



John Larsen <theclaw56@gmail.com>

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## Brasil June 20, 2011

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Phillip Larsen <phillip.larsen@myldsmail.net>

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To: John@larsen-family.us, joyce@larsen-family.us, Anki Larsen <shadrach.anki@gmail.com>, Bradford Larsen <brad.larsen@gmail.com>, Julia Larsen <julia@larsen-family.us>

Querida Familia,

I think I will just put a date on the title of the email instead of number of weeks because that is too difficult to keep track of. Haha..

So we moved, and mom I do not know the address of the house, or the street name, or the address of the church. There are not any street signs. You can find it though, the church, by going to LDS.org and look up where the church buildings are. Then after that, go past the church a little and down a street, not the street with the cell phone tower, and on the right side of the street, with a green house with 2 numbers, (I don't know how old the pictures will be) that is our new house! The numbers are in the 3000's

The move really took out the momentum of the week. We were really thrown out of schedule this week and it was hard to get to bed on time and wake up on time. Our house is always not having water. We have it in the morning for a little, and sometimes in the evening. The previous owners of the house, members who now live in the other ward, said they never had a shortage of water. We live in the highest part of the city though, so I don't know.

One sister in the ward and her family always attend church and recently her husband, a nonmember, has been attending. This past week we went to their house and watched Joseph Smith: Prophet of the Restoration with them. It was really cool. I really love the ward here and I am glad that I have the chance to still serve here for 4 more weeks at the minimum. He wasn't at church this past Sunday though because he was sick. Their family is really cool though.

This past Saturday we were going to have another Baptism, but it didn't happen because he didn't show up at the time we had set but it was for the better. At the church was a stake activity which was really cool. The youth of the stake prepared cultural dances and there was a cadrillian? Is that something to do with dances, or with food? Anyways it was cool to be there. It was also funny to think that I was the

only American there. Jamerson came an hour later and we rescheduled to have him baptized on Sunday and it happened, but then he went home before Sacrament Meeting because he was tired... bleah... that is the second time that has happened.

I've had some "Woah!" experiences this past week. I was in the kitchen getting something out of the fridge, and then Elder Alonso walked in and said something in Portuguese, and I understood it, then I said something back in Portuguese without thinking really, and he understood what I said and then walked out of the kitchen. I then had the thought about how cool it is, that I am in Brasil right now, living with Brazilians, and speaking Portuguese every day, having conversations in Portuguese. It was a weird but cool feeling. As my abilities with Portuguese have been getting better, it has been less intimidating communicating with people and it gets easier to grow.

About the Monkey, since we moved we don't live nearby, but we saw it last P-day and we ran to the house to get our cameras, but when we got back, it had gone into a tree. Turns out that the person at the home owns it. She was in front of the house, so we asked if we could take a picture of it but it wouldn't come out of the tree, so we'll stop by later. I thought it was funny how we asked "can we take a picture with your monkey?"

About Sunscreen mom, I have been using it on my face, my arms got burned yesterday, and I haven't been using my umbrella while walking lately. We walk in the shade though in the streets. The sunscreen has stained some of my shirts on the insides of the collars and on the ends of the sleeves. Trying to be good though!

A lot of our appointments fell through this week, but we are determined to do better next week!

We're going to go fly kites at the church later today. Elder Alonso is really good at it, and did it in São Paulo before the mission. I can only remember a few times flying kites back home. One was at mutual, where Sister Scott had given a talk about how it is always a blue sky above the clouds. This was before Stanford passed away, or maybe after? I can't remember that exactly but we were running with the kites in the parking lot. The other time is way back when, maybe I remember a movie of us flying a kite, at Roby park. I probably wasn't even born yet. But I'll fly a kite today, so that'll be fun.

I'll have more to write next time. This past week was a bit unorganized. I love you all very much and I am glad to hear that you're doing well. Talk to you later next week!

Love,

Elder Phillip Larsen

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About another package mom: Yes that would be awesome to send the emails from them in packages, but that could probably add up over time. When I print out emails I make the text pretty small and make it take up as little paper as possible so it is cheaper.. hah I am "mão da vacca." (Hand of the cow) Also, my micron drawing pens, I only brought a blue one with me and I wouldn't mind having the other 5 colors in that package that I got for christmas a while back. I don't know if you can find them in my room though O\_o As I think about other stuff, I'll let you know. I still have not recieved the package.

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