

STORIES OF GRACE

Feature: Our missionaries that we support share some Stories of Grace
Brenda Welling serves with Encompass World Missions in Mexico City



Editor's Note: We are privileged to introduce the Missionaries we support with prayer and financially to our church family. Many have not had the opportunity to meet our missionaries. Brenda and Bess Farrell plan to be in the area on home ministries this fall.

Brenda was born June 15 in Cameron, West Virginia and moved with her family to Winona Lake and later to Goshen, Indiana. Through the influence of her parents and her church, she came to know Christ as her Savior at age seven. The hospitality of her parents brought many missionaries into their home, whose exposure sparked Brenda's interest in missions.

Through a speaker at Youth Conference, Brenda felt highly challenged by the spiritual needs in other countries and that God was calling her to respond to the necessity for workers.

God used many things to cement His call in Brenda's heart and to help in her preparation – pursuing a Spanish major at Grace College, studying at the University of Mexico City, being part of a short-term missions experience in Mexico City, teaching a year in Canton, Ohio, studying at Grace Seminary (Certificate in Biblical Studies), participating on a Timothy Team, training in Evangelism Explosion, serving in her local church and fulfilling a missions internship in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

In 1986, Brenda arrived in Mexico to begin her missionary career. The first 3 years found her in ministries in the Tijuana area. Early in 1989, she moved to Mexico City, along with Bess Farrell, where they continue to serve. In the 27 years in Mexico City, much has changed. In 2015, Brenda completed an on-line Master's degree in Spiritual Formation and Leadership in order to enhance her abilities to train others and help them seek a deeper knowing of God.

Currently, Brenda and Bess are working in the development of Mexican churches by mentoring those who are leading churches and ministries, and in helping them to develop a new paradigm shift in discipleship in the changing cultural setting of Mexico City.

“Brenda sends us a Story of Grace from Cesar, who is the leader of the COCRI-sur church.” He is 36 years old and has a deep desire to serve God as a dentist and with young people. For years now he has been asking God for a wife, a companion in ministry. Three years ago Angelica arrived in Mexico City to study a three year medical residency in genetics. Angie was raised in a Christian home as her father is the pastor of one of the GBCs on the Mexico/California border. Angie began attending our little church and it wasn't long until Cesar began to see the many qualities in this woman of God. They have now fallen in love and will be married this April 2016. This young couple has committed themselves to the church in the southern part of Mexico City. They have surrounded themselves with others who are likewise dedicated and willing to team up with them to see their neighborhood come to Christ. Pray for their marriage, for their job possibilities and for their upcoming family life.

Email Brenda at bwelling@EncompassWorld.org. They have an excellent newsletter that you can request to receive by email. Brenda and Bess will complete their ministry in Mexico this year. They plan to be with us October 16.