



# The Tully Family

## Missionaries in Maceió, Brazil

*"...and how shall they hear without a preacher?"* Romans 10:14

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Dear praying and supporting friends,

April 18, 2012

*"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed."* (2 Cor. 4:8-9) Ever been in this situation? We have! Although it is not as bad as it is made out to be because of the words *"but not forsaken."* Yep, that's right. *"For he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee"* (Hebrews 13:5b.)

Truly the past nine months have been an extremely trying time for our family and church. Our house was robbed; the church was broken into and the PA stolen; Simone was hit by a van; the church's own van had the engine seize up; disgruntled members were plotting in the background (now they are former members plotting openly); and we lost about 20% of our crowd; in fact, all of our numbers are down and so is the general morale among the troops. Interestingly enough, it all started around about the time we began our Sunday School program and got really nasty at our Missions Conference. One could say it's a coincidence, but I don't believe that.

I just mentioned that the church van (which we also use as our personal vehicle, courtesy of the church, since we no longer own a vehicle) had a spot of trouble when its engine packed up. Needless to say, it was very costly to rebuild the engine. That, along with having to replace the church PA system, has stretched church finances to its limits.

I am glad to say, however, that the van is back in action, and we have replaced our PA system after three months of using a borrowed single speaker. We have set it up so that the PA system comes home with us and no longer stays in church. It is laborious having to load, unpack, set up, and repeat, but we really can't afford to have it pinched again.

While the van was out, we were restricted as to where we could venture in search of souls. Visitation was also impacted. Many of our folks made their way to services on foot. With the crime situation, this can be a risk. Only recently two teenage girls were assaulted after they left one of our evening services but narrowly escaped by hurrying back to church. A man was robbed right outside our church during Sunday School (now had he been in Sunday School... it pays to be in church!)

As you can see it is all very exciting around here, what with engines blowing, thieves thieving, and plotters plotting, but we are glad to be here doing our little bit for the Lord's work. Thank you for partnering with us. Since our last letter, 64 souls have been led to Christ because of your support and prayers.

The Tully Family  
Robert, Simone, Gabriela, and Michelle

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**US Address:**

Robert Tully  
Victory Baptist Missions  
PO Box 906 (all mail please)  
80 Greenwood Lane  
Springboro OH 45066

**Sending Church:**

First Baptist Church  
Springboro OH  
Rick Carr, Pastor  
Dr. Mike Cox, Missions Director

**Field address:**

Lot Bariloche #29 Qd-G,  
Feitosa,  
Maceió AL 57042-780  
BRAZIL

**E-mail:** [robert@tullys.org.uk](mailto:robert@tullys.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.tullys.org.uk](http://www.tullys.org.uk)

**Skype:** rtullyibm

**Phone:** 011 55 82 3313-8815

**Cell:** 011 55 82 8815-4408 / 8115-3688