

A Message from Altamira Base

The Altamira region fund is 100% dedicated to supporting Brazilians plant churches and train leaders. Only funds that are specifically designated will go to a missionary. Why will a nationally led church planting movement be successful? Because those with the insights necessary to transform a culture are those that best understand the intricacies of the culture. This is why we are ardently dedicated to empowering Brazilians to reach Brazilians. The success of the region lies in seeing Brazilians being successful. To continue to grow at a sustainable rate and develop healthy church communities is an exercise in being sensitive to the direction of the Holy Spirit.

At this moment, there are more than 50 churches and church plants in the Altamira region. There are currently 7 motorcycles and 6 boats operating in the Altamira region, all operated by Brazilians.

One of the hindrances in spreading the Gospel is the lack of transportation to these remote areas. Empowering others means equipping them spiritually with training, providing them with the tools they need, and providing encouragement and direction to move ahead.



Special Projects

[Church Construction](#) - \$5,000.00
[Motorcycle for Evangelism](#) - \$6,000.00
[Training National Leaders](#) - \$8,000.00

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Xingu Mission Field Report



Xtreme Mercy
Planting Churches and
Training Leaders

Assurini

Bud returned from a short trip - hot, muddy, sweaty, tired - he loved it. Here are some reflections about his trip... After spending part of the afternoon he pondered his short time in the Assurini. First, a note of clarification. The "Assurini" is a region across the river from Altamira. Assurini is the name of an Indian tribe that had inhabited the area years ago. Today, it is a region of jungle, interlaced with miles and miles of trails and roads. There are thousands of settlers that live alone and in small communities in these backwoods. It is reached by crossing the river on a ferry. There is also a tremendous need for the Gospel. After Bud spent part of the afternoon helping build a church in a local community, he sat in the meeting in the evening and was moved by simple

thoughts. 30 months ago, there were no Christians in this community. There was no sense of God, of His presence, of His plan, or of His purpose. And there has been a change that has an eternal impact. It is wonderful to observe men and women undergo a transformation, a softening of hard edges and hard hearts. This is what keeps us going back. Things aren't easy, things aren't always going well or right, but

when they do, like they are in this place, it is a charge of electricity that brightens our day and lightens our load.

This is why we do what we do.



Working on building a church out in the bush



The long road

Iriri River

The trip to the Iriri River is hands down the most remote place we visit. It's location is approximately 4 degrees south and 54 degrees west for those of you that like to play with "Google Earth". It is wild and so many things are still the way they have been for centuries. No electricity, no running water, simplicity and sustenance living. Location wise, it is about 300 km (about 200 miles) from Altamira. This takes about 10 hours (by road) in the "dry" season and three days by boat (by river) in the rainy

season. The road is impassable in the rainy season. We went there in the second week of Janaury and pulled up to the host home where we slept. The people of the community discussed among themselves how our truck (a 4x4) could have made it through on the road. This led to some conjuncture about the possibility of us returning and how it would be more complex depending on the quantity of rain over the following days. The road to Maribel is always paved with adventure! The Altamira team initiated the work in that region about four years ago in one community. Today, we currently minister in six communities in that region. The Lord has given us many open doors and we continual receive invitations to initiate works in



Kids on the beach



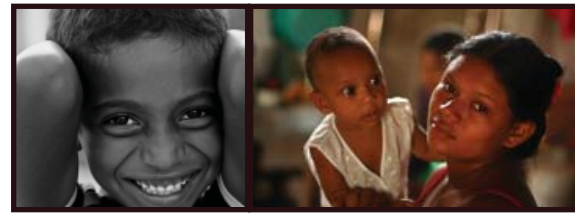
Children in the Iriri

Some of the older people hear the Gospel for the first time



Vibrant - happy to see the missionaries

other communities, in still yet more remote places. The villagers are extremely happy when we visit. The results in one community left us with a glad heart after we ministered there. The people were animated, worshiping freely, and enjoying the time together. Then, at the end of the service, the people of the community expressed the desire to meet weekly. Some in the village have already made a decision to follow Christ and every person in the village was in attendance. They listened attentively



Smiling kids happy for our visit and mother and daughter in the Iriri

to the Word and two men gave their lives to the Lord. They are totally willing to make a commitment, but the difficulty is that there are many hurdles in the path to making a full decision to a vibrant life in Christ. Our goal is to take those hurdles out of the way for them and smooth the pathway for them to having a relationship with our Lord. We were able to help them form a team effort so they can share in the joy of church life on a regular basis within their current reality. The local patriarch took responsibility for organizing the meeting and making sure that people attend. One of the young ladies in the village knows how to read and is willing to read the Scriptures in the public meeting. This is a beautiful act, the "Public reading of the Scriptures" (1 Tim 4:13), something which does not exist in Western societies. Please prays for these people who are trying to fan into a flame the small flicker of faith that they possess. Pray for us so that we can empower them to succeed in this new phase of their work. And pray that they will have victory in the Spiritual battle that lies in front of them.

New Missionaries

The Altamira base is happy to welcome new missionaries to our team. Patty Fultz joined the team in January of 2009. 10 years ago, Patty visited the Xingu Mission for the first time, and fell in love with the people of



the region. On that short-term mission trip, the team visited several small river villages sharing the gospel. A dream was born on that trip, that someday God might use her to bring the Good News to some of those people. That dream is being realized. Patty is teaching english at out community center and is working with Alpha Circles.

Chelsea joined the Xingu Mission from Vineyard Church of Delaware County in Ohio. She has a heart for high school girls, and also for assisting in homeschooling missionary kids. She spent 3 months in Altamira in 2007, assisting homeschooling, teaching English at CDR, and working with the youth. She moved to Altamira to do much of the same, and looking forward to whatever God has for her.



Jim and Sharon Stevenson joined the team in March, 2009. Jim has visited the Xingu Mission six times (5 with teams) and Sharon 4 times. In 2003, Jim helped set up Agua Limpa, the BioSand Water Filter Project at Porto de Moz. Jim and Sharon are both educators and Jim is a retired High School Principal. Both have been active in their church, Jim as chairman of the High River Full Gospel Church board and Sharon in various women's ministries. Most recently they have been involved in the Alpha ministry of the church. For five years they managed the Operation Christmas Child Processing Center for Western Canada for Samaritan's Purse. Jim also serves on the Xtreme Mercy Canada board.