

This is what God has been doing in our lives...

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Looking up

Aslan on the march: "When things go wrong, you'll find they usually go on getting worse for some time; but when things once start going right, they often go on getting better and better." (C.S. Lewis, *The Magician's Nephew*) This is kind of a good quote for the last 16 months, or so. Our church has lost people, our church family has lost a lot of extended family members and friends to COVID this past year. Over all, we've not had "things go wrong" as badly as some, but worse than others and God has been faithful.

It's been a while since we've written and we've had a good deal of "getting worse" as well as "getting better." It really feels like our church is under spiritual attack lately: a lot of interpersonal issues, spiritual immaturity, and every little thing gets exaggerated. We've also had plenty of illnesses (including COVID), unemployment and COVID-reintegration reluctance. Yet God is faithful.



Family time in WA
Summer

A trip north: We spent several weeks in Tacoma



Youth activity
Youth

Restarting: Young people in Mexico, like most youth

visiting a few churches and supporters (there's never enough time to catch everyone) and to visit family. Now that we have a son in college and older parents we're living the reality of traveling back and forth a bit more. Probably next summer we'll do something similar and see some more supporters there.

around the world, have suffered in their own way during the pandemic: they've lost over a year of schooling (online infrastructure here for most schools left a lot to be desired) as well as many, many normal social activities. So we've been eager to get underway with things for the youth of the church. Flag football is going, and a couple of young ladies at church are involved with Young Life and we've partnered together to bring our church youth together.

GOTA Update

In May our 6 board members went to sign papers for *GOTA de Esperanza*, only to discover that we each needed a special tax status for non-profit work. Of course appointments with the Mexican IRS were in short supply. But now, we've all jumped that hurdle and, Lord willing, will be able to sign in November.

Praise

1. **Church services:** Resuming normal services.
2. **Youth activities:** New discipleship & outreach work.
3. **Drew, Gavin, Fiona:** So thankful for our kids on every level of their lives. Teens are great!

Prayer

1. **Church Unity:** For gracious humility to characterize our church in these high-stress times.
2. **Youth:** For salvations and commitments to discipleship.

3. **GOTA de Esperanza:** For the paperwork for the non-profit to go through in November.

We thank you for your prayers!

Tim, Barbara-Lee, Drew, Gavin, Fiona