



From the desk of  
**Missionary**  
**Mike Ryan**  
 MacTrips Coordinator



working with



**SENDING CHURCH:**  
 Hillcrest Baptist Church  
 6069 Woodstock Rd.  
 Acworth, GA 30102

January 2019

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas. December was quite for my ministry. I did preach one Sunday night at my home church, Hillcrest Baptist.

We got together with some friends for a small Christmas party and our church choir gave an amazing performance on December 18th. Our church sponsors some less fortunate families with children at the Elementary school that is across the street from our church.

Our College and Career Sunday school class got together to sponsor one of the families that has two young girls. Erika really enjoyed shopping for the two girls. If we have a granddaughter one day, I am going to be broke.

We decided, as a family, to go to Gatlinburg, Tennessee for Christmas this year. It was the first Christmas without my mom. It just would have been too hard to be at home without her. Our boys were with us for a couple of days then they had to head home to spend time with their girlfriends and their families. We were amazed by the number of people that go to Gatlinburg for Christmas. It was pretty crowded up there.

Just before Christmas we lost a very good friend, Brother Thom Stapleton. I met Brother Thom and his wife Aline in 2012 when they began to attend my church after Thom retired from pastoring. Five years ago, two of my friends and I started going to Thom and Aline's on Tuesday nights for Bible study. We learned a lot from Brother Thom. He had a vast knowledge of the Bible and He loved to teach. We often talked about how he thought that God brought him to Hillcrest Baptist Church to teach us. We miss him very much already. I have found myself, many times, having a question and thinking I should call Thom because he would tell me where to find the answer. Then I remember, he is with the Lord now. I know that when Thom met the Lord for the first time he heard "Well done thy good and faithful servant".

Mac Trips has been invited to go to Brazil to help Brother Jay Ross with VBS and a Youth Day in October of 2019. They are expecting about 150 children. This will be an exciting and very busy trip. If anyone is interested in being part of the team please contact me as soon as possible.

I pray that 2019 brings all of you good health and many blessings.

God Bless You,  
 Michael Ryan



Bro. Thom Stapleton

Points Of Interest



**MacTrip Brazil**  
**Coming**  
**October 2019**

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