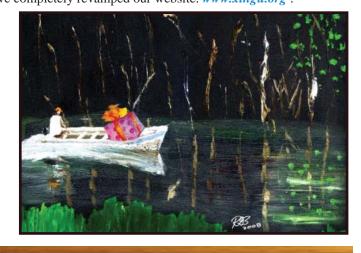
A Message from Rick Bergen

"I will not be embarrassed to ask for money for God's work!" Frieda Lindsay, who planted Bible Schools around the world, is the voice in my head as I write.

We have three vast regions we are working to blanket with local churches. Our regional budgets are all under supported by a wide gap. These funds are managed by the teams of missionaries and Brazilians in that region. Supporting a region is a great way for an organization or a church to help make a significant impact. For inquiries about big opportunities to invest in God's Kingdom contact one of our Regional Leaders at bud.simon@xingu.org, transamazon@xingu.org and rick.bergen@xingu.org.

What do you do when things start getting tight for you financially? The first thing I do is check on my giving to God's work. I have found that as I make God a priority He takes care of my needs. I encourage you to continue giving your tithes and offerings to your local church. If the Lord has been nudging you or enabling you to invest more in His Kingdom please pray about the Xingu Mission. We want to work closer with you. We have completely revamped our website. www.xingu.org.

We are exploring other ways we can communicate better, with blogs and online photo albums. God's people can work together like never before to complete the Great Comission. How long will these freedoms and opportunities last? We don't know. We can work together well now. Let's run this race to win!





Info: xingumission@msn.com

Bergen: Rick.Bergen@xingu.org **Phone Rick:** 011-55-93-3515-3522

Bergquist: bergquistclan@xingu.org

Bouthillier: transamazon@xingu.org

Phone Richie: 011-55-93-3793-1170

Dolan: Steve.Dolan@xingu.org Fultz: Patty.Fultz@xingu.org

Hansen: Ross.Hansen@xingu.org

Kubacki: kubacki6@msn.com

Meginbir: rachelle.meginbir@xingu.org **Newton:** rhythmsofgrace06@yahoo.com

Pflederers: jpfled74@yahoo.com

Price: Tpricegus@hotmail.com Simon: Bud.Simon@xingu.org

Phone Bud: 011-55-93-3515-2217

Stevenson: jw.stevenson@shaw.ca Van Hulles: Angie. Vanhulle@xingu.org

Wilsons: Keith. Wilson@xingu.org

For tax deductible donations and support: Xingu Mission - PO Box 340785 - Columbus, Ohio 43234



Xingu Mission Singu Mission Field Report



Xtreme Mercy Planting Churches and **Training Leaders**

Opening a New Region Marabá

In 1994 Rick and Deanna moved to Altamira to open a new mission base. This year, in 2008, they have moved once again, to open another region. The Xingu Mission Field Report (XMFR) interviews Rick Bergen.

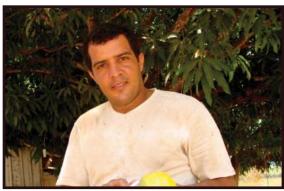
XMFR: Were you able to use the experiences gained in Altamira when you moved to open the Marabá region?

RICK: Yes there are many similarities.

- 1. We prayed a lot with our leaders before making both moves. In both cases there was about two years of planning and dreaming. We did at least five survey trips before each move, seeking God's guidance as to location and timing.
- We included as many people as possible in the

The Bergens celebrate 15 years in Brazil with the Leao family

- process, including Brazilian leaders, fellow missionaries and our support team.
- 3. We committed to moving and started taking real steps to relocate to the target city before anyone else committed to join us. Both time we ended up moving with Brazilian leaders for which we are very grateful.
- 4. We enabled Brazilians to lead the newly planted city churches. We invited North Americans to come work with us, with short term teams and as full time missionaries. We worked to enable North Americans to connect with Brazilians and work together in as many ways as possible. Synergy means that the results of two working together is greater than the sum of each one working alone. This is true for us.



Ivanildo went with the Bergen's to open up the new region in Marabá



Church under the mango tree

XMFR: Was it hard to leave Altamira? Do you have any regrets?

RICK: Three things really make us feel good in regards to this move. One is the fact that there are more churches than ever being planted annually now in the interior regions of the Xingu. The second is how we are establishing another regional center that will continue planting churches long after we are gone (Lord willing.) The third reason we are very grateful is the fact that our girls are also glad to be here involved in the work with us. We are in this together.



Office building - Guest House - Cabin

XMFR: What are your hopes and dreams for Marabá? RICK: We look forward to having a healthy city church with a strong outreach focus. We will go to the remote villages with the intent of training leaders and planting churches. We will do some training out there and will invite key people from the remote areas to Marabá for regular conferences as well. We are starting a city church. From here we will

enable young leaders and missionaries to plant churches in the interior. To the North of us we have the vast Tocantins River region. We will need boats. To the South and West we can go overland through very rugged terrain back to the Xingu River, way upstream from Altamira. We will need motorbikes and 4x4s for this challenge.



First church service under the mango tree Monica is sharing the Word of God

XMFR: So what do you need? How can people help? RICK: We need people. Jesus said the harvest is ripe and the laborers are few. This is true for us. We are looking for churches and individuals who want to actively fulfill Jesus' command to "Go into all the world and make disciples." Some may come and join the team here. Some may support us with prayer and finances. Some may connect us with other resources. We all have our gifts and our calling. We need to work together as a team.

XMFR: How can we learn more?

RICK: Four ways:

1. Website: www.xingu.org 2. Email: rick.bergen@xingu.org

3. For a pictoral 20 page overview of the XM Marabá Startup Project go to: http://maraba.4shared.com.

4. Check out rickbergen on www.youtube.com



Maraba meeting - Worship practice

Marabá Youth Story

The move was huge but our roots are digging in. We are all happy to be here. Everyday we are surrounded by a pack of youth who come to play after school. Some of these kids were on the brink of destruction. For example Marcos drove us all crazy at first. He acted like he owned this land and did whatever he wanted. Through kindness he became our friend. Only later did we find out about his very difficult home life. Marcos is now a completely different kid and we all enjoy having him around. Several parents have told us how their teenagers are changing since they started hanging out here.

I love the way God spends our lives the way He wants



Youth gathering tossing balloons

to. One of His reasons for moving us to Marabá is because He wants to give these youth hope. Rick told the Boy's Group how God is looking for adventurous and courageous people. "That's it then," says one of the rowdiest guys, "I'm going to be a missionary."



Monica with her two children, Bruna and Marcus

