

WHAT'S NEW WITH THE NICKELS?



CANADA

For most of February we connected with our home church in Canada, family, friends and supporters. We were so blessed to experience such rich fellowship with so many people before returning to our wonderful community in Mexico to continue with our regular mission and ministry. In addition to connecting individually with people, we also had a few opportunities to share with various groups of people about missions.



Bonnie talking about missions and calling at youth group



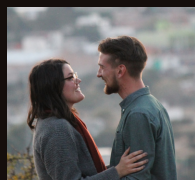
Sharing about missions at a Spanish speaking church in Canada

One of many great opportunities we had was to connect with a Spanish-speaking congregation in Kitchener! We spoke on Missions in Mexico, specifically encouraging people to be on mission and engage with the [7.4% of Canada that is unreached!](#)

While in Canada, we connected with a retired missionary couple who shared some brilliant ideas about how to mobilize the church to be on mission. They taught us many things and we are already putting into practice some of the advice and techniques they shared with us. **Please pray for wisdom as we seek to mobilize the Mexican church!**



Bonnie teaching the students at GIA to pray for unreached people groups



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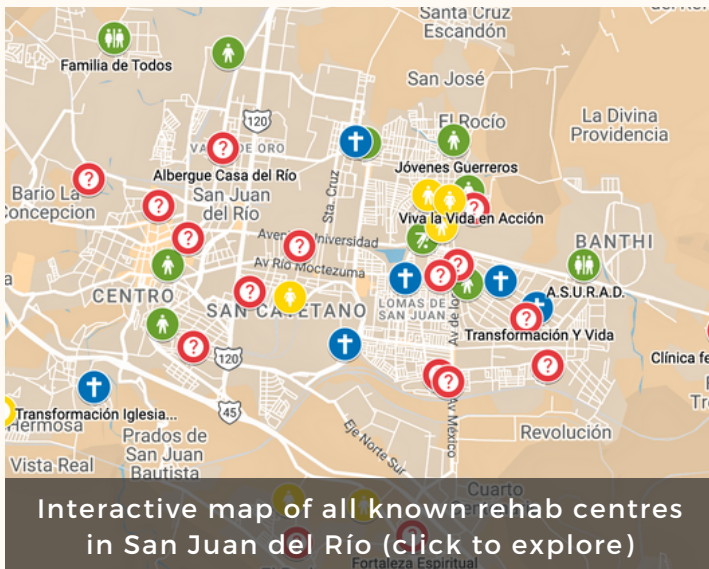
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WHAT'S NEW WITH THE NICKELS?

52 IN 520 (REHAB MINISTRY)



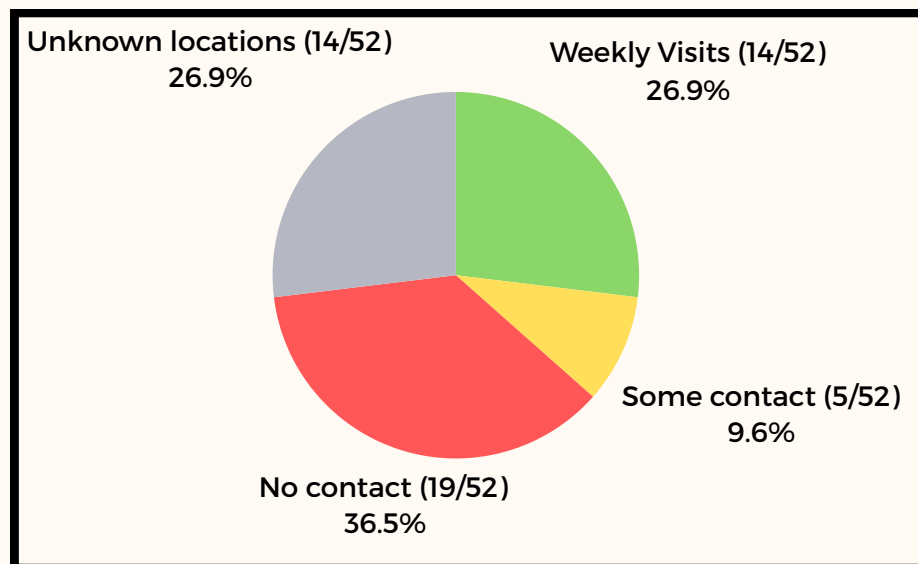
Wow, praise God!! With the recent developments, around 280 people are in weekly bible studies, hearing about Jesus and being discipled!! 73.1% of the rehab centres still have no regular contact with a Christian, so our job is not finished! But we rejoice & celebrate the progress that is being made, and the people who are coming to know the Lord as a result!! Please continue to pray for wisdom in how to faithfully complete this mission, and that God would cause it to be fruitful! We have seen first hand the incredible transformative work God does through this ministry, and we pray that more people will experience the power of God's redemptive work through Jesus!

Updates on rehab ministry:

- **Casa de Lois**, a previously un-engaged rehab, now has a weekly bible study led by a YWAM missionary and various women from a local church!
- **Nuevo Ser**, a rehab we have visited in the past, now has a weekly bible study led by a YWAM missionary and supported by various people from a local church! 16 people accepted Christ there, and are looking to be baptized soon!
- **Flor de Vida**, a women's rehab with ~30 women now has a weekly bible study run by YWAM missionaries (Bonnie goes to this one regularly!)

Please pray for these new engagements, specifically that God would reveal Himself to the women in these centres!

52 in 520 Progress



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WHAT'S NEW WITH THE NICKELS?

HIGH SCHOOL TEAM



The team uses puppets to share the gospel and teach kids about forgiveness

Every year in March we receive a team from a high school in the USA that come prepared to share the gospel through dramas, puppet shows, and science experiments. It is such a joy to partner with these young people and facilitate their ministry times! This year, 24 high school students ministered in a children's home, a couple schools, various rehab centres, in the villages in the mountains nearby, and in the streets of our neighbourhood.

One of the unique ministries that the team was able to do was basic health screening in rehabs. Some of the high school students are interested in studying medicine, so they teamed up with our nurses on base to check blood sugar and blood pressure levels, as well as give basic vision tests.



Students from the High School team working with Kathryn (nurse on base) in a local rehab centre.



Students helping Brent (nurse on base) in another local rehab centre

As a result of these pre-screening health clinics, 143 people were screened, 75 people received reading glasses to help their vision (and help them to read the bible!), and 15-20 people with high blood pressure/high blood glucose were alerted to follow up and seek medical care for possible diabetes or hypertension. The team also presented the gospel through a drama. We love sharing the gospel along with practical demonstrations of love and care!

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WHAT'S NEW WITH THE NICKELS?

PORTO VELHO (NEW PROPERTY)

God has provided a new property for our base! The property that you can see in the picture on the right is on a street called Porto Velho (Portuguese for "Old Port"), which is what we plan to nickname the buildings.

Our plan is to turn it into a multi-use site with a classroom, dorm-style housing, office space, and a cafe that can be



Porto Velho property on a cleanup day, Jan 18, 2024

used to engage and connect with the local community. Obviously it needs a LOT of work to become a functional space, and **we have various ways that you could get involved!** If you have skills (e.g. woodworking, painting, tiling, etc.) or if you are interested in donating generally or giving a specific item for the project (e.g. bunk beds, mattresses, pillows, shelving, tables, chairs, kitchen items, white boards, etc), please let us know! **Also, we would love your prayer support for this project.** Since the purchase, we have had some upsetting setbacks, including vandals that started a fire inside one of the buildings and spray painted the outside of the buildings. But we believe it will be a place that many Mexican Missionaries will be commissioned from!



Watch this [clean up video](#) to see more of the property and the first steps of progress!

At the beginning of March we spent a morning doing some cleanup and tidying of the property. Because it has been sitting vacant for 15 years, there is a lot of dust, garbage, and vandalism that has made the property look quite terrible. But we are beginning to change that and are excited to see this place transformed from a garbage dump into a place where missionaries will be trained up, equipped and sent out to tell the nations about Jesus!

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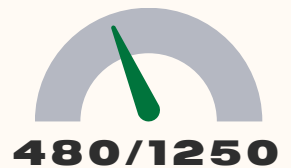
WHAT'S NEW WITH THE NICKELS?

FAMILY NEWS

Now, to answer the title of our newsletter in a more personal way... What's New With The Nickels? Well, we are all currently healthy, and God is continuing to show us His goodness every day. Watching Evie grow up is so fun and we are grateful that our jobs allow us to often be together while we work! On March 19th we celebrated our 2nd wedding anniversary :). We enjoyed a chocolate/fruit fondue, and also went out to eat at a beautiful restaurant downtown that had a wonderful view of the sunset. The weather is getting warmer, and we often enjoy going for walks around our neighbourhood when it cools down a bit in the early evening. It is almost mango season, so pretty soon we'll be making mango smoothies pretty much every day! In peak mango season, you can buy 3-4 mangos for about \$1!

\$100/month		\$50/month		\$200/month
1	4	1	3	1
2	5	2	4	
3	6	5	7	
		6	8	\$25/month
				1 2

Thanks to generous new monthly partners, we are making progress towards becoming fully funded. If you are interested in becoming a monthly partner, please click below for more information or send us a message! We'd love to get in contact with you and let you know more about the mission God has given us here!



GIVING

Pre-Authorized Payment Credit Card e-Transfer Cheque



Got questions? Please feel free to contact us on any of our social media accounts or at

mattnickelmusic@gmail.com or bonnie.jaclyn@gmail.com

PRAYER POINTS

- Wisdom for the 52 in 520 initiative
- That God would provide the remaining \$770 monthly support
- Wisdom in how to equip and mobilize Mexican Missionaries!
- Wisdom in how to raise our daughter to love and serve the Lord.

Please check our website for more up-to-date prayer points.

www.mattnickelmusic.weebly.com

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EVIE'S EDITION

VOL. 3

Hey everyone!! Wow, I have so much to share with you from the last couple months! First of all, our family travelled to Canada to visit family, friends and supporters! I got to see Oma and Opa again, meet my aunts and uncle, and my Great Oma and Great Opa, along with many other family members! It was awesome!



While we were in Canada I made a lot of memories... I got my first 2 teeth, learned some new sounds, started crawling, saw and touched snow for the first time, and got my eyes checked by my Opa (he's an eye doctor). I also got to ride in an airplane for the first time, and I loved it!

In addition to meeting lots of friends and family, mum and I had the opportunity to visit my auntie at her work! She works with seniors in long-term care, so my job was pretty easy: I got to play with them! They seemed to really enjoy seeing me play with my toys, and I enjoyed it too!! It was great to be able to encourage the seniors and have lots of fun at the same time. Well, that's all the space I've got in this newsletter. Talk soon!



I also got to play with some new friends at my auntie's work! She works with seniors

EVIE'S MILESTONES

Feb 7, 2024 - Got my first tooth! 🦷

Feb 21, 2024 - Started crawling at Oma + Opa's house! 🧒