



*April, 2026*

# NEWSLETTER

The Freire's Family



## IN THIS REPORT

We have wonderful news to share with you. By God's grace, the work has been carried out with great dedication and has borne much fruit for the glory of our Father. In this update, we will share about **the conclusion of the first quarter of the ARCA 2026 class**, highlighted by a deeply edifying and emotionally impactful **outreach week** held between two cities in the countryside of Pernambuco: Belo Jardim and Serra Talhada. We will also share about the **Youth Camp** that takes place every year during the Easter holiday. In Cantares, we have made significant progress on the final details of our **new CD, which, Lord willing, will be released by the end of this month**. This CD is part of the training carried out by the ARCA 2025 students, with the participation of some additional brothers and sisters. We also visited our dear sister Ana Valéria, a member of the **Cantares Ministry**, who had been hospitalized for nearly a month. We held a surprise thanksgiving service at her home, with the presence of neighbors, friends, and family. On that same day, we also celebrated her birthday. In our studio work, we recorded a **podcast with our professor and speech therapist, Mariana Porfírio, on vocal care and voice production**. We also welcomed **the parents of our student Letícia Mayume**, who recorded a testimony about their daughter's participation in the program, encouraging other families to invest in the training of their children. Additionally, we recorded another podcast episode with them, where they spoke about the importance of Christian music in raising children and the need for intentional, pedagogical musical education. It was a powerful and enriching conversation that will surely bless many. We were also honored to receive our dear friends and brothers, **Mike and Peggy Palk**, who currently live in Tennessee but served for many years here in Recife as part of the first missionary team. We were greatly blessed by their presence and the time we shared together.

**AT THE END OF THIS REPORT, WE WILL ALSO ADDRESS A VERY IMPORTANT MATTER.**

We appreciate your continued prayers and express our heartfelt gratitude.

## END OF THE FIRST QUARTER

We have completed the first quarter of ARCA. The courses concluded so far include: Music Theory, Psalms, Speech Therapy, Musical Pack (where students learn 15 songs in harmony), and Holistic Studies.

As part of this quarter's conclusion, we traveled 622 miles between the cities of Belo Jardim and Serra Talhada. The journey began on Monday, April 6, with our first stop in Belo Jardim. There, we held several classes in a workshop for worship leaders as well as for the entire congregation.

We also carried out evangelism in public squares and in the city center, using music to draw people in and invite them to learn more about the church. On Wednesday, the final day in Belo Jardim, we held a worship service where many of the contacts from evangelism were present. Please pray that the church will continue this work well, so that these individuals may become part of the family of faith.

On Thursday morning, we continued our journey with an approximately four-hour trip to Serra Talhada, where God had even more in store for our team. There, we conducted evangelism in parks and public squares, and also visited elderly members such as Mrs. Guiomar, who has been part of the church for over 40 years but is no longer able to attend regularly due to her health and age.

We also visited Mr. Arnaldo, who lost his vision a little over two years ago and was abandoned by his wife, children, and extended family because of his blindness and his faith. Each evening, our team gathered for feedback and reflection. After visiting Mr. Arnaldo, we were especially able to see God's goodness and love more clearly.

On Sunday, before our long journey back to Recife, we held a worship service with the family who hosted us, along with two young men we met during evangelism who expressed interest in getting to know us better. Please pray for **Igor and Gabriel**.











BROTHER

# ★ BENNER ★

*Within our brotherhood in Brazil, there are many individuals who have faithfully composed songs for decades.*

*Many of these songs are sung throughout the country without proper recognition of their authors.*

*Because of this, we have begun a project aimed at arranging and recording this cultural and spiritual heritage of the Church in Brazil. This year, we are including the song **"Simply Christian"** written by our brother Benner in the 1990s. We visited the congregation in Prazeres where he worships and surprised him by singing his composition before the church. It was a deeply moving moment.*



## Youth Camp

During the Easter holiday, our family participated in the annual youth camp. I served alongside the ARCA 2025 students in leading the worship times. The Cantares Ministry also presented, with the purpose of sharing our work and inviting young people who may be interested in joining ARCA.





2026 Youth Camp

# *Cantares* *Ministry*



We are finalizing the recordings for the new Cantares Ministry CD. The first part of this project is expected to be released at the end of April and will include seven songs recorded by ARCA 2025 students along with members of the Cantares Ministry. We also held a thanksgiving service at the home of a sister who had been in the ICU for several days due to intestinal inflammation. It was a beautiful celebration and an opportunity to share the Gospel with her neighbors, friends, and family.



## PODCAST

We remain committed to producing relevant content for the Brazilian brotherhood. Through our YouTube channel, we have been sharing podcast episodes on topics such as vocal care, featuring our professor and speech therapist Mariana from São Paulo. We also recorded an episode with Mr. and Mrs. Mayume Satake, parents of our student Letícia Mayume. In this episode, they shared the challenges of raising their three daughters grounded in Christ and emphasized the importance of using music as a pedagogical tool, as it helps in memorizing biblical stories and spiritual truths.



# Visits



We had some very special visits. The McKinney family came to meet our students and visit the ARCA facilities and the Cantares Studio. David and Adriana had previously supervised our intern Juan in Campo Grande-MS last year, and it was a joy to host such a dear family.

We were also blessed by the visit of Mike and Peggy Palk, who spent a week in Recife reconnecting with brothers and sisters, sharing experiences, and enjoying fellowship and mutual encouragement. Their presence was truly a gift from God to all of us.

We are deeply grateful to God for each one of you who has faithfully partnered with us over the years, making it possible for us to continue serving here in Brazil. It is always a joy to share what the Lord has been doing and to walk in transparency with you.

As part of our commitment to those who send and support us, we regularly plan a furlough — a valuable time to reconnect personally, share updates, and strengthen our partnership. The last time, due to financial and logistical limitations, I had to travel alone. Even so, it was a very fruitful season, and we saw the Lord open doors for several important initiatives, including the development of ARCA and other ministry projects.

During that time, many churches and friends expressed how meaningful it would be, in a future opportunity, not only to reconnect with me but also to spend time together with my family again. This year seemed like a fitting opportunity for that.

However, as we prayerfully and responsibly evaluate our current situation, we are facing some important challenges.

While our current support has been sufficient for this year, we have already experienced a reduction of approximately \$850 per month in support. If unaddressed, this could significantly impact our stability starting in 2027. In addition, fluctuations in the exchange rate have reduced the practical value of the support we receive here in Brazil. We initially considered making this trip as both a time of reconnection and an opportunity to seek new ministry partners. However, after carefully reviewing the costs involved — especially with the significant increase in airfare this year — along with the natural expenses of such a trip (transportation, fuel, meals, lodging, and other necessities), we realized that this would require a level of financial investment that is currently beyond our means. Because of this, we are seeking the Lord's wisdom to pursue what is most faithful and responsible. One option we would like to humbly place before you — without any pressure — is to strengthen our current support base, which could allow us to avoid the need for international travel at this time.

Our goal is to adjust our monthly support to a level that will enable us to continue serving with stability and focus, without interruption in the coming years.

More than anything, we ask for your prayers. Please pray for wisdom, direction, and provision. We trust that the Lord remains faithful and continues to move in the hearts of His people according to His will.

If you feel led to talk further or would like to know how you might be part of what God is doing here, we would be glad to share more.

With gratitude and love in Christ,

*The Freire Family.*

