

## Hola from Guaymas

Oh my, it's been way too long since I have written. A whole season has gone by. Let's see what I can fit in one letter!

### Weather

Like most, I think, we have had a colder than normal winter. But these days we have pretty much transitioned from sweater weather to "bring me a fan & some ice water".

### In the News

- I have to say that it's sad when the majority of what we hear for news is cartel crime & people disappearing. But there are good things happening. Like new restaurants, water system repairs & wage increases. People rescue animals & get involved with various charities. While there always seems to be reason to complain & be fearful, the beauty of my surroundings & the people I choose to spend time with far outweighs the negative press!

### Little Things that Count (Or not so little things)

- When I didn't have a car, so many kind people gave me rides. And then there were those whose long distance kindness of prayers & funds were a great encouragement to me! Thank you!
- Brad was my car expert and did so much to help me get a reliable car. He asked questions & saw things that would never have been on my radar.
- Now I'm without a washing machine & again, kind people have volunteered to wash clothes for me & help get the machine fixed.
- Donations big and small helped make Christmas special for our prison girls – thank you!

### On My Calendar

#### What's been Happening?

- The season of visiting teams at **Street Church** is winding down. I was blessed by a message that reminded me that we all want to belong & that's what Jesus offers us. Accepting Him as Lord means we belong in His family. May we be those who include others!
- January brought an **Optical team** from Illinois. I love translating for this team! As they bring the gift of better vision, their goal is to present the gift of salvation to each person who comes. And God blesses that!
- **Tamales for Christmas** at the Prison turned into a party for all. I loved the Christmas story skit the girls did & the joy in giving them all a cold weather package. As it turns out, gloves and blankets are needed in Mexico!
- We were able to do our own **Optical clinic in the prison!**
- I was involved with our **English Bible study** as a facilitator. But I also had the fun job of leading some ice-breaker games – watching women discover interests that connect them blesses my heart.
- It was also fun to get our **scholarship** recipients together for "coffee" & listen to their concerns, joys & what God is teaching them.

#### Upcoming:

- **Street Church & a meal** God continues to bring us new guests & the regulars. As Street Church on Saturday morning is more outreach in nature, it's always encouraging when the guests ask about a more conventional church to attend. So, it's good that within our volunteer group & guest speakers, we represent at least 6 churches from various parts of Guaymas.
- In the prison the end of April we plan to have a celebration of spring with a colorful Flower themed party, gifts, games & a reminder of God's care for us from Mat 6
- **Consiervos English Course** will be in June-July this year & I look forward to again be involved.
- I love the times I spend with students – at CEC, with the scholarship fund kids, the English course or one on one with students who God has given me as friends.



*"What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked. "My Rabbi," the blind man said, "I want to see!" And Jesus said to him, "Go, for your faith has healed you..."*

*Mark 10:51,52*



Financial support can be sent to

**Missionary Gospel Fellowship  
In Canada**

PO Box 465  
Abbotsford BC V2T 6Z7  
<http://www.mgfcanda.org/>

**In USA**

PO Box 1535  
Turlock California 95381-1535  
<https://www.mgfhq.org/>

Contact info: **Heather Rix**

Email: [heathermex@gmail.com](mailto:heathermex@gmail.com)

Mailing Address:

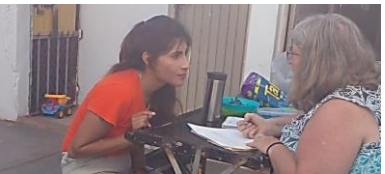
% Susan Dyck  
441 N Grand Ave  
STE 4 BOX 131  
Nogales, AZ 85621

Cell: +52-622-100-4641

Skype: **heathermex**

Websites : see above





### Car News

The last car news was all about the drama in getting it back to Canada to sell, which thankfully worked out. Thanks for praying! Then came the task of buying another one in Mexico. That too, was not without its drama. Several I liked were nixed by my car expert. The first one I was prepared to buy was sold before I was able to transfer money, the second wasn't registered properly in our state & I waited a month for that paperwork only to find the seller no longer communicating with me. But after 3 1/2 months without a car, I finally purchased my new-to-me car in January. God has blessed me with a 2017 Chevy Trax that is so well cared for, it's like new. **Thank you so much to all who prayed this into reality** & to my WMC family that, way back in November, generously added to my car fund to allow me to purchase a reliable vehicle. It's purchased, registered, insured, roadtrip tested and ready for whatever the Lord has in store. And hopefully I won't have to do this again for many years!

Every second year, a church from Illinois sends a team to Guaymas to do an **Optical Clinic**. They saw 700+ people in 6 days! While here, they met Edith, a local optometrist, who was thrilled to use her skills in this ministry. So, it was decided that they would leave equipment & supplies so that Edith & volunteers could continue this outreach on a monthly basis. **And then she accepted our invitation to do a clinic in the prison.** I forget how daunting it is to go into the prison for the first time but I am so thankful she & her team didn't let that stop them. The best for me was the chance to spend one to one time with some of the girls as they waited for their turn. As with the original clinic, the goal is the gospel, the tool is the practical help we bring.

### Updates & Prayer points – Trusting God together

- Keep praying for Britany that she seeks God about her relationship choices.
- Heath concerns – Beto (mobility after a fall), Howard (encephalitis, improving but very slowly) Both of these men need healing only God can give.
- Please pray for the legal issues our prison girls experience, especially the delays. Val & Lupita are set to be released in May, Ibetta is still waiting on her human rights case, Jazmin's extreme sentence is to be reviewed, Rosa is hoping to be released before her son (who is with her) turns 3 & will have to leave.

### Projects

Your giving to projects gives me/us more tools to be creative in connecting & sharing Jesus with others:

**An Oven** – Previously, the ladies at the prison had an oven but a gas leak caused them to remove the oven & shut off the gas. I have been given permission to donate an Electric Oven/Stove. They aren't very common here but if we find one, used or new, it can be used to develop baking skills & give them a way to earn money.

**Winter wear** – I know you all want to be done with winter but we need cold weather things & I find myself looking in summer with little success. So, I'm starting now. Clearance sales, knitting parties, thrift shops – I'm hoping for socks, toques, gloves – for 60 men & 50 women! And I have a car to bring them from Canada to Mexico in Sept!

**If you would like to participate** in one of these projects for our prison girls & street church, please contact me for more details. Funds can be sent via e-transfer or through the mission.

### Project Success – Tamales, Cold weather package

I so enjoy making ways to include all the girls in the prison. Our group did well at giving their fellow-inmates something special for Christmas. We supplied the gifts & the ingredients for tamales & our girls made & served tamales & beans and they shared the Bible story in a skit. Thank you to those who donated!

### Donation/Support News

If you would like to support this ministry with a monthly or one-time gift, check out the Canadian or US website for the different ways available for giving – payable to **Missionary Gospel Fellowship**.

#### In Canada

PO Box 465  
Abbotsford BC V2T 6Z7  
<http://www.mgfcanada.org/>  
(Chq, Paypal or credit card)

#### In USA

PO Box 1535  
Turlock California 95381-1535  
<https://www.mgfhq.org/>  
(check, auto wd, credit/debit card)



## Connecting while crafting

It gives me great joy when I can combine creativity & ministry because these projects encourage connection with each other. Recently, I seem to be going from one craft prep directly to another. But the truth is, creative stuff usually gives me energy even if I'm measuring 2x60 ribbons, painting 50 washers, cutting 100 tissue circles or repeating instructions again & again. Here's some of the latest.

It's always a blessing to do **Women's Ministry with the ladies of Belen** but International Women's Day was special. Celia shared her testimony to a record crowd (well, more than usual). I was thankful that I prepared extra craft materials as the 40 planned for turned into 60 guests. Just as God cares for the flowers, He cares for you, me & these 60 ladies.



**Snowbird season** gives us opportunity to have a Bible Study for English speakers. It seems I can't miss an opportunity to be creative. We, as leaders made a fun little keepsake for those who attended & then a small group got together a few weeks later to do this shell craft project.



Although it sometimes requires a bit of revising, I will quite often do the same project in the prison & at the mom's group. This, for example changed from glass to plastic jars but both worked.



I don't often get to **work with Wendy** as we live 4 hrs apart. So helping her with the art project at a Semana Santa Family Camp was great fun!



Ladies in the prison received glasses last week which led to a discussion about "spiritual glasses". I often think I can see just fine without my glasses but when I put them on, I discover how blurry things really were.

God wants to give me "spiritual glasses," – to see things (people around me, my circumstances, myself & Him) as He sees them. Whether it's a miracle transformation (John 9, Mark 10) or my own unique "prescription", God wants me to see with supernatural clarity, by faith. When God corrects my perspective to match His, I discover a whole new world with detail & purpose and more faith, hope and love as well. He offers us all "spiritual glasses" we just need to put them on!

Blessings in Jesus name,  
Heather

And now preparing for our **Flower Power Fiesta!**



When Javier asked about **Monster Cookies**, I saw it as an opportunity to spend time with 3 of my favorite young adults. It was Sunday afternoon, cookies were in the oven & conversation turned from chocolate chips & nuts to ministry, careers & passions. Both of the boys had just returned from weekend ministry together in a rehab center. After a time, I was led to ask "What would you think of running a rehab center on a ranch?" When this was met with enthusiasm, Jael said they could do that on her grandpa's ranch. You see, these 3 have become good friends – Jael is already in ministry as admin asst at the Christian Education Center (CEC) & when the boys return to university Javier will study Psychology with focus on addictions & Ramon will be studying Agriculture. Now I realize that many things can happen in the next years while they are studying, but wouldn't it be cool if the **Rehab Ranch in Oaxaca** actually happened?

**Photos:** P1 me with my boys Fer, Sebas & Javi • Cactus in bloom • P2 my Mexican plated car • a little one happy with her new glasses • Optical Clinic • Katia, me, Oralia, Edith, part of the prison optical team • simple health check to start the optical clinic • chatting with J while she waits • Christmas skit at the prison • Tamales for all • our Scholarship committee & students Miguel, Ramon, me, Daniel, David, Francisco, Hiram, Abdiel