



**News and Prayer Requests from
Josias & Dani de Souza in Recife, Brazil**



Christmas 2008

Our Dear Praying Friends

So much has happened since our last letter to you. It was great for both Dani and I to meet up with many of you during our **trip to the UK** in September; it was good to see familiar friends in Cheadle, Denton, Chipping Norton, Paddock Wood, and Islington and to make contact with two new churches in Sheffield. It was a busy time for us; Dani found the weather cold and that was in the autumn – how she would have coped with the minus 7 degrees that the North of England has experienced recently I do not know – it is up in the 30's here most days at the moment!

There were some **good contacts** made during our trip with both the Message Trust in Manchester (www.message.org.uk) and the Form project based in Sheffield (www.form-uk.org) and we are working on some possibilities of exchange training visits being made in 2009/2010 – this we feel sure would add a great dimension to all parties concerned.

Back in Brazil the **youth ministry role** has changed a little in view of the impending arrival on 6th/7th February (D.V.) of our **baby** (now known to be a boy – **Daniel**). I am now responsible for the teenage work and other age ranges have been delegated elsewhere. I am still running the meetings on Tuesday evening and leading/preaching at the Sunday evening service in the Centre; the numbers have grown to over 160 on the membership list with 120 coming regularly. We really **need some more leaders** and would value your prayers about this. We are presently having talks with several other churches about launching together another evening event in the Centre to try to attract young people who presently head for a night club in nearby Boa Viagem.

I have handed over the reins of the **housegroup** to Patrick and Rachel from the USA who are workers at the House of Hope project. Their Portuguese is improving and we are looking at strategy for the future together.

Dani has kept in good health during the **pregnancy**, apart from some swollen legs and ankles. The doctor did sign her off work for a fortnight but she carried on her work at the **University**. Life there is busy at the moment as it is the recruitment time for new student applications etc. Once the baby is born she will have 4 months' maternity leave from work.

It was good to welcome **Richard Crofts** from SAMS to Brazil in November to show him some of the projects that are going on here in Recife and nearby Olinda. I know that this visit was at the end of a busy schedule for him but his enthusiasm to take in all that he could whilst he was here was well rewarded by how he saw what God was doing in this country.

Our church has had 20,000 invitation leaflets printed for our **Christmas services** and the young people and others are busy delivering these to the neighbourhood and to family and friends. We don't know how many will respond but even if 10% come it would be great to see church filled with people remembering God's gift to us in the form of Jesus. The young people are also filling shoeboxes to give to the **deprived children of the favelas of Candeias** close to the House of Hope and we hope that this small gesture will be a reminder of God's Special gift to us of Jesus.

Thank you once again for your love, prayers and support during this last year – it is greatly appreciated.

May God bring you peace and happiness over Christmas and may you know his blessings in the year to come.

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful, and pray for us too, that God may open a door for our message so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ." Colossians 4 vv2-3

With our love to you
Josias and Danielle and Daniel



Sent by josiasjunior@hotmail.com & distributed by Graham Lowcock - graham@cheadle.org

Further info may be obtained from SAMS at Allen Gardiner Cottage Pembury Road Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3QU



**News and Prayer Requests from
Josias & Dani de Souza in Recife, Brazil**

Christmas 2008



Sent by josiasjunior@hotmail.com & distributed by Graham Lowcock - graham@cheadle.org

Further info may be obtained from SAMS at Allen Gardiner Cottage Pembury Road Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3QU