

GUAYMAS NEWS

Lifeline Ministries in Sonora, Mexico

Dave and Dee Alei



Dear Friends,

MANY apologies for falling behind in communication over recent months! Between the big push in the spring to get the youth center open finally, and then managing operations since it opened in May ... on top of everything else ... we have found ourselves struggling to get the newsletter out and even to keep up with emails. Thank you for your patience and graciousness!!

This Month...

The last newsletter (in May) was all about the opening of the youth center, so we missed the opportunity to share other news from the spring. Therefore, we will backtrack a little, and include some of the spring news and photos in this newsletter.



The children of Ortiz enjoying the day



Everyone had a super time, and we left Ortiz tired but tremendously blessed, as we remembered the faces of the precious children whom the Lord had touched in such a special way.

Christmas Shoebox Distribution

The second 2011 Christmas shoebox distribution and ministry to children took place as part of a "Children's Day" celebration, a holiday here in Mexico. This time we went to the pueblo of Ortiz (about 45 minutes south of Guaymas), a place we had never done a shoebox distribution before. We once again worked together with one of the local churches to provide a day of fun, food, and ministry to some of the most impoverished children in the area. The day included face painting, group games, puppets, kids' praise music with choreographed dance, an evangelistic drama for children and distribution of not only the shoeboxes and stuffed animals, but also distribution of Bibles and other Christian materials for the parents who came with their children.



Thanks again to ALL who contributed to this project by preparing shoeboxes, buying stuffed animals, storing, coordinating or driving them down here!!

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Preaching, Teaching, Counseling and Prophetic Ministry - Spring/Summer

Now that our Spanish has gotten better, we are being asked to minister more through counseling, preaching, teaching and prophetic ministry. In the spring we filled in for a Mexican pastor while he was out of town and then for an American pastor in San Carlos in June. That was particularly fun because we were able to minister in English again!

During Carnival, we joined with a large group of young people for a night of warfare -evangelistic-prophetic prayer. What an incredible night! It was so touching to see how the Lord moved through the young people to pray for the people of our city! We also helped to lead a youth retreat over a weekend for one of the local churches. One of the evenings, we prayed for and ministered prophetically to 25 individuals over the course of 5 hours. One of the highlights during the retreat was their time in the desert. We sent them into the desert early one morning to spend one full hour alone with the Lord and their Bible. At the end of that time, we all came back together and different ones shared their experiences, and what the Lord spoke to their hearts during that time. It was powerful! What they were sharing was awesome, and so transparent (not easy for Mexicans). And because they were so excited about what had happened during their time alone with the Lord, almost every young person there wanted to share - even the most shy and timid ones. God is so good!!

We began some months ago teaching God's Eternal Plan to a large youth group on Saturday afternoons. While we did this as an 8 week class in the regional training center in England, we are taking much more time with the young people. It is going to end up being more like an 8 month class! Lol.

Dave was asked to teach in a local Bible School in San Carlos again, on Moses' Tabernacle and on Worship. He really enjoyed his time with these students, as it is a group that we would not normally see or have the opportunity with whom to work. Even though the school is over in San Carlos (Gringo-ville), it is trying to reach Mexicans who are involved in ministry from the mountainous areas and places where they do not have opportunity for teaching and training.



More folks have been coming for counseling in recent months also, mainly young people. So we have had some precious times counseling on everything from boyfriend problems to sexuality and gender identity issues. We appreciate your covering and prayers as people come to us with these issues however, because the language is still a limitation. It can be frustrating for them when they are trying to share something deeply painful in their life and we don't quite understand because of the language barrier! And we are well aware of how carefully we must tread as we respond, so as not to create more hurt ... and the language barrier is always a challenge. Thanks so much for keeping us in your prayers!

Conéctate

We are still meeting with the Conéctate leadership team for 3 hours on Friday nights - teaching, imparting, releasing and preparing them for ministry. It was really precious to our hearts one night recently when one of the team members spoke for all the rest, to say how much this has meant to them - that we would take so much time and give so much to them, instead of focusing on building a big ministry here. Truthfully, some of these young people are now well beyond where some of the local pastors are, in terms of understanding God's heart, mind, will, and purposes, and ministering out of that understanding!! The time with them has been a great blessing to us also. They have been an incredible group with whom to work!

The success with the team has brought about a new development, however, and we appreciate your prayers as we seek the Lord for His guidance and direction. Four of this leadership team have been made youth pastors in their churches, and subsequently dropped out because they could not keep up with the demands of work, school, being youth leaders in their churches, and giving up their Friday nights for Conéctate meetings also. Then one young lady who used to be a shy loner came out of her shell so much that she arranged to be part of an exchange program and has gone off to Canada for the next year -at age 16! Another young man who was a key part of the team, felt this summer that the Lord was leading him to go to Bible College. So he left for Hermosillo last week! Others have now finished school and had to take jobs in other cities. So, most of the real leaders on the team are now gone. There is just a handful left, none of whom seem to feel the impetus to continue with the Conéctate event. We appreciate your prayers as we seek the Lord about where He wants to go with this now, for His plan and direction for Conéctate and for this group of young people.

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Visión Juvenil - July

One of the local pastors asked us to take a group of youth to El Paso for the annual Vino Nuevo youth conference, called Visión Juvenil. We had taken groups to Vision

We were able to take an afternoon while the kids were in workshops to visit with our dear friends, Eddy and Carole, whom we have known

for 16 years and who now live in El Paso.

That time was a real blessing for us! Many thanks to these guys for donating some equipment that we brought back with us also! We were likewise able to have a couple of short, but precious, visits with our friends,

Bryan and Alexis, as

we passed through Las Cruces, NM. Heartfelt thanks to them for helping us out with a tarp and bungee cords to cover the donated equipment so that it would not get wet in the summer thunderstorms! We were really glad for their help later in the trip!

Juvenil in 2007 and 2008, when it was in Juarez, Chihuahua, but had not been since. Because of all the violence in Juarez, it has now been moved across the river to a sister church. So ... a van was rented, and we set off for El Paso with 8 teenagers and one of the moms to help chaperone! It was an interesting group, not youth with whom we normally work. It was primarily a group of kids from well-to-do families, kids who normally stay on the fringe because they are not all that interested in God stuff. Some were only going because their parents forced them. But the Lord brought much grace, and we believe it was a life-changing trip for ALL. Several were impacted tremendously, others were impacted somewhat less, but all were touched and changed in some way by our mighty God!



Youth Center

We have not seen as much use of the youth center this summer as we had hoped. We know part of it is the heat and humidity, as much of the youth center is outdoors. It is under cover, but it is still terribly hot and humid.



Even the part indoors is hot, because we have not had funds to insulate well enough for the A/C's to make a difference so we're unable to use them. But it is also clear that

we have not been able to get the word out to the young people around the city as extensively as is needed. We have tried several means, but none has accomplished what we had hoped to date. We appreciate your prayers as we seek to get the word out more fully, and as we continue to ask the Lord to send us some dependable, responsible folks to help. This is a great need also. Thanks!!



AUG. 31, 2011



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Update on Pastors

The Lord is doing a precious work among the pastors of the local ministerial alliance. A new president took office recently, and he is one of the ones with a little more revelation of God's heart and where He wants to lead the Alianza. We are seeing more transparency, more sharing with one another, and more of a focus on relationship and praying for the city than the previous focus ... which had degenerated to planning citywide events together. On an individual level, we see the Lord working also. For example, one pastor, who was really caught up in a lot of control and in trying to do big things for God, has lost half his church and several satellite churches they had tried to plant in other cities. Through all this, God has brought a brokenness and a humility, and a seeking after HIM instead of seeking to do great things FOR Him. It's incredibly touching what God is doing here, and a real answer to prayer!



Winning team at a pastors fun day

In Closing...

We deeply appreciate all of the love and support that we receive through your prayers, emails, notes, phone calls, financial contributions, and all the many ways you show it! THANK YOU for standing with us through our six years here in Mexico. We could not have done it without you!! And thank you for continuing to stand with us until the Lord says our time here is completed.

We look forward to co-laboring together more with you in the days ahead, for His kingdom to come on this earth as it is in heaven. We sense that as knowledge multiplies and increases, as the biblical signs of the last days continue to become more prevalent, and as things seem to be moving morally and politically towards possible tribulation and persecution, it is imperative that we continue to work together "as every joint supplies", with our eyes upon Jesus, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. May His joy be yours in abundance, precious friends!

We love you dearly,


Dave & Dee



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