

Coat of Many Colors
PO Box 468
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2006 Praise Report

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! "Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom" (Ps.145:3). "In God we make our boast all day long, and we will praise your name forever" (Ps. 44:8). As we began to reflect on this past year, it became very clear that our testimony is more amazing than ever before ... it's entirely worthy of praise. So, just as David taught us in Psalms; we have come to boast in the Lord and share with you many of the things that He accomplished through Coat of Many Colors in 2006.

Before we begin, we want you to know that there is a very special surprise enclosed with this report. Certainly we've all heard the phrase, "a picture is worth a thousand words." If that's truly the case, then we've included an extra 72,000 words! We pray that you will take a few short moments to watch the DVD so that you can see firsthand many of the amazing things that God is doing in the Amazon River Basin. We've included memories of our traveling adventures (whether traveling by boat, walking through jungles, or driving in 4x4 trucks through knee-deep mud). We've also chosen pictures that portray life "in the bush" as we introduce many precious friends that God has allowed us to meet. There are pictures of new projects "going up" in 2006 and some that were recently completed. Lastly, we've tried to capture the "new thing" that God is doing in our ministry which goes far beyond actual church buildings. Please join us on a seven minute journey to "The River".

2006
A Powerful Year of Change

During our visits to Brazil in 2006, God allowed us to begin construction of twelve new churches. We also made commitments for three more church projects but the river-workers can only handle so much blessing at once! We praise God for every new church and we're equally excited to report that He has opened doors for many new ministry opportunities.

In June of last year, partners of Coat of Many Colors provided new aluminum welding equipment and we actually delivered it to Santarem

The workers (who build and repair boats) were trained with the new equipment and were completely delighted.

Through your generous giving, CMC was able to provide fuel and medicine for the medical boat in Castanhal. This new ministry opportunity has become a vital tool for evangelism in many remote areas. We were also able to help with repairs and restoration for the medical boat (as it is the only one operating on the vast Moju River).

On our last visit in October, God directed us to bless those who had persevered and remained faithful to Him. Many young pastors (who receive no income from ministry) were without homes, boats, etc. God used CMC to provide for those needs.

Because of you, we were able to purchase a large boat for a seasoned pastor who was renting a very small boat in order to reach more people for Jesus. The pastor was renting the boats at his own expense (even though he and his family have precious little for themselves). Never forget that these physical gifts are only a portion of God's blessing. A brand new level of faith is birthed in those who receive, and their spiritual growth is one of our greatest joys.

Coat of Many Colors purchased an outboard motor for one pastor and a small boat (which already had a motor) for another. These precious young pastors and their families row every day from village to village to share the Good News. We are so thankful that God has allowed us to bless them in this way. There are hundreds of workers just like these who "seek out" the forgotten people of the Amazon River Basin. We believe that in 2007, God will allow us to bless many more of His special servants in this way!

Last October, CMC committed to help finish the Bible-Training Center which is located on the Moju River. The need to train and raise up leaders is becoming more and more pressing as the gospel travels to more and more areas. Without proper training and discipleship, there is no need for more church buildings. We consider it an honor to be part of this tremendous project. Leadership training in this new facility will begin in spring of 2007. Hallelujah!!

Coat of Many Colors was also privileged to bless two very dedicated leaders with gifts for church additions. Praise the Lord! They're growing out of their existing buildings and desperately need more space! These new additions are tremendous faith boosters to those who are already making such a difference. God said to find them and to bless them ... so we did just that!

Glory to God! Construction of the first children's home is getting underway. Our contributions to this project will be fulfilled in the next 2-3 months. However, we have already sent gifts for the caretaker's home as part of the preparation. Walls have been built around the entire property (which is necessary for protection in these areas) and the directors have completed their home. The grounds are bursting with physical fruit and natural streams ... now a mighty spiritual harvest is on the way!

One of the greatest joys that we have experienced in a very long time took place last June. Traveling for over 3 miles in mud deeper than our tires, we came to the village of Renescar. There we met "the little drummer boy." He led us to a grove of banana trees behind his hut, and we will never forget what we witnessed that day. Our fourteen year old friend had seen some drums when he was only eight. He'd traveled into the city with an older cousin (for church service) and there he saw a real set of drums. Returning home, he began to collect cans, lids, buckets, branches, pieces of twine, and sticks. On that rainy day in June, we realized the true meaning of "little is much to the Lord." This precious child had built a perfect set of drums ... there was nothing missing. As we drew near to his side, he began to play and sing to Jesus. He played and worshiped with unashamed joy and our hearts were completely broken in humbleness. Our lives would never be the same after that day ... we were the ones that received the greatest blessing this time. Only the Lord could know where "the little drummer boy" was and only the Lord could fulfill his hopes and dreams. Thank you Jesus for choosing us to bless this child. Thank you for his beautiful new drums.

On a personal note, we praise God that in July of 2006, our youngest daughter Mandy was married to the man of her dreams! She and R.J. are happy as can be! The wedding was beautiful and we thank God for everyone that helped make their day so completely perfect.

On August 12, 2006, our daughter Abbie and her husband Clint gave birth to their first child and our third granddaughter. Isabella Faith is absolutely wonderful in every way and she is already singing! Her parents couldn't be more thankful ... neither could we!

Our son Josh finished his Master's Degree at Covington Theological Seminary last year and will be graduating with his Doctorate this July. He, his wife Jodi, and their two daughters Lexi and Maddi are still pastoring in Franklin, N.C. Josh was recently asked to speak at Fresh Oil New Wine this March (at Abba's House) and we praise God for giving him this opportunity.

In closing, our praise report would not be complete without thanking God for all of you. Without your obedience to give, this amazing report would not be possible. Many of you have provided for churches and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Others have become monthly partners and are always so faithful to give. Several friends have given gifts that (when placed together with others) have made so many dreams come true. There are also some who devote their professional services so that Coat of Many Colors can function as it should. Lastly and very importantly, all of you have prayed for us and interceded for our calling. Together we are all making such a difference in the Amazon River Basin and our hearts are filled to overflowing with love and appreciation for all of you. May God richly bless you more and more everyday as we await His plan for all of us in 2007! As always, It's All About HIM!

Gratefully Yours,

PS: Thank you Lord for the precious gift given to us by Advance Video. Without their love and vision, our pictures would just be pictures. Thank you for using them to bring our memories back to life for your glory.