

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM THE SENGS

Queen Elizabeth II once said in a Christmas address to the nation that it had been "un anno horribilis"! (That sounds truly terrible in Latin!) I don't need Latin to admit to a challenging year. Yet not "horribilis", because ugliness, chaos and evil could not annul the tender love that brought us all through the storm! So this is a prayer of gratitude!

THANK YOU JESUS, for the truth of the beautiful old, old story! Thank You that there is power in the blood. THANK YOU for every reason to celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter not so far away! Thank You for glimpses of something greater going on and allowing us to sometimes hear the rustle of angel wings nearby!



THANK YOU for your faithfulness through all the years. Our few scars and injuries were mostly of our own making because we forgot to keep our eyes on You and tripped or wandered off. Yet we have not had to wait for heaven for comfort: Your gentle hands have always wiped away our tears. THANK YOU, JESUS!

THANK YOU for our family. Raised in a tri-cultural environment with the unique challenges those circumstances present (such as, "Am I Brazilian, Terena or American? Who does God say I am? Do I get to choose?") You have held them and their families steady in Your grip, loving You and heading East where the Son rises.

THANK YOU JESUS that though ashes were scattered on Semiraita with tears, those were not YOUR ashes - and You promise that there will be a joyful harvest someday. Thank You for opportunities to minister among the Surui and Zoró - and for seeing Your

love and presence alive and working among these emerging people groups. Thank You for precious neighborhood children here so eager to participate in a Christmas pageant!

AND OH, LORD JESUS! THANK YOU FOR SAM/MRI AND FOR DEAR, FAITHFUL FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS who have stood by this imperfect, sometimes silly old couple so that they could love You and Your world. Continue to grip and unite our hearts as all of us - from North to South - head steadily on towards the Son!

In love and deep gratitude, Wes and Trudy Seng