

JULY 2025 Newsletter Paul and Becky Abel

“On our way rejoicing...”

The second verse of this hymn expresses our hope in **God’s work** through us in planting the Gospel seed and the eventual harvest of souls: “If with honest-hearted love for God and man, day by day Thou find us doing what we can, Thou who giv’st the seed-time wilt give large increase, crown the head with blessings, fill the heart with peace. On our way rejoicing as we homeward move, hearken to our praises, O Thou God of love.” We have **countless reasons to rejoice** as we continue in ministry on our Homeward journey!

Rejoicing in people, plans and packing

In May we had many events including **Mother’s Day, an evening event** about nutrition for women, and a special **all-church Family day** at the ARCA. Our Brazilian friend Neusa who now lives in Canada stayed with us for several weeks and many others shared meals and special moments in our home. We **packed up our house** in Brazil in preparation for being gone for 6 months (other people will be staying there in our absence).



Mother’s Day with Chris - Event for women (Neusa is pictured in front of me on far right) - 46th Anniversary

Rejoicing in the work in Paraguay

We also took a trip to Paraguay to spend **ten days with our 4 grandkids** (ages 1-6) while their parents, Mafu and Nay, went on a mission trip to Chile and a short 10-yr anniversary trip. It’s **exciting to see how their work is progressing!** We think back about how we started 40 years ago and praise God for what He has done in so many lives in Brazil. We hope and pray that Mafu and Nay will have the same joy as they plant churches and lead people to Jesus in Paraguay. We rejoice that Zach and Carey Ritland are raising support now to join their team this fall.



Countdown until parents return

Happy Baby Levi

Back home with 4 other grandkids

Rejoicing in God's provision

As soon as we returned to Brazil we had time to see 4 other grandkids and **say lots of good-byes and give last-minute instructions**. We feel very blessed to have a great team of people to carry on ministry while we are gone. Our pastor, Mateus, and his wife in Bateias had their first child the end of May, and we had fun blessing them in this new phase of their lives. The church in Cajuru, pastored by Pastor Tom, is experiencing growth and blessing. Pastor Jakson is doing a great job in Campo Largo. Pastor Oseias and others are preaching in the São Braz church.



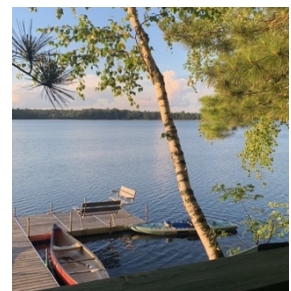
Rejoicing in opportunities

In the beginning of June we flew to the U.S. and **moved right into the Mission House** in Osceola. Many people are unaware of this great place for missionaries. The house is fully-equipped and ready to receive missionaries home on furlough. We just had to unpack the suitcases and start living. The first week we were very busy with **Annual Conference**. We had meetings to attend and both of us had opportunities to speak during the Conference. Plus, we saw many wonderful friends. That week we had a full house – missionary Jonni Sliver, Paul's mom Ruby, our son Andrew and grandson Judah, Pastor Silvio and his wife from Brazil. The Mission Board also met at the house so we had a chance to see this group of **dedicated people** who do lots of work "behind the scenes" for missions



Rejoicing in God's Creation

The rest of the month was spent on **scheduling and visiting** a couple of churches in Wisconsin. We have enjoyed receiving family and friends and re-connecting with people. We spent a few days at the lake cabin in Hayward, WI, enjoying **the beauty of God's creation** in this surreal place. It's so peaceful and lovely and the weather was wonderful. Paul, "Mr. Fix-it," is always busy working on maintenance projects in every place.



Rejoicing in continued ministry in Brazil

After we left Brazil in June the church in Bateias put on a great **event for couples** and are now busy planning a **VBS/Camp for July and a youth camp for August**. This year we had to miss the **annual Leadership Conference** in Campo Mourão, but we rejoice that it went so well. The new president is doing a great job in motivating our churches and pastors to be united and work together to encourage one another. We ask you to **pray for our Bible School and Seminary** in Campo Mourão as they have been facing some big challenges. Another reason for rejoicing is that our 2007 **Sprinter ministry van was recently painted** and ready to continue to serve the work. A big thank you to those who contributed to this project!



Rejoicing in reuniting with friends and supporters

I wanted to get a letter out with our schedule in case you'd like to meet up with us somewhere along the way. I'll post **our schedule through the end of August** and then I'll send out another letter in August to let you know the rest of our schedule since I haven't been able to finish it all.

June 6 Arrive in U.S.....**June 8** Amery Free, Amery WI.....**June 10-14** Annual Conference in Osceola, WI.....**June 22** Running Valley in Colfax, WI.....**June 29** Our Savior's in Mason, WI

July 6 Word of Life in Mankato, MN....**July 9** in Brainerd, MN....**July 10-12** Galilee Bible Camp in Lake Bronson, MN.....**July 13** Bethel Free in Grafton, ND....**July 15-16** in Thief River Falls, MN...**July 17-19** Wilderness Bible Camp in Lake Park, MN...**July 20** Grace Free in Valley City, ND...**July 21-24** in Osceola, WI...**July 25-August 8** Family Vacation with 3 of our 4 kids and 7 grands (we're really looking forward to this special time)...**July 27** Grace Lutheran in Hay ward, WI...

August 10 – New Hope Lutheran in Grantsburg, WI...**Aug 14-22** visit supporters in Illinois....**Aug 17 a.m.** Fox River in Sheridan, IL**Aug 17 p.m.** Grace in DeKalb, IL (not confirmed)...**Aug 24** Ruthfred Lutheran in Bethel Park, PA...**Aug 31** Sundberg Free in Sundberg, MN

September – Nebraska and South Dakota

October – North Dakota and MN

November – Texas, Arizona and Minnesota

As we look through the list of people who contribute to our ministry we are reminded of **God's faithfulness to us through the faithfulness of our supporters**. May the Lord provide for each of our needs and help us to be generous in sharing with others. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Rejoicing in Jesus, Paul and Becky

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