



Dave and Dee Alei
Ambassadors for Jesus Christ

guaymas, SONORA

www.lifeline-ministries.net

"Releasing the Church in His power, touching the world with His love"

September 30, 2007

Dear Friends,

This summer brought many experiences into our lives – those of countless joy, unimaginable grief and everything in between. We added a special member to the family with Justin's August marriage to Sarah Keddilty in Wales, but lost another precious family member when Dee's mom (and one of her best friends over the last 30 years) passed away unexpectedly in September. *We want to express our heartfelt thanks to the many folks who recently emailed, called, and sent cards or e-cards to share kind words and condolences with us.* We were incredibly touched by the overwhelming show of love and support. Your love brought strength and encouragement to us during a very difficult time.

Youth Center Furnishings - June

In late June, Mike and Jon Michael Weaver drove to Nogales, AZ with a borrowed trailer, met Dave there, and picked up all the youth center furnishings that had been stored there since April, and brought them down to Guaymas. This was such a blessing because we really didn't know how we were going to get the furnishings the rest of the way down here. *A HUGE thanks to you guys for your sacrificial gift and servant hearts. It was so good to see you both and to have the opportunity to show you around!!*



Dave with the boys sampling our local cuisine ... and that's lemonade, not margaritas!

Youth Center Property Secured – Early July

At the very end of June, it became apparent that the old house on the highway through town that we had waited so patiently for through the winter and spring was a "no-go".

We learned that the owner owed more than (the equivalent of) \$10,000 USD in back property taxes and several thousand more in unpaid utility bills with accompanying fines for non-payment. All these debts would have to be paid before the property could be used again. So we were back to square one, looking for a suitable (and affordable) place for the youth center.



Youth Center from the street - formerly, "El Punto" - "The Point"

As we began to look again, an older widow we know named Tina stepped forward and said she had some property we could look at that used to be part of her husband's business. This was in early July, only a few days before we left for England. **It turned out to be in a perfect location, adaptable for our needs (with repairs and some modification), and she gave us a very special rental**

price because she wants to help the youth of Guaymas. This dear, sweet lady even turned away a man who came to her while we were in the UK, offering her double whatever we were paying for rent! She told him she was sorry, but she had already committed it to someone else. And at that point, we had not yet given her any money or signed a lease. We have thanked the Lord profusely for bringing us together with such a lovely woman to be our landlord!! She welcomes a long term arrangement, and we are delighted to be a blessing to her by improving her property in lieu of normal rental rates.



A view of the interior courtyard, soon to be classrooms!

England and Wales Ministry - July/August



Justin and Sarah Alei

Our time in the UK (both ministry and with family) was really wonderful, and we found it rather difficult to leave again. Well, no surprise there! Justin's wedding was a touching event with some hilarious moments (Dave conducted the ceremony), leaving us with many beautiful memories of that day. **Sixteen** members of Dave's family were able to fly to Wales for the wedding. That must be a first somewhere! We are so happy that our children have both found such wonderful mates, and look forward to this new season of our life as in-laws and grandparents.

In addition to Justin's wedding, the two of us conducted a wedding in the UK for another young couple, Anthony and Rebecca. We also hosted a night of worship and intercession, held a seminar that continued with the theme, "Kingdom Thinking in a Religious World", and ministered in various churches. *Heartfelt thanks to Liz and Barry for giving us a key and making us feel part of the family. You two are precious beyond words, and we count it an honor to be your friends. Thanks to Peter and Becca for you-know-what! And to Chris & Alan, and Douglas & Sue - for all your hard work, hospitality, and help with various things - we also offer sincere thanks. Chris, we especially want to thank you for cheerfully bailing us out and offering to do much more than we would have ever asked. Geoff, many thanks for the way you stepped in to help as well. And to the entire Tyler/Seymour clan, we extend our appreciation once again for allowing us to be part of your very special day, and for blessing us abundantly in so many different ways.*

We collected all of our baggage upon returning to Mexico, which was a miracle, and then launched back into some things that were waiting for immediate attention here ... like renewing our visas for another year, weed-whacking the 4 foot tall grass and weeds on our front terraces, and going through over 500 emails that had come in during our absence. *Many thanks to Helen Wherrett for house sitting here in MX and taking care of Lacey while we were gone. We can't thank you enough for your help, Helen!*

Update on Some Personal Things

While we were in the UK, it rained 9 times and several more times immediately after we returned. Through this, we discovered that our concrete roof still leaks like a sieve all over the house despite all our efforts to fix it! Then, in early September, while Dee was gone for her

mother's funeral, Hurricane Henrietta came right over Guaymas and Dave mopped up 30 gallons of water (that he couldn't catch in other containers!) from inside the house during the hurricane. We try not to worry about the damage from each bad storm, but it is getting to the point where we feel we *must* do something to take care of the situation. Water gets into the wiring and light fixtures, and we continually have to fix and replace things damaged by the water. Some things we've lost are irreplaceable. **We are currently looking at various options and appreciate your prayers for wisdom, guidance and provision.**

Another item of note, and one that many of you have asked for an update about, is that of the legal problem which arose out of the blue in March concerning our land. It is the piece of land which is our front yard, entire driveway, and only access to water. We are now working with a lawyer (the brother-in-law of one our pastor friends) who is helping us put some things in place to work towards a solution to this situation. However, it won't happen quickly. We have already been working on it for 7 months and it appears it will go on for at least another year before there is any kind of resolution. **Meanwhile, we greatly appreciate your continued prayers for this situation.** We have been assured through the people in the system here that the end result will be in our favor, but much of our experience so far has demonstrated otherwise. We need divine favor, intervention, and justice.

Youth Center Progress



Ready for a trip to the dump!

We had a work day with a group of young people at the youth center property the first of September. We hauled out lots of rubbish to the dump and got things ready for the "restoring, repairing and construction" stage.

We'll have to replace plumbing and electrical throughout, construct a new roof on part of it, construct a counter, sink and work area for the coffee house, repair the roof on other parts of it, construct walls and add doors and windows to make secure classrooms and a

computer center, remodel an office, add

fixtures back to what used to be the bathrooms, and paint the outside brick walls on two sides which will proclaim the youth center to those on the streets. At this time, we have water but are still trying to get the electricity turned on. We are also getting estimates for the brick and roof work (too heavy for us to do now that we are older), hoping to

find reliable people that will do a good job for a reasonable price. The rest of the work we will be doing ourselves.



Dee takes inventory.

We know we have several months' worth of work ahead (perhaps as much as four or five) before we will be able to open the doors of the youth center. **We appreciate so much your ongoing prayers for this project as we work towards making the youth center a reality!**

Working with Groups of Youth

Our Friday night leadership group, with kids from around the city and from various churches, is still small but potent. We've only met for a few months, and already one young woman has realized she has a call on her life as a pastor and has left to go to Bible school. The others are growing in confidence and assurance that God can and will use them also, as they make themselves available to Him. We see them becoming dissatisfied with past mediocrity and complacency, pressing into God more fervently, with a desire to be filled with Holy Spirit and walk in His Spirit in their daily lives. This Friday, we will be driving up to the top of radio tower mountain to pray for the cities of Guaymas and Empalme (which can be seen easily from there), instead the regular meeting in our home. The couple we get together with weekly to pray for the city will also be going with us.

We also continue to work with the youth from the Miramar church, helping as we are able and have time. A fair number have now gone off to university in Hermosillo, Obregon or Mázatlan. We're excited to see them pursuing their goals, but we don't get to see them as frequently, and our relationships have become more distant. It's sad for us, but we pray that, in the short time we had to get to know some of these kids, we were able to deposit something of eternal value that will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

Closing Thoughts

We remember an old Michael W. Smith song from the 90's which shared these words – "Friends are friends forever if the Lord's the Lord of them." We have certainly found that to be true in our own walk with God so far. We realize that we are not unique, but we feel like the most blessed folks on earth, because we have so many precious friends like you!!

We pray the Lord will pour back into your lives in much greater measure than you have poured into ours through your love and support. And that He will multiply your resources (His in you) – of time, energy, finances, faith, encouragement, compassion, strength, wisdom, and agape love - so that you can bless others and touch their lives even as you have so graciously touched ours. 🙌

We love you dearly,

Dave and *Dee*



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