

Ellen Barnertt's Update

News for Friends, Family, and Partners
December 22, 2007

Christmas Greetings and a Renewal of Contact N-P

Dear Friends,

If you have depended on emails to know anything about me and what I am doing at the moment, I'm afraid you haven't had much opportunity to know what is going on, or to pray knowledgably. I do apologize for leaving you in the dark for so long. I had a problem with my email provider in Mexico and wasn't able to send any bulk mailing from there after my July email (which was returned by a lot of your servers). I've been in the U.S. since October 5 for "Home Ministry Assignment," but I am just finally getting my email set up here to start sending out regular reports again. My first two months at home were very busy, with missions conferences, visits to several other supporting churches and MTW's Global Missions Conference. I am living at home, and this has been an opportune time for me to be with my mother as she has tried to take care of a number of medical needs, including her second cataract operation, which went well. January 14-18 I will be involved in an assessment center for prospective MTW missionaries. I'm not real sure of all that will go on, but one of the reasons I will be there is to find out. Lord willing, in the not too distant future, MTW and some of the churches that we are working with in Mexico will be partnering not just in church planting there, but also in missions. The plan would include setting up a missionary assessment program in Mexico, adapted to the needs there.

After the assessment center, it will be back to visiting as many churches as possible in the time that I am here. I will be returning to Acapulco at the beginning of June, so that I can participate in a missionary trip from Acapulco to Belgium and a Mediterranean country this summer. This will be a first, as, Lord willing, I take 15 mostly young adults for a vision trip and their first opportunity to work cross-culturally with Muslims. I'm working on details from this end, and there are many! The Global Missions Conference gave me a good opportunity to meet with most of the MTW Enterprise missionaries we will be working with. The PABYT (Spanish acronym for "Project Standing Alongside Brussels and . . .") folks in Acapulco are busy raising money, among other things. Right now they are enjoying a few days of rest from work in a government project training people to do a variety of handcrafts which can be used to generate a little income. Together with a few friends, they have been teaching in 7 different parks every weekend for almost two months, and will continue in January and possibly February. Since they are also working their regular jobs during the week (5 teach at the Christian school), they are all pretty exhausted! However, they have already been blessed with new opportunities to share Christ there. After the Global Missions Conference we had a mini-conference on SKYPE (computer telephone) – giving them information I received at a seminar on short-term missions and hearing about the frustrations and joys of their park jobs and other plans and activities! Please pray as we try to pull this whole trip together, and also for the funds to come in, through donations and work.

One other thing that I hope I will be doing this spring is accompanying a group of teachers from New Horizon Christian School to visit our sister school in Tinley Park, near Chicago. The invitation is from almost two years ago, but the teachers haven't been able to get their visas yet. We would appreciate your prayers for that process, which is very difficult these days.

Wishing you great joy during this Christmas season,

Ellen Barnett

Ellen Barnett

343 Baldwin Rd. Apt. A 2-6
Burlington, NC 27217
(336) 570-9858
(336) 693-7777 cel.

ebarnett@iname.com
esbarnettm@bellsouth.com