

April 6, 2022



Dear friends,

"Muchas gracias!", a young man shared with a volunteer of the Migrant Resource Center as tears welled up in his eyes. He was battered and bruised emotionally and physically after unsuccessfully trying to reach his family in the United States, detained by the Border Patrol and expelled onto the streets of Agua Prieta.

Later he asked the volunteer: "Why are you doing this?"

"Because God loves you and so do we."

Just in the last 48 hours, the Migrant Resource Center and its incredible group of volunteers has welcomed 589 beloved children of God who had been expelled from the United States. As we come close to Holy Week, we remember that Jesus was violently expelled from life to death on a cross. We also remember His words from Matthew 25, "when you have welcomed one of

the least of these, you have welcomed me; and when you have not welcomed, you have not welcomed me."

Thank you for joining the community of DouglaPrieta in choosing welcome. Your prayers, words of encouragement, donations of socks, underwear, and money are a blessing.

Peace, Mark & Joca

Join the Migrant Resource Center in Choosing Welcome

Forty high school students and teachers from the Menaul School in Albuquerque, New Mexico, are spending this week with us in ministry. CATPSIC is leading four classes in tamale making for this delegation from 13 different countries. Today they made more than 40 dozen delicious tamales that will be shared with the guests of the Migrant Resource Center. The MRC's wonderful team of volunteers have welcomed more than 400 men and women in the last 36 hours alone, and more than 14,000 since the beginning of the year.

Please join our binational community as We Choose Welcome!



"Is He Illegal?"

a letter from Miriam Maldonado & Mark Adams, as published in *Mission Connections* by the Presbyterian Mission Agency, March 29, 2022

"Is he illegal?" asked the 911 dispatcher.

"No, he is a human being created in the image of God, beloved by God. Send an ambulance now!" should have been my response. But that was not what I said.

While Adrian Gonzalez and I were serving our 8 p.m. to midnight volunteer shift at the Migrant Resource Center in Agua Prieta, Sonora, a man entered the center and was obviously concerned. He reported that his nephew had called him to say that that there was a young man who had been bitten by a rattlesnake and needed help.

"He is 200 meters south of mile marker 384 on Highway 80," he told us with urgency. Being right on the border, my cell phone had a U.S. signal, and I called 911 to report what seemed to be a potentially life-threatening situation.

Continue reading the story



Nathan and Miriam pause before the cross that marks the place where the young man, Juan Diego, was bitten by a rattlesnake. <u>School Sisters of Notre Dame Pilgrimage of</u> <u>Remembrance</u>.

Friday, April 15 Border Stations of the Cross



Friday, April 15, 2022 Viernes 15 de Abril 2022

5:00 am Arizona/Sonora/Pacific Time (6am Mountain, 7am Central, 8am Eastern) The 22nd annual Border Stations of the Cross will be held on Good Friday, April 15, 2022, beginning at 5:00am Arizona Time.

We remember that Jesus' rejection by the powers of the world culminated in the crucifixion and that every time that we do not welcome the stranger, feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty we reject Jesus again. Our governments have increasingly chosen policies of exclusion that have led to the deaths of thousands.

Join us as we remember, and we commit to following the way of Jesus.

To join the event in person: US side participants will meet at 4:30 am at the Frontera de Cristo office 826 E. 11th Street. Mexico side participants will meet at 4:45 am at Avenida 44 and Calle Internacional.

This event will be live-streamed on our Facebook page.

Love Mercy, Do Justice, Order Coffee



Frontera de Cristo and Café Justo developed the Coffee and Compassion program in 2020 in response to the economic downturn due to COVID and the concurrent drop in sales of Café Justo when churches stopped meeting together in person. The program has been an amazing success, and we are grateful to everyone who participates. Hundreds of families in Agua Prieta received assistance with food and other needs over the past two years because you cared.

Why not <u>order some coffee today</u>? You will enjoy delicious 100% organic coffee cultivated, roasted, and shipped by the Café Justo cooperative. To order by mail instead of online, just download <u>this form</u>.

Coffee, Conversation, & Compassion More Conversations First Thursdays at 4pm (AZ/Sonora)

Thursday/ jueves, April 7 de abril, 4:00pm AZ Time

(4pm Pacific, 5pm Mountain, 6pm Central, 7pm Eastern)

Freeing Congregational Mission:



A Practical Vision for Companionship, Cultural Humility, and Co-Development



A book study with Rev. Dr. Hunter Farrell, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Support your local bookstore by ordering Dr. Farrell's book from bookshop.org, or order on Amazon.com

Join the conversations by Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88683455600

May 5 de mayo Coffee, Migration and Faith Café Justo: 20 Years of Responding to Root Causes of Migration June 2 de junio Choosing Welcome in the Face of Rejection: Migration in the Borderlands

July 7 de julio The Border as a Place of Encounter: Life and Faith of Frontera de Cristo



Chiapas, Here I Come! Everyone who participates in at least one of our Thursday "conversations" between now and July 7 will have their name entered into a raffle for a \$700 scholarship to attend our Border-to-Border Delegation to Chiapas in November (see the flyer below). Participate in two: get your name entered two times. Four? Get your name entered four times. Just one prize will be awarded, but you still have four more chances! Join us this week?

Save the Dates for the 20th Anniversary Celebrations of our Border-to-Border Delegation

20 Years! It's a reason to celebrate, and celebrate we will!

November 5th in Agua Prieta November 11th in Chiapas

Save those dates and stay tuned for more information about the celebrations. To download the delegation flyer, click on the image.

To save your spot, fill out this <u>registration form</u> and mail it in with your \$200 deposit.



Building Relationships Across Borders With a Delicious Cup of Coffee

Bryce Wiebe: What Café Justo Means to Me

Donate Now

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