

The Baab Habbit

keeping tabs on the habits of the Baabs

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Dear Friend,

So much has happened, we hardly know where to begin! In Mid-July, with Melissa, we left London, visited our mission headquarters in Pennsylvania, then, spent three wonderful days in North Carolina with Andrew, John's sister and family members from Florida and Virginia. We appreciated SO much the help of several to help us pack up and others who provided hospitality along the way before we left for Brazil on July 30. Janice visited Elizabeth in Calgary, resolved some homeschooling details, then traveled down here alone in late September.

John began teaching at the Bible college almost immediately. He is presently teaching three courses: Ecclesiology, Acts (both of these for the first time), and Preparation for Ordination. This semester. John and Dick Buck are co-directing, and Dave and Patty Zemmer have together graciously accepted the job of Dean of Students. This month, Dave will be presenting the first of a series of modules on applying Biblical counseling in real life situations.

Another of our graduates was ordained and did a tremendous job, being unanimously approved after just five minutes deliberation by the council.

Unfortunately, most of the responses to our ad to sell our van came in after we had left, so we had to sell it quickly for cash. Fortunately, God led us to a car with low mileage, and in good condition (even though older).

It was not as easy as hoped to find suitable housing. We are grateful that Dick and Mavis graciously hosted us for two weeks, and then, Elizabeth's in-laws let us occupy their empty house since they had recently moved to an apartment. We (and our dogs!) are very happy with our new house that Liz's father-in-law helped us find. Since violence has risen dramatically, we were happy to find a house in a community of eight houses surrounded with a spike-topped wall with an electric fence and electronic gate on a relatively safe street. Thankfully, our protection is not from these, but from the Lord. (Do pray specifically for the authorities in Brazil

as criminals have been attacking police stations.) We are still in the process of collecting our things from here and there, Lord willing, we will be completely settled in soon. For Google Earth fans, the house is at -12.94057, -38.34073.

Since our new home is walking distance from the Stella Mares church, Melissa and Janice can easily attend activities there even if we are involved elsewhere. They are involved in the youth group, praise team and choir. Yvonne is in the choir as well and will be teaching the Junior Sunday School class.

Sadly, Satan has been alive and well! During the past year, in the Salvador area, a dynamic couple in leadership at the Stella church fell morally. Three churches have had church splits, and there are many hurting people all around the area. As Romans 8: 28 affirms, God can turn even difficult situations around for good. Three new congregations have been started; while not for the best reasons, we pray that each group will reach people the others are unable to touch.

Yvonne has been able to use her puppet in three local churches, and is also excited about the ladies' Bible study for ex-patriates. This year, there are ladies from the U.S. and Canada, Venezuela, Mexico, Egypt, South Africa, and South Korea, as well as from Brazil!

On the family front, there is exciting news. Elizabeth and Eli, in Calgary, Alberta, are expecting their first (a boy - Gabriel!), which will make us grandparents! Eli is enjoying his job as an assistant physiotherapist, and they continue to be very involved in the Brazilian congregation there. Eli's cousin, Ecclesio, emigrated from Brazil and is staying with them; pray he will learn English quickly and find a good job.

Andrew, as a U.S. Marine, is finishing up his training in North Carolina in maintenance of electronic equipment. In late November, he will be relocated to Okinawa, Japan. Pray for him and his girlfriend, Heather, in Phoenix as this will mean they will be half a world apart!

After waitressing in a Japanese restaurant in London, Joyanne worked as a camp counsellor at a mission camp in Edmonton, Alberta. She, then, traveled to Grand Rapids, Michigan where she has received a tremendous scholarship - covering her entire tuition at Cornerstone University for four years!

Both Melissa and Janice are doing their Grade 12 studies mostly via the internet. It was a little tense when there was a three week glitch getting the internet installed into our new home. After borrowing three modems, we realized the problem had to be in the signal coming from the telephone company. Fortunately, they repaired it quickly once we could determine the problem.

We wish each of you a wonderful Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year and send much love your way.

Listening for the trumpet!

John and Yvonne Baab with Melissa and Janice (almost 18!!)

(Elizabeth & Eli, (Gabriel), Andrew (22 yrs), and Joyanne (20))