

Naomi Keefe

Location: **Olinda, BRAZIL**

Mission: **Church-based community development and evangelism**



All of the Easter evangelistic outreaches were very encouraging. The visit to the Catholic Nursing home was really appreciated by both the staff and the elderly folks. It is always wonderful to see the eyes of the ‘adopted Grannies and Grandads’ light up when they see the children from the Good News Club and also the puppets. Many of them just want someone to sit with them and hold their hand as they chat and it is great to see the children learning and adapting to them and also sharing the Good News of Jesus with them. Some of the ‘grannies’ have a simple faith in Jesus and are resting in Him which is also an encouragement to the children. Our theme of Jesus the Good Shepherd based on John 10 and how He wants to be your Shepherd too meant the children were able to use their sheep and wolf/lion puppets! There was lots of “baaing” from the sheep particularly when the lion came!! Lots of fun! 3 nails inside plastic eggs was another strategy we used in evangelism over the Easter period and looking at Max Lucado’s book ‘He chose the nails’.



Football evangelism with nails inside our large egg.

Preparation is under way for using the June festivities of St John the Baptist and St Peter as an opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus using the message of both John and Peter of Repentance and Faith in Jesus.



‘Evangelism tools’ or ‘fishing bait’ as we call them here.

We also hope to tell the story of Jonah bringing in the message of repentance and faith as well. We are on the look-out for a large fish and hope to use both the puppets and drama over this season in both the communities of Beberibe and Peixinhos. Training sessions with the volunteers and Sunday school teachers has also been encouraging and the older young folk are enjoying the iFood with God studies.



Rosa with our iFood box!

One of our young volunteers Emanuella has started on her own initiative to have a small Bible study with some of her friends and neighbours using her “Coffee with God for teens” book. Every evening for a short time they meet together in her house to have “Coffee with God”. The Coffee with God group every other Wednesday has grown and we even have one young mother who has moved to the other side of Olinda but still tries to make it to the Bible Study arriving by bus straight from after work.

Prayer points:

- Give thanks for the encouraging evangelistic events and opportunities held over the Easter period.
- Continue to pray for all the evangelistic activities in the communities of Peixinhos and Beberibe and for energy for all the volunteers. Pray too for some more volunteers to help.
- Pray for the ongoing training sessions using Sam Doherty’s book on ‘The Principles of Teaching as a starting point for the sessions.
- Pray too that the PCI website, which folks in Brazil including myself and the partner church here have been unable to access since early Sept 2024, will soon be available to us again.