

The Steidingers

Matt, Janelle, Mariah, Jaelah, Luke, Sierra

----- Missionaries to the Amazon ----- Winter 2021



For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **ISAIAH 9:6-7**



A quick recap of 2021 if you will. Thankful for Mariah to spend last Christmas and New Years with us! We were able to take a few days off and spend some time together as a family again. Mariah also took a quick trip to some river communities with Matt. Luke and Matt took a supervision trip in late January. In February, Matt spent time in the hangar working on Bearhawk repairs and getting things ready for Derek to help finish up the damaged wing. In May, Matt and Janelle were able to spend a night in Porto Velho to celebrate 22 years of marriage and Janelle's ?? birthday! Our wonderful friends, Scott and Aldine Blunier, wrapped up 30 years of serving in Brazil. Janelle took over the Brazilian accounting from Scott and she could use your prayers as she continues to learn her new missionary role! Sixty people came in from the river communities in late June to experience our *Encounter with God* weekend. Many of these were less than a year serving the Lord and it was life-changing. We are still seeing the results of the Holy Spirit in their lives as they demonstrate a desire to serve HIM in missions. Mariah was able to visit us for six weeks before she returned to the states to start the nursing program at Indiana Wesleyan in Marion.

Matt dropped Luke off in a river community to help cut wood for a church while he continued upriver to make preparations for a Brazilian team from Sao Paulo. Janelle and the girls were also busy getting ready for the team as they spent a few days ministering in our town during their week with us. August and September found us praying, traveling, and listening as we counseled the Brazilian couple who had led our National Worker team. Unfortunately some choices were made that forced us to part ways. It was even more painful as their two kids were best friends with Luke and Sierra. Thankfully other team members have stepped up in a huge way to allow His Work to continue even during and after this extremely difficult event. October found us back in the US for our home assignment where we've been able to see a few of you! Thankful to spend the holidays with family and plan to return to Brazil in mid-January.



Celebrating Luke's 16th Birthday



Pictures: **1)** In March, a team of pastors from central Brazil spent 3 days on the river visiting churches and ministering to our National Workers. **2)** Luke helping with speedboat maintenance— his eyes and ears are protected but not the rest of his body! **3)** Jaelah was excited to have her cousin (Rudy) around to help celebrate her 18th (April 23). **4)** Also in April, Derek and Naomi Stoller spent 3 weeks with us. Derek is an airplane mechanic—on this trip he learned he can also do boat maintenance. **5)** In July we were blessed with a dentist that came with a team from Sao Paulo. She attended over 50 patients in three days! **6)** Matt did some flights for another mission closer to the border and was welcomed by the local police to check the plane for drugs. They were willing to pose for a selfie, but when Matt asked to hold their guns for the picture things got a little testy (May). **7)** Andy Kaufmann (president of the mission) and his daughter Maggie praying for the pastor of our church (September). **8)** Two of our National Workers left the mission so we have had more “opportunities” to minister (September). **9)** While we are here in the states, we are taking every opportunity to spend time with Mariah (October).

As the U.S. is experiencing inflation, the same thing is happening in Brazil. Prices on some food items have doubled in the last two years. Praise the Lord for you, our faithful prayer and financial warriors, that allows us to continue serving! With that said, we (the mission and us personally) are obviously affected by an increase in expenses. Enclosed please find a response card that is available for you to give as you feel led. May the Lord bless you and keep you and make his face shine upon you and your family this blessed Christmas Season!

*Ever grateful,
the Steidingers!*

Donations:

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