

The 2025 LCBI Mexico Mission Team:

Rececca Ziegler, Kyler Spencer, Kyler Follick, Tyson Erickson, Alyssa Follick, Larkyn Lee, Jada Ingell, Mason Hoffer, Matthew Nelson, Olivia Hefner, Alexandra Norris, Summer Scott, Abigail Calvin, Abigail Thompson, Piper Volk, Carlos Giudici, Bekah Boot and Troy Peterman.

Chaperones:

Kari Alford, Trina Fraser, Lisa Peterman, Jessie Peterman and Ella Hopkins, Alexa Ridgewell and David Calow

The Commissioning

There is a lot of preparation that goes into a youth mission trip. All the fundraising, the planning of activities, music and devotions to share. There is also the mental and emotional preparation. It all came together and became really real on Friday morning as the student body gathered to pray for and send out the team.



Planes, Trains and Automobiles



It was an early start on Saturday (Feb. 15) morning. But everyone was ready for the 7:00am van departure to Calgary. We were thankful that the roads were clear and we made it to Calgary in good time. Then it was into the air, first to San Francisco and on to San Diego.



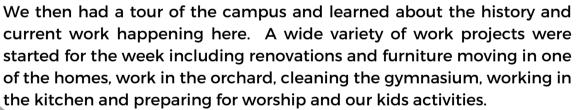


After a good nights rest in San Diego it was into vans again for the crossing into Mexico. The boarder crossing was the smoothest we have ever had, only 10 minutes. And with the traditional group picture taken it was on to the Mission. There was much excitement and a little apprehension as we settled in that night and looked forward to what the week would bring.



MISSION DAY - 1

Monday (Feb. 17) was an amazing and full first day at the Mission. Sala (chapel) with all the staff and students was great.





The first day closed with activities with the kids. Lots of fun and sweat playing soccer in the gym, games and coloring in the lounge, sidewalk chalk, frisbee and other games on the lawn. Smiles and laughter can be understood in any language.



Before bed we shared in team devotions, reflections, journaling and prayer.

MISSION DAY - 2

It's hard to believe this is only day two as so much gets packed into each day! We had a lot of work projects happening today, including helping with renovations on one of the children's homes, more work in the orchard, painting patio furniture and fences, digging trenches, helping in the kitchen and other jobs.











This morning's work was broken up by a Canada vs Mexico soccer game! With 6 Mexican players vs 10 Canadian players on the field we were able to hold our own, only losing by 1 point.

























Tonight we had the older boys come out to play in the gym then had a campfire with snacks and songs. It has been so much fun!



Our team is working hard and playing hard and reflecting on what God is showing us each day. The food is good (much of it is VERY GOOD!) and the weather is good and the people here are amazing!

MISSION DAY - 3 Half way! We are tired but still going strong. This morning was spent away from the Mission at Ranch se Cristo, the men's rehab center. We heard testimonies from some of the men and learned more about this ministry, then had a game of basketball and jenga with the men. We will be praying for the great work that happens there and those who are going through the program.













Work continued on the house renovations, in the orchard, lots of painting and weeding happening. Then this evening we enjoyed going to church and volleyball in the gym.







MISSION DAY - 4

There are three other Canadian families volunteering here this week (among many other long term volunteers) who we have been joining together with for most of our activities. Thursday mornings the mission staff have "lift groups" instead of chapel so we did our own service. Our music team lead worship and Pastor Jeremy from their group had the message. It was a blessing!

We spent the morning out at a home for elderly and disabled men, most of whom would be out on the street without this place. We did lots of yard work, cleaning in the house and playing games with them. Laughter and service has no language barrier. I (Kari) am so impressed with our team for being so willing and whole hearted in the tasks they are asked to do even when it is not totally comfortable. And we filled that house with laughter for a short while.















We continued work in the orchard, harvesting oranges and grapefruit, continuted painting in House 6 and assisted in the kitchen for the afternoon.











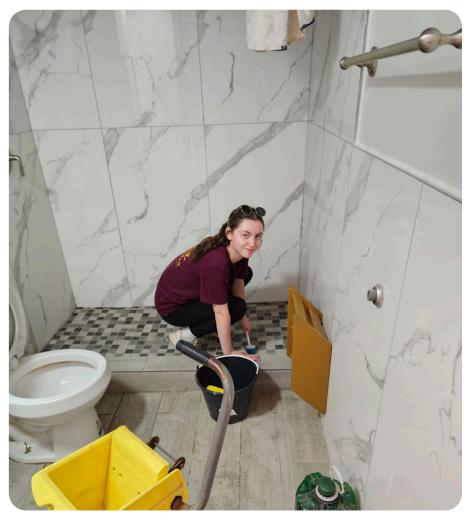








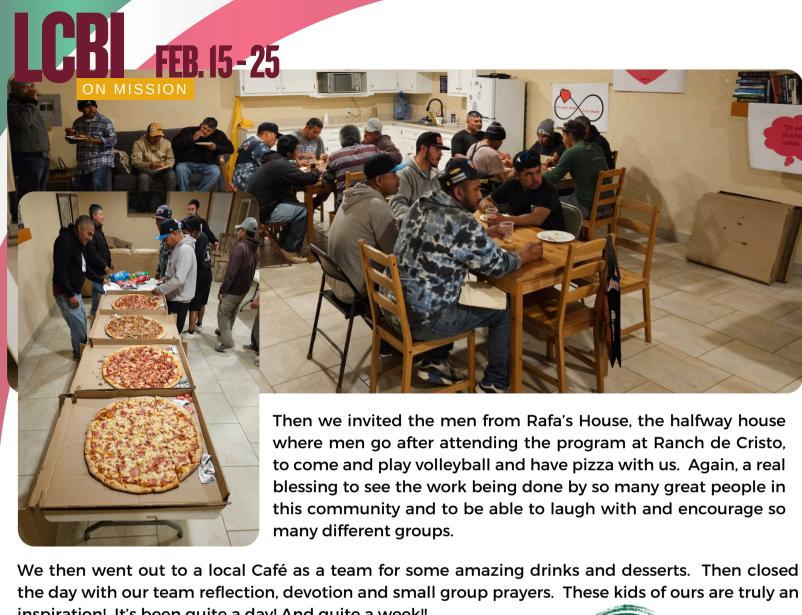


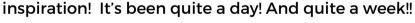














CB FEB. 15-25

MISSION DAY - 5 Once again it has been a day packed with great experiences. Thanks to our worship team who lead music at sala (chapel) this morning. Then we put in our last shift of work projects. Casa 6 bedrooms and hallways were completed, the orchard project made great progress, fruit salad was prepped for lunch, more soccer played, drinks and snacks shared, we went to a local market and all that was before lunch!



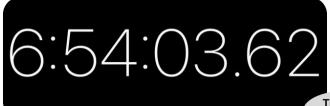




We headed to the beach for the afternoon and enjoyed some well deserved free time in the evening. This was filled with more time with the children, more time in the gym, and just hanging out with the new people we have met.



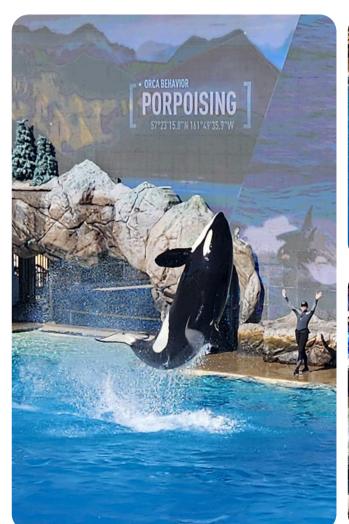
Saturday (Feb. 22) morning we said goodbye to the mission and it was back to the Mexico/United States boarder to start the reverse journey home. It didn't go exactly as expected....



The boarder wait time. Timed by a student on their phone.

After getting to the hotel at 10:30pm and getting some pizza into everyone it was straight to bed. And although it wasn't a difficult day per se, it was stressful and trying when you have no option but to sit and wait in traffic for almost 7 hours! But it was another adventure to add to our list and we will definitely change some things for next year!

Sunday (Feb. 23) we were able to relax and have a fun day. The kids were excited to find out that we planned for a day at SeaWorld. We enjoyed some cool shows, saw really neat animals, rode fun rides and just enjoyed hanging out together.



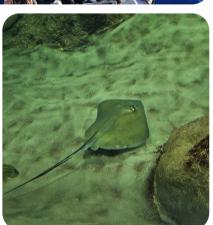
















The kids spent what was remaining of the day at the hotel swimming pool and hot tub before devotions and bed.

Monday morning (Feb. 24) we all got a bit of a sleep in as we didn't need to be at the airport till after lunch. As much as we have enjoyed the trip, and appreciated what God had for us in this journey, we were all excited to be starting the trip. We arrived into Calgary at 11:30.





One more sleep and then the long drive home to LCBI.

Grade 12 student Jada Ingell said, "Being in Mexico opened my eyes to the real world; showing me just how much we have and how little others do. We experienced God's love, God's promise, and God's compassion in everything we did. I truly wish there was a way that everybody could experience what I was fortunate enough to experience, as it truly was life-changing".

