

Prayer and Praise Update

January, 2026

Dear Praying Friends,

Greetings from Brasília!

I've now been here for nearly a month, and so far I've gotten off to a good start. My flight down was uneventful, even though the initial leg out of Green Bay was delayed by over three hours because of weather. But since I had a scheduled 8-hour layover in Chicago, I had no problem making my international flight. I arrived at the ALEM center in Brasília in the late afternoon on New Year's Day, tired after the long trip but ready to get back to the work that the Lord called me to.

It didn't take long to resolve a few minor issues. Some major ones, such as the problem of unstable wifi in Dorm 1, have taken longer. At least I wasn't hit with a big list of demands the first day that I was back, since a number of people still had not returned from the holidays. On a sad note, one of our long-time members died suddenly only a few days after I got back, and our first formal day back to work was taken off as a day of mourning. The funeral was a time of worship to the Lord and celebration of her life. Although she will be missed, we are comforted knowing that she is with Jesus.

I was also able to resume the post-surgical procedures on my right eye. Unfortunately, the new cornea is not giving the results that the ophthalmologist had hoped for. It turns out that the damage done by the corrective surgery back in '93 was more extensive than he had realized. Fortunately, at this point there are still a couple of options for restoring my vision to a hundred percent. As I write this, we are exploring which one to take. I hope to have more information in my next Update. But I rest in the confidence that God has a perfect plan!

The Linguistics course has started, and we have a new class of students. So far, I've had the chance to get to know a few of them a little, enough to find out that several of them are still seeking God's direction for their ministry lives. This happens every year, and many students have heard the voice of God leading them as the year progresses. I have total confidence that He will do so again with this group.

So please give thanks:

- For a largely uneventful trip back to Brazil.
- That I've been able to get the problems waiting for me pretty much taken care of.
- For being able to resume the post-surgical procedures on my right eye.
- For the new class of Linguistics students here at ALEM.

Please pray:

- That I would be able to completely deal with the few remaining problems that were waiting when I arrived.
- For the right decision regarding the next step in the work on my right eye.
- For the new class of students, that their time in the course would be fruitful and that the Lord would guide those still looking for His direction.

Back in the saddle helping support Bible translation in Brazil,

Bill Penning

SIL Brazil / Wycliffe Bible Translators

Address for Correspondence

Bill Penning
Núcleo Rural Boa Esperança II, Chácara 4
Granja do Torto
70636-901 Brasília – DF
BRAZIL

Address for Contributions

Wycliffe Bible Translators
P.O. Box 628200
Orlando, FL 32862-8200

On-Line Donations: <https://www.wycliffe.org/partner/bill-penning>