

Summer Mexico Mission Trip Recap

June 2025

Hello Church Family,

I wanted to give you brief report about our recent mission trip to Mexico. Thank you to everyone who prayed for our trip and us. God richly honored your prayers. This was one of our best trips ever. Here is a recap of our activities.

Our mornings began at 7 am with breakfast (we prepared and cooked all of our meals.) We ate very well!!! After breakfast we had personal devotionals, followed by a chapel time with singing and a message from the missionaries.

Then we began our work project. This year we painted a new church building. (See the picture below!) Last year we cleared off the land for this building. It is very strategically located across the street from a very large migrant worker camp. There are hundreds of families (mostly native Mexican Indians) who are bused up from southern Mexico to work in the tomato fields and factory plant. The church is already conducting worship services, have a mid-week service (which we attended), and provide food, clothing, etc. to those in need. It's a great ministry.



Only 7 people went on this year's trip – the smallest group ever by far. Of the 7 people, 6 had been before. Just 1 person was going for the first time. As you see these people around church, ask them about their trip.

The 7 participants were:

- Jack Angel (Solorio)
- Rooch & Lelia Manuel
- Chris Cox
- Mary Sol Olmos
- Russ Cox
- Erika Sanchez Roman



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After lunch in the afternoon we conducted a VBS (Vacation Bible School). The location was about 15 minutes from the mission compound. This church was planted by the mother church on the mission compound. It was located in the middle of hundreds of acres of various vegetables fields. The church was in a small community of houses (around 30 homes) surrounded by agriculture fields. Each day we would arrive around 2 pm in the afternoon and immediately play with the children – soccer, jump rope, blowing bubbles. Play time was followed by very lively singing, a Bible story, and a craft. We averaged just over 40 children each day. (See the picture below.) Prayerfully many of these families will begin attending the mission church.

On Monday night we went with members of the mission compound church to visit families who hadn't been attending church recently. We bought food gifts and had prayer with the families. Wednesday night we worshipped at the church we were painting. Their worship is very lively and interactive. Thursday night we ate out at a Mexican restaurant as a form of celebration. After the meal our team had a time of sharing together about our experience. It was a very moving.

Friday we cleaned up our rooms, the meeting hall & kitchen area, restrooms, etc. and we on our way home before 9 am. We ran into a protest by educators wanting more pay. They blocked both lines of traffic on Mexican Highway 1 – the only highway that runs the entire length of the Baja region. We sat in traffic and didn't move for 1 ½ hours! We got home in late afternoon.

We make this mission trip each June. Once we have our 2026 date, I will send it out. I would highly encourage you to consider going. It is life changing in many ways.

Thank you again for your prayers. They meant more than you will ever know!
New Hope making a difference in the Kingdom of God!

– Pastor Russ Cox

The tiny lady I am standing by in the picture below attends the mission church we painted. Two summers ago we painted her home. It was simply a concrete pad with wooden walls (about 10'x 15') built by another mission team. It was the first & only real home she has ever had. She lived in random structures, mostly made of plastic sheeting. She recognized us and thanked us again for painting her home. She is 85 years old (she thinks, she has no birth certificate.)

