

# Hannah and Tim

Serving Marginalised Communities in Brazil and South Sudan

# Latin Link

COMMUNITY WITH A CALLING

Dear friends,

## Feliz Ano Novo! Happy New Year!

We start the New Year still a little rundown from the last one, but in expectation of all God has for us. 2018 brings with it a new ministry and move to a new place; we expect to be starting work with quilombola communities by the mid-point of 2018.

This month we visited a recently recognised quilombola community close to our home. We observed the Catholic archbishop's visit to the community to hear residents' complaints how a large port is threatening the community. We were told that authorities use militias, backed by local police, to intimidate residents, tear down houses and prevent construction, and damage the local environment so that agriculture and fishing are not possible, aiming to drive residents off the land. Although we will not be working long-term with this particular community, please pray for them. Pray that the church would know how to respond, and for the weak to shame the strong.

You might not associate Brazil with cacti, but we saw plenty of them on our visit to 2 other quilombola communities. Custódia is a town of 35,000 in the heart of the semi-arid region of our state, Pernambuco. There are several quilombola communities within an hour's drive and Pr Neto and his church are already reaching out to the nearest two. Neto's church, Betel Brasileiro, is holding regular services in both communities. They are looking for people to start the work of discipleship and in reaching other communities. There are four Betel churches in the region, all pastured by Neto and his wife Tânia. Next month they start activities with vulnerable children in a poorer district of the city through a project (similar to CADI) partnering with Compassion. Please pray as we discern God's will for our future ministry location. In some ways Custódia looks like a good fit, but we have not made a decision yet and would like to make visits to other communities.

Thank you for the many ways you have partnered with us and encouraged us over the years. We hope to see some of you next month as we pass through the UK on our way to South Sudan.

Love & solidarity,

Hannah, Tim and Rita

January / Janeiro / Mei '18



In Custódia with Pr Neto and Tânia

## Prayers of Thanksgiving for 2017:

- Hannah hit the 5 years in Brazil landmark, Tim 2 yrs, Rita 6 mths.
- Rita's safe arrival and the great joy she brings us and so many.
- Time with our families and friends in the UK during Rita's first few weeks, and seeing their joy in her.
- Mum and Dad Cross's visit.
- New car which has got us safely to many new places, and God's provision of all we need as first time parents and much more!

## Please be praying:

- Keep praying for clarity regarding our future ministry location as we make exploratory trips to quilombola communities.
- We are prayerfully considering our next trip to South Sudan: who of us will go and for how long. Please accompany us as we discern God's will. We are hoping to go in late **February/March**.
- Hannah is still recovery from a series of colds and infections. Pray that we would all be 100% well and rested by the time of the Latin Link International Assembly in Guatemala at the beginning of February (**30<sup>th</sup> Jan – 9<sup>th</sup> Feb**).

Contact us: [fflatman@gmail.com](mailto:fflatman@gmail.com)  
[/cosmo\\_whirl@hotmail.com](mailto:cosmo_whirl@hotmail.com) /  
+5581983634598 (Whatsapp)