

from our covenant God, who is not only able but also willing, as a faithful Father, to provide for all our needs.

Thank you for all the photos and newsletters we received from family and friends. It is very enjoyable and appreciated. May our heavenly Father grant you His blessing in the year 2019.

From the Janssen family



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# The New Ter Aard News

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**English Edition**

Dear Family and Friends,

Well, another year has passed. What a blessed year it has been for our family. January first we were introduced to a very special person. Alice (pronounced Ah-lee-see) Tainara from Brazil! On March 19<sup>th</sup>, we got the video call! They were engaged!!!! What a surprise!

Then, on April 17<sup>th</sup>, Darren and Katriena had a second girl: Caitlyn Leanne. My mom, Juliana, Hannah and I were able to visit and witness Caitlyn's baptism.

Then summer came. And along with summer came the planning for a wedding: Roelf Kars and Alice's. It was to take place in Brazil.





The day was set, passports updated, visas applied for, and tickets booked. And so August 15<sup>th</sup> came and we left with the whole Neerlandia family to go to Brazil. What an

amazing trip. Never in our whole life have we experienced something like that. It was amazing travelling half way around the world by plane with the whole family. And one person in particular was VERY excited. As Juliana put it, “Roelf Kars had a smile as big as the river, and could not sit still for anything. He even said he wanted to scream.” A 45 hour trip seemed daunting at first but we so thoroughly enjoyed it we would love to do it again. It was always comical to see the Brazilian vendors treat us, or rather invade us, like “tourists” and then all of a sudden this tall blond fellow starts speaking their own language – perhaps these “tourists” won’t be so gullible!!! Well, in any case we made it to Brazil safely. And what a grand land that is.

\*\*\* Maria wrote our news letter this year but please allow me, Theresa, to write a few comments about our trip to Brazil. It truly was an amazing experience. Firstly, the church people took us in like family. We felt truly humbled in finding fellow believers with such a zeal for serving the LORD. We also experienced a measure of complacency but despite this we saw God doing an amazing work in Brazil. Secondly, we experienced a new culture. The frustration of not being able to communicate with words to those with whom you so want to share fellowship was very real. But it also spurred us on to learn a new language, even though that is progressing very slowly. Being locked behind house gates, dangerous streets, high tech malls, mid city garbage dumps, street dogs, squatters, Brazilian style driving, it was all part of what we

### **Hannah age 10**

Hannah loves her dolls, cats, and rabbits. She also loves reading, and would do it all night long if she could. This fall she took on a new project: Crocheting. She really likes that, and has completed a blanket!

### **Marnix age 8**

Marnix. What is there to say! He is still the baby in the family, although we do have nieces now!!!! He loves having them over, and is more like a friend to them, then an uncle. He is also working very hard at school, and enjoys learning to read and write!!! He plays with play mobile a lot, and enjoys watching his older two brothers create things out of lego or k’nex, some of which he can help with.



*Hannah & Marnix*

\*\*\* My turn (Theresa’s) to finish this news letter. God has certainly granted us a blessed year. There was work for our hands and food for our table. Every Sunday we could hear the preaching of God’s word to strengthen us in our faith. Travelling mercies abounded as Roelof spent many hours travelling, as well as family related travels (out west to visit the girls, out east to visit parents, and down south to Brazil). We were able to raise chickens and turkeys, plant a garden and harvest food for the winter. Our children and offspring are in good health and we have the anticipation of receiving the Lord willing two new grandchildren (Roelf Kars & Alice, and Darren & Katriena). We humbly receive these blessings



## Michael age 14

Michael got his learners this spring, and now loves driving to music lessons! He is taking piano and cello lessons, and even played in the festival this year! He is still busy milking the cow, and doing things around the house for his parents and his siblings. He is working very hard at his school, and has had many late evenings with Hinne, trying to figure out unanswered questions! He also made the little ones, (and himself) very happy by buying a quad this fall! Now he can take the children for rides!!! - Even though its use was to help get work done.

## Lodewyk age 12

Lodewyk had one of his dreams fulfilled this year! He got his hunting license!!!! It took a lot of dedicated studying and a lot of



*Michael, Roelf Kars, Marnix, Alice, Lodewyk, Hinne*

Hinne's help, but he finally got it!!! Then it was on to buying hunting tickets, and then on to hunting. He has gotten lots of grouse, hunting with his friend, Brant DeRudder, who even showed him how to prepare the meat!!! He is taking oboe and organ lessons, and likes it! He is working very hard at his school work, and often has his math done before breakfast!

saw and experienced. At one point Juliana wanted to take a walk along the streets just to see what there was to see, so some of the friends took her around the block. That was enough!!! It was scary. People, no, not just people, scary people, camping-living-luring on the streets. It was not a place to be. Lodewyk also always wanted to see what was out there on the streets but he would be roughly grabbed by the scruff of his neck and locked behind bars with a stern warning to stay inside. It was so different than home.

But we also experienced freedom. We spent a week in Brasolandia, a Dutch colony, and reveled in the fellowship and freedom. No gates, no bars, little traffic. Farming territory on red soil. Daily swimming, in the pool or at the lake. Sunshine, fresh fruit picked right off the trees, and speaking Dutch in Brazil!!! Amazing. It all was wonderful.

A very special memory of Brazil is that Pake Bootsma and Uncle Michael joined us. That will truly never be forgotten. To have our 81 year old grandfather sign the marriage certificate of one of his grandchildren was a blessing of our heavenly Father.

We thought this trip would be a "once in a lifetime" experience, but ties were forged that will certainly pull us together again sometime, the Lord willing. \*\*\*



*Roelf Kars, Maria, Hinne, Pake Hinne*



*Becky, Beppe Theresa, Lydia, Tianna, Opa Roelof, Caitlyn*

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, we were blessed with another addition to our family. Becky Marianna, daughter to Martin and Paulina. Both my parents went to Telkwa to visit and to witness the baptism. And because the Young People's in Smithers had organized a time of study and fellowship for Young People societies, Hinne was also able to travel to Smithers, with Michael along as a travelling companion.

### **Hinne age 20**

Hinne is almost finished with his shop!!! He had a lot of help from his siblings. Michael helped him a lot, and even Juliana, Lodewyk, Hannah, and Marnix helped with painting. Hinne enjoyed travelling to Brazil, going swimming and hanging out with a bunch of guys from the church. He got in some Portuguese speaking practice! One thing that put a damper on things was that on the way home, he lost his voice! Amazing that that can happen in such a hot country! Hinne has also taken on a new responsibility: correcting everyone's math books. This leads to him sitting by the kitchen table after work, correcting. Sometimes it ends up with him

chewing his pencil, when he can't figure out what went wrong!

### **Juliana age 18**

It's been a busy year for Juliana. Her best friend got married in August and she had the privilege to be her Maid of Honour. That also meant helping out on lots of preparations. This fall Juliana helped a local farmer with harvesting. She enjoyed driving the combine, although some days were quite long. After that, she started her new job working for Popular Ridge, a cabinetry shop. It's



*Juliana, Theresa, Maria*

a new experience which she enjoys. She gave our neighbour girls piano lessons this fall, and really enjoyed that as well! Life is full of blessings. Juliana is also still taking organ and viola lessons.

### **Maria age 16 (written by her mother)**

The big event in Maria's life was achieving her driver's license. That is BIG news. Even though growing up has its challenges she continues to enjoy many things: playing piano, crafting, barn chores, visiting friends. Maria continues to be a person always willing to help out, which sometimes means there are too many things to do and hard to get it done. Yet she managed to do a major cleanup job in her bedroom and the result is amazing. Congratulations.