting our previously acquired experiences and skills to serve the Kingdom, through individual initiatives or holistic support and care groups for individuals, families and communities; in addition to engagement in church, social, educational, cultural and environmental projects.

John was one of the speakers and our Social's Project Co-ordinator, Marah Danielle, had the opportunity to present a little about the present Social projects, and the new ones we are developing at our churches in the outback.

One thing which became clear was that our work with the over-60s was the oldest work of its kind amongst all the churches represented at the conference. We have been doing this work for 17 years.



Pink and Blue

The Brazilian charity, Breast Cancer Now, was encouraging everyone to wear pink to raise money and raise awareness. At a service in the Patos church Analise, a retired nurse, gave a short talk to the women who were dressed in pink.

A month later there was a blue campaign against prostate cancer. This time nurse Liliane gave a 5 minute talk encouraging the men to have regular checks for prostate cancer and many in church dressed in blue in accordance with the campaign.



Tavares OUTREACH

People came from many churches to join the special 10-day outreach to the town of Tavares and there were over 90 in the team.

The team stayed in the local school and after devotions and prayer each morning they went out praying, praising and ministering the word of the Lord over the city. During the next few days they visited every house in the town, as well as the villages of the nearby villages of Belem and Jurema.

They also held special meetings for children each day. Evening services were held in the public square of the town centre, close to the market, or in the street outside the church.

On the final day the team spent the morning doing social action. They did free haircuts, brush, wash and moisturise hair, manicure, makeup, blood sugar test, pressure washing, massage and made candy floss for the children.

This was followed by a service in the evening where John preached.

During the 10 days 27 Bibles were distributed and 1,205 people were personally evangelized. There were 26 decisions for Christ and 4 people rededicated their lives to God. It was 10 days of hard work in the city and surrounding rural communities.

Already the follow-up meetings have begun. Please pray for the team at Tavares now being invited to go to homes to tell them more about Jesus.



Baptismal Service

One Sunday morning John baptised 14 people at Green Pastures with a good crowd of people who had travelled out from Patos. During the service he also prayed a blessing on a couple, Rogério and Samana, who wanted to renew their marriage vows on the day of their baptism.

After the service they all enjoyed a fellowship breakfast – everyone took something, and it was shared. During the evening service at the Patos church John received 15 people into fellowship including the 14 who had been baptised in the morning.



CARNIVAL CAMP

The 44th Carnival camp was held at Green Pastures with 166 participants for five days.

There were seven services based on 2 Timothy, expounded by different preachers. John and Pastor Lindon Carlos both preached twice, Pastor Rafael, Bible school graduate Murilo and Bible school student Sacha each preached once.

The whole camp was richly blessed with excellent teaching ministry and lovely praise and worship. At the same time as the services the children had their own sessions, during which they practiced their own song with actions, which they presented to the whole camp on the final evening.

There was plenty of time to meet up with friends, share meals, volleyball matches every afternoon, fun competitions, swimming, and games of table tennis, dominos, Uno, etc. The volleyball matches got quite heated at times, but they managed to keep things from boiling over!

The camp is a lot of work for the organizers, including Liz who has to shop for all the food, and the team of cooks who work around the clock preparing and serving the food.

The food was delicious this year and everyone was very grateful. They also ran a canteen where people could purchase extra pop drinks, ice creams and snacks.

The young people even made a short video about John managing to consume sugary ice cream without Liz finding out!

On the final night of the camp, they saw an abundance of scorpions, and unfortunately one of the young ladies was bitten by one. The pain was excruciating! She was taken to hospital to be checked out but was fine the next day.



Jurema

Jurema village in the county of Tavares is about a two-hour drive south-west of Patos where we are based.

For a number of years we have been working on planting a church in this village, but the going is very tough.

The village, which has no other gospel witness in it, is being pioneered by a young woman called Iraneide and we ask you to especially pray for her. Up till now only one woman and her son had come to the Lord there, but now a man called Jair has also made a commitment to Christ. Please pray.



BATHROOM FAMILY

Maria Madalena, her partner, Anderson, and their 3 children have for years used a couple of old curtains tied to their back fence as a bathroom.

Now, thanks to your donations, they had one of our concrete bathrooms built outside their mud and stick home in Barra de Oitis, an extremely poor village of descendants of former slaves.

Another family to receive a new bathroom in the same village was Jailma Luca dos Santos, her husband Severino and their son Yan.

Both families are over the moon with joy! It is a difficult job choosing which families can have one as the needs are so great but we can't do them for everyone, so we have to choose those in greatest need. When the bathrooms were completed there was a special thanksgiving service for the seven we have now built there recently. The service was jubilant and full of praise to God. The church band did well with a blind guitarist, a bass guitar, drums and keyboard led by 4 singers.

Afterwards everyone was served a slice of the lovely iced cake (the cook learnt from our pastor-cook Joao George!)



LIVE SERVICE FROM PATOS

Every Sunday night at 18:30 local time (21:30 GMT) our Patos church holds its main service of the week and this is transmitted via Facebook and YouTube. Do join us for the service via the links:

www.facebook.com/ACEVPatos

or via

www.youtube.com.br/acevpatos



Maria's Bathroom

Our projects team has been visiting families at Barra de Oitis as part of the selection process for the building of further toilet/shower units.

One lady they visited is 81 years old and has never had a toilet in her life! Instead, she had scavenged bits of wood, 2 sides of an old fridge and various bits of metal to make a private area where she can go to toilet and wash.

TEAMWORK

There was a meeting at the Patos Action School for their volunteers, plus ones from the Compassion project, with the aim of improving teamwork, communication and development of their teamwork skills when working with the children. Ms Thamires conducted the dynamic meeting and brought a Biblical reflection, which was greatly enjoyed and appreciated.



Ministry To The Deaf

EAB's sister charity in Brazil, ACEV, seeks to break social barriers that segregate people and social groups through actions promoting equality and equal rights.

That's why they developed the Project Signs, with the aim of promoting the basic training of interpreters in LIBRAS (Brazilian Sign Language), inclusion, assistance and instruction for the deaf.

The project also proposes the reduction of social barriers such as the inclusion of the deaf, proposing the development of bilingual spaces.

The results of this project are that in several of our churches there is a Ministry of Deaf and Interpreters, and interpretation of the worship.

FUNDRAISING

Our Campina Grande Church has been taking part in fundraising activities to raise money for their projects. It was an event that brought together many people, who were willing to walk, run and pedal, all of this for the benefit of our social project Action School, which helps children and adolescents in social vulnerability in our city of Campina Grande.

Even the children from our Action School at the church had their own walking race and enjoyed competing. It was also an opportunity for the worship group to attend and sing Christian songs to the crowds.



Many people in Brazil rely on donkeys for their work and transport.

They pull carts for when poorer people are moving house, collect rubbish, deliver goods, etc. Donkeys are the only means of transport for many people in the countryside as well as in towns.

Over the last year the majority of donkeys have been disappearing in Brazil and other South American countries. It would seem the reason is that demand for donkey hides for Chinese medicine has greatly increased, causing those already living in poverty much heartache as their donkeys are stolen to order, or they have to sell them to survive.

Already an African-wide ban is in place to stop the controversial donkey skin trade following the decimation of their donkey population.



Santa Inês Sheep

A beautiful hair sheep (a special breed of sheep that does not have a woollen coat so looks like a goat) of the Santa Inês breed was given to a needy family today in the Papagaio region of São Mamede county, near Green Pastures. Chaguinha, Conceição and their 4 children were very grateful.

Three more families also had a hair sheep given to them. All sheep had been vaccinated and instructions given on their care. This part of our 4-Legs project to help poor families who can now have milk, make cheese, and sell the surplus, plus start a breeding herd.

Not long afterwards a Gospel service was held at Chaguinha and Conceição's house and Conceição made a decision of commitment to Christ, and she was given a Bible. This is action and the Gospel working together. Thank you for your prayers and support.



Bible Distribution

The pastor of our church in Conceicao, Betinho, and one of his elders, Dede, attended a meeting of the Town Council where they presented 9 counsellors with Bibles.



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Evangelical Action Brazil ANNUAL CELEBRATION Saturday 19th October 2024

Lighthouse Community Church,
Hardley Green, Hardley,
Southampton SO45 3NZ

Tea at 6pm - Service at 7pm

It would be good to see you there!



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 giving brief details of the donation. Donations can be made online at 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.