



PRAY WITHOUT CEASING!

1. For our spiritual walk with God -our #1 priority.
L
2. Praise for such good results in church #4. We recently had five families start coming and some of them are tithing.
I
3. Open doors for evangelism in Gravatai-240,000 pop.
E
4. Praise for help in remodeling the factory we are using for a church.
A
5. Salvation of Edson, and his two teenage daughters. Salvation of Wilson, and Rachel's sons.
D
6. Praise for a new pastor in church #2. Several adults have been saved.
P
7. Open doors in the 14 public schools surrounding the new church property.
A
8. Our teens to be protected from drugs and sin, and us from robbers.
E
9. Our women to continue their great job of evangelism.
I
10. New missionaries to come and help us.
N
11. Funds for the playground on our retreat center.
B
12. Praise for the jobs of our members.
I
13. Praise for many new converts studying for baptism.
B
14. Praise for the wrestling team, which we will use for evangelism.
L
E

**Bryant Ave. Baptist Church
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LATHAMS' LOG

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Women's Retreat



Women's Retreat

Our family atmosphere is chiefly due to the wonderful ladies' group, who take a few days a year to share these attitudes with the new ladies in our church. Please pray for these ladies and their home responsibilities and testimonies in their respective neighborhoods.

Every year the ladies have a retreat in February. This year they went to a lakeside camp. It was a lovely site. Penny and three other pastor's wives were the speakers. This was the first retreat for the new ladies to our renovated, factory church location.

Several of these ladies have been abandoned by their husbands. They are sacrificially raising their children, some without any help from the fathers. Three mothers in our church have jobs to pay for the expenses. We are a family in our church and we love these fatherless families. One of our lady visitors commented to that very fact. She said, "My daughter and I are going to make this church our home. We feel like this is a family, not just a church gathering."

New Youth Leaders



New youth leaders

asking me, "When are we going to pass out tracts again, Pastor?"

We have new youth leaders. I have been the youth pastor of our churches during the last 30 years. I finally convinced a young couple in our #4 church to take my place. Gentil and Patricia are doing a great job leading the youth. They schedule activities twice a month and several retreats per year. At the present we have 15 teens. In just a few years we will have over 25 teens, just counting our present membership. The teen boys are also included in the men's retreat on Good Friday and the girls are included in the yearly ladies' retreat. We also use the teens for our public school ministries with the puppets and trampolines. Our teens are always For this attitude, I love them dearly.

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Sintia accepted Christ in our #3 church. She was expecting **Jones** at the time. We have watched that baby grow into this young man. Her husband died five years ago. She lives on the social security of her husband, who was a retired policeman. Her oldest son, **Jorge**, was president of our youth group and a part of our drama team 10 years ago. She also has a daughter, **Vanessa**, who was helping us. Since we moved into our new building, this mother and son have come to help us. Jones is also a part of our wrestling team. Sintia is part of our grandmother group. This is a new part of our ladies' ministry. **Penny** decided to divide the women into three groups: 1) working ladies, 2) mothers and 3) grandmothers. Penny is the leader of the grandmother group. (above)

Valdir and **Marcia** were invited to our church by **Olga**, their landlady. They were married in a church and will soon be married in the justice system. Marcia has two jobs. She is a manicurist and a teacher in the public school. She gives her tithe from both jobs, showing great efficiency and dedication. Valdir works in a bakery. He is not a Christian but Marcia has hopes that he will soon make a decision for Christ. Marcia has had several counseling sessions with Penny about victory in the Christian life. Marcia has such a sweet disposition and is a pleasure to spend time with. Eventually she will probably be a teacher in our Sunday school. (below)

Ilse was brought to church by **Rachel**. Like six other ladies in our church, she has been abandoned by her husband. She works in maintenance at the hospital that treats the AIDS patients of Porto



Alegre. Raising **Ana**, a teen, is a challenge, because **Ilse** works from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. six nights a week. All three of her children live at home; none are saved. She was on a public bus six weeks ago when two robbers declared it was a "stick-up." She prayed out loud for the driver, the passengers, for safety and to be exempt from being robbed. The lady sitting next to her thought she was crazy. Everyone was a victim on the bus except Ilse. God was very present and His protection was very evident. Her testimony was well received and everyone on the bus saw the power of the living God. This is a rare story. Ilse is the only person I have ever heard that prayed out loud during a robbery. (above)

Two years ago, **Cenira** was present at the public school when our teens presented dramas about drugs and suicide. She decided to get some spiritual guidance for her teenage daughter. She attended our church for two months before we learned she was a choir director in the public school. We have been praying for someone to come to our church who has these talents. The 40 robes donated by Pillsbury Baptist Bible College have had little use, other than an occasional singing group or baptismal. We want to start a choir and this teacher is just the person we need to lead the group. We also have talent to form duets, trios and quartets. Although I am the music man in the church, I don't want to keep the job. Three of our four churches have only had our Omicord for music, which I played. As soon as Penny plays the piano well enough, I will be out of another job. (below)



Bia left us four years ago to study at a school 12 hours away. She is our church's first Bible college graduate. Penny and I were able to fly to Curitiba to attend her graduation. Coming from a very humble background and her dad dying five years ago, made it a real challenge to get the funds to put her through all four years. The first year, Penny



Bible College Graduate - Bia

rain. She is suffering from the problems of a 33-year-old son who has just recently started smoking crack. One son lives with her and sometimes comes to church. Please pray for this courageous woman who is more of a mother than a grandmother to these wonderful grandchildren. And pray that the girls will have tender hearts for the Lord and His will.



A Grandmother's Love

and I helped our church pay her bill. The next year, several stateside churches made it possible. The third year, one individual from California paid the whole bill and her last year was paid by another stateside church. She worked during the week to provide for her personal needs. Bia is now planning to be a school teacher. After just one more year of studies she will be hired by the public school district. We



have several other teens who are interested in studying at Bible college. Please pray for our teens to be protected from evil, evil doers, and from drugs and temptation. We would appreciate it.

Since I was rescued by my grandparents and lived with them on four different occasions, I really appreciate this grandmothers's love. **Raquel** married a Christian but was abandoned many years ago. She has been raising her three grandchildren, **Suele**, **Rosane** and **Rosangela** (twins). She happened to notice our church sign and walked into our lives with these three lovely, sweet grand-daughters. Since she lives close to the church, she comes to all the services, even in the

Beto and Clarise were searching for a good church as theirs had too many unsolved problems. They had prayed that the Lord would lead them to a church where their teenage daughter,

with Wilson's disease, would be accepted. She will not develop much past a six year old. We have a special class for kids like her, who have a difficult time with reading and possess undeveloped social skills. One nine year old finally

passed the first grade with the help she received in our Sunday school class. I am always interested in how people found our church, so I asked them. While Beto and Clarise were driving around town, looking for a church, they were very low on gasoline. They stopped to fill up and noticed our small church sign just across the street. They have greatly enjoyed the friendly people we have and the teens, who do not shun their daughter. Clarise works as a supervisor in the post office system. They live above the post office building in downtown Gravatai. Beto travels all over the world selling natural tea.