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| *"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."* Luke 2:10 (NIV) |

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The Good News of Jesus Christ starts out as an announcement. It is an announcement for all people. God “sends” angels, prophets, witnesses to reveal the Son of God, Jesus Christ. That revelation is for all nations.

The Cumberland Presbyterian (CP) Church is announcing Jesus Christ to the most populated country in South America, the sixth largest in the world, the amazing country of Brazil. For many decades there was only one CP church in Brazil located outside the town Mata de São João but this is changing. There are now three CP missions. Japan Presbytery started Mata de São João fifty years ago as a ministry to Japanese immigrants who moved into the Brazilian countryside to farm. The church is in a beautiful building in the countryside about 30 minutes outside of Mata de São João.

It has always been our vision to expand in Brazil beyond one church…

it is happening! The town of Mata de São João has approximately 50,000 people. It is about an hour and a half from the large city of Salvador, Brazil. Living Word CP Church was established two years ago as a second mission in Mata de São João. Living Word meets in a small rented store front with 60 to 70 people in attendance. The new church development has a Sunday night worship service as well as weekly activities for children and youth. The Rev. Carlos Santos and his wife Priscilla, a candidate for the ministry, pastor both the organized church and the Living Word mission. Our missionaries, the Rev. Josue Guerrero and his wife Sara help with the new mission.

This year, we would like to challenge the Cumberland Presbyterian Church to help announce good news of great joy. We hope to raise $100,000 (US) to build a new CP church in Brazil. That is a great deal of money. This Gift to the King Offering is going to be a real step of faith. Your donation this year to the Gift to the King Offering will go to the Living Word new church development in Brazil. We would like to move the mission out of their store front (it is too small) and build a permanent church in the town of Mata de São João.

As we live in the blessings of the angels’ announcement, let us be mindful that this announcement is for “all the people.” Help the CPs in Brazil continue to proclaim this Good News.

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