

**Dave and Blanca Gifford  
In Mexico City with**



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### **Greetings from Grandville!**

Our Reconnect is now halfway over. We arrived to Michigan July 8, set ourselves up at the parsonage of Hanley CRC in Grandville, have already visited ten of our nineteen supporting churches, have made six church trips outside of Michigan, and have visited numerous friends and supporters. We love you and enjoy seeing you all, but you can imagine we also are looking forward to getting back to Mexico December 8!

Now that we are back from our trip to Iowa, we plan to resume our West Michigan **home visits** full tilt. If you would like a visit, please email us at [dgifford@crcna.org](mailto:dgifford@crcna.org), or call or text us at 616-386-5195. We would love to see you! You can also use our three question Google form at <https://forms.gle/cQUuM9qC8zGtEYm38>.

Our **prayer requests**, updated monthly, continue to be where they have been for years, at <https://giffmex.org>.

### **Serious talk about money**

As you know, we have made it our goal to avoid pressuring people for money. Our prayer letters focus on ministry and family. Our home visits are low pressure, friendly visits to catch up and to thank people for their prayers and support.

But I need to take a moment to talk about this topic, because we are being asked to raise

\$162,000 per year. This covers salary and benefits, housing and transportation, Reconnect travel and housing, our ministry budget, and my Mexico team leader budget. The last two years we were short by about \$24,000.

The mission is discouraging us from adding new supporting churches. And while a couple of our churches have pledged to increase their support this year, most of them are giving us \$4,000 or less. ***So we need to focus on obtaining new individual donors.***

To fill the gap and reach our goal this year, we need the equivalent of 24 new donors at \$1,000 / year, or 40 new donors at \$50 / month, or 80 at \$25 / month.

Would you be willing to champion our ministry, either praying regularly about our support, or spreading the news about us with your friends, colleagues and family members? We could provide you with prayer cards and brochures. We would also be happy to meet with people, if you would like to introduce us to them so we can share about what we do. Please write or call us to let us know what you need (see the contact info in the first column).

### **Ministry matters**

In between other responsibilities, I am researching and preparing a course packet for the seminary class I plan to teach in January on the books from Hebrews to Revelation.

We also have a new position for a full-time missionary to serve migrants and other displaced people in Mexico. Check out the details at <https://tinyurl.com/diasporaposition>.

Thank you all for your prayers and support.  
Blessings to you in Christ, ***Dave and Blanca***