

# The McClures



## Near-Death Experiences:

“Kids, cover your eyes.”

I have had to use that line too many times already, as we drive up to yet another scene of flashing lights, stopped cars, a crowd of onlookers. Sadly, they know the drill all too well, and obey. They certainly don't need to see the damaged cars, the scrambling emergency teams, or worse, the silent form that lies in the road beneath a cloth.

I know that the U.S. has its share of traffic fatalities, yet somehow, in all our deputation travels, we rarely saw more than a fender-bender, and we certainly never saw the bodies of dead pedestrians in the road.

In our first five months in Brazil, however, we have passed the scene of several serious car accidents. What is more disturbing is that we have passed, on three separate occasions, the bodies of pedestrians who had been struck by cars, one so recently that he

May/June 2007

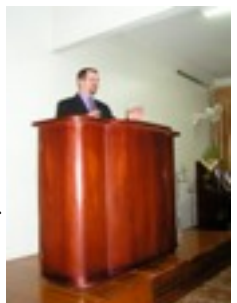
still lay uncovered in the highway. The white bicycle above is a monument set up within walking distance of where we live, at the place where two cyclists who didn't even know each other were struck and killed by a driver distracted by her cell phone.

The dead and the dying are all around us, no matter where we live. Scenes like these are just vivid reminders of the brevity of life, and how abruptly it can end. It challenges us to renew daily our sense of urgency in sharing the Gospel with those around us. We are all, in a sense, near death; but so very few of us have Jesus Christ to walk us through it into eternal life. Pray for the lost in Brazil and around the world. Pray for your missionaries as they try to reach them before it is eternally too late.

## Valentine's Day in June?

Well, not exactly. Most Brazilians will tell you that the country already observes too many Roman Catholic holidays. It is interesting, then, that St. Valentine's Day isn't one of them. No, February 14th comes and goes, and not a single husband gets in trouble for forgetting it entirely! June 12th, however, is another story. It is Dia dos Namorados. This roughly translates to "Day of those Who are Dating," but encompasses all sweetheart relationships.

Last weekend, I was invited to speak at a Dia dos Namorados banquet held by several baptist churches in the area. It gave Ann Janel and me a chance for a rare outing without the kids, as well as a time of fellowship with two other missionary couples and several national pastors and their wives. It was also encouraging to see what God is doing through these men and women in nearby satellite cities.



**E-mail Addresses**  
patrick.mcclure@bbfmissions.org  
annjanel@brazilianoutreach.org

**Sending Church**  
Berean Baptist Church  
David Lingo, Pastor  
4650 Business 83 East  
Bolivar, MO 65613  
417.326.7758

**Baptist Bible Fellowship International**  
P.O. Box 191  
Springfield, MO 65801  
417.862.5001  
www.connectionpoint.net



### Please pray for my mom!

We found out in mid-May that my mom has aggressive inflammatory breast cancer. She had been struggling with health issues and heart trouble since December, but we are still a little shocked at this diagnosis. She has begun chemotherapy treatment in Chicago. She definitely needs prayer.

For now my parents want me to stay on the field with Patrick and the kids. I am torn between my role as daughter and wife and mother at the moment. I long to be with my parents as they make decisions, but God has me thousands of miles away. I am praying to know when I should go. I ask you to pray with us on this matter as well. We are waiting to see how God works!

Thank you for your prayers,  
Ann Janel

## How can you pray for us?

*Answers to prayer:* In April we finalized the purchased on a 1997 Honda Accord. Thanks for praying! ▼

*Prayer requests:*

*Housing:* We've been extremely blessed to be able to live in my parents' guest apartment, but it is time to get our own place.

Next on the agenda is finding an apartment or house at an affordable rate.

*Mrs. Ann Schrader:* see the article in this letter.

Be sure to check online for up-to-the-minute prayer needs.



# Ministering to the peoples of Brazil