



Marcio Ciechanovicz and Noemi Celeti

Update from the Edges 3 | November 2025



Location: Brazil



What we do: Connecting with people beyond the reach of traditional church, sharing the gospel in new ways and ministering to people's physical needs



Discovering creative ways to share the hope of Jesus with people

Dear friends,

We're thrilled to bring the latest updates from Indaiatuba to you, and to share stories of other CMS work too. We hope that you'll be as encouraged as we were to read about CMS's 1,000th pioneer mission student. CMS's Pioneer Mission Training is equipping people to respond creatively to the Holy Spirit beyond the boundaries of traditional church. The stories of people dreaming up new ways to help others connect with God is so inspiring. We're excited to share how CMS people in mission around the world are making a real difference.

At DuPark, our 'open air' church in Indaiatuba, we have seen so many people connecting with God in different ways this year. Over the past months we celebrated Brazilian Father's Day, and in September we chose to focus on the themes of mental health and Spring.

Spring has arrived here and storm weather has begun in Indaiatuba. After weeks without rain the ground was parched, the air crackling dry and the tree branches seemed to be swinging in despair. This time of year, swaths of hot tropical air meet receding cool clouds and this mix often brings torrential rain, clashes of thunder and lightning, and unexpected storms.

One such storm hit unexpectedly in September, ripping off roofs, downing electric posts, toppling gates, dropping hail and cutting off electric power for a couple of days in some neighbourhoods. Driving around Indaiatuba just a few hours after the storm left me flabbergasted at the number of trees toppled over, ripped from their positions, webs of roots turned up and exposed. It made me think about how trees sometimes appear to be so strong on the outside and yet if their root structure is unwell, or the tree is diseased, it cannot weather a storm.

Doesn't this make you reflect about being rooted in our faith, and how important it is for us to grow? One of the aims of our work with CMS, at DuPark, is to help people experience God where they are, and to grow in their faith. Sometimes people have immediate experiences with God, and for others, growth seems to happen gradually, over time.

Let me tell you about Gabriela, a girl who was dramatically impacted by meeting God at the park. Those who



Many people are overjoyed receiving free books. One lady received her first Bible at our book stall.

**Support CMS partners discovering
creative ways to share the hope of Jesus:**
churchmissionsociety.org/bringhope

**With Jesus
With each other
To the edges**



saw her arrive would say that Gabriela looked like a typical 14-year-old teenager. She wore a flowered dress and had long hair, and a very shy manner. As she and her mum approached the DuPark event, you could see in her face that she was experiencing some confusing internal conflict.

They were welcomed, and seated at a table. Someone came and offered them cake and coffee. Then, some teenage girls called Gabriela to the craft table. As one of our volunteers started chatting with her mum, she started opening her heart. Gabriela had been suffering from severe anxiety and had not eaten for three days. In an effort to distract her daughter, this distraught mum had gone to Indaiatuba for the afternoon. They were walking around the Ecological Park, when someone invited them to join us.

Gabriela tentatively joined the girls, did some beautiful collage crafts, and chatted to one of our teenage volunteers. Later she approached the literature booth, and was overjoyed that she could take a book home, on how to become a daughter of God! Two of our senior citizens at the book stall talked to her about Jesus, and offered to pray with her. "Can you teach me to pray?" Gabriela asked them when they finished. With a changed countenance, and her heart at peace, she was able to eat the food and enjoy the rest of her time there. How amazing to see God at work, bringing someone who desperately needed his touch, to meet Jesus in a tangible way, feeling his love through the DuPark project.

That very same day, another lady was offered a free bottle of water. "Would you like some refreshment?" one of our team members asked her. This lady took the water, and as tears streamed down her face, she said, "I just returned from visiting my son in prison, and I was just thinking, God I need some refreshment!". Small gestures, but God uses them to meet people in their need.

We have been reminded that growth comes slowly, and sometimes in ways that we cannot imagine. We shared earlier in the year, about our neighbour, Isabel, who started volunteering with us and was learning about God's love. Although we invited Isabel for Bible studies, she said she didn't understand, and "seeing so many Bibles made her nervous". So, we gave her a very easy-to-read devotional.

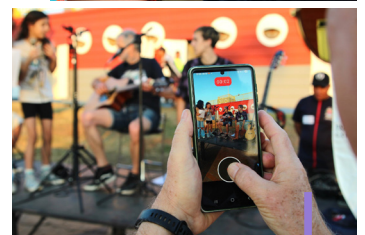
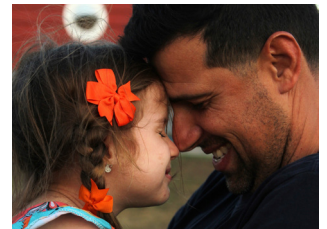
Isabel has felt loved and cared for by members of our DuPark community. Some have visited, others have taken her shopping, bought bread for her and some have offered her meals. A few weeks ago, she dropped by for a cup of coffee, and her face had such an expression of peace. She said, "I have been reading the devotional, and I am increasingly in love with Jesus. I know I am more and more a part of God's Kingdom! And that makes me very happy."

As we encounter these people on the margins of society, dealing with mental health issues, some lonely, and so many feel so distant from church. Thank you for contributing, praying, and supporting us in being a presence in the Ecological Park of Indaiatuba. God is at work and may we all continue to grow in our faith and see people around the world continue to experience God in their lives!

Please pray with us:

- ▶ Thank God for the work he is doing in Isabel's life
- ▶ Praise God for the transformation he has begun in Gabriella's life and pray for her and her mum to continue getting to know Jesus
- ▶ Ask God to grant us the wisdom and patience we need to walk with many people struggling with mental health issues

The Ciechanovicz Family



Photos from top to bottom: A clown at DuPark brings smiles to the children's faces; Children make a collage with flowers, leaves and seeds gathered in the park; Games and races bring families together for Father's Day; Someone snaps a photo of our youngest musician getting ready to sing.



Discovering creative ways to share the hope of Jesus

It's so encouraging to hear news from other CMS partners sharing the hope of Jesus with people not yet connected to churches. In the UK, CMS's Pioneer Mission Training programme is equipping people to respond creatively to the Holy Spirit beyond the boundaries of traditional church. Read more and get inspired by other stories of hope at churchmissionsociety.org/bringhope

Please note that opinions expressed in updates are those of mission partners, not necessarily of Church Mission Society.

If you would like to discuss your mailings with us or to receive this update on a regular basis, please email supporter.care@churchmissionsociety.org or call 01865 787400. Church Mission Society is a Registered Company No. 6985330 and Registered Charity No. 1131655 (England and Wales) and SC047163 (Scotland).