

THE GRACE COMMISSION July & August 2025

CALLED TO GATHER

CALLED TO SOW

VOLUME 2

*The bi-monthly
publication of
Grace Bible
Church*

Celebrating the start of a new volume! This edition looks back on two important events in July and August: our annual Summer Retreat and our 3-Day Mexico Mission Trip!



Summer Retreat 2025



Sea Lions, Tigers and Panda Bears, oh my~

This year's Summer Retreat was held in San Diego! It was a July 4th weekend to remember. From our trip to the Scripps Aquarium to seeing Pandas at the San Diego Zoo. It was a weekend filled with amazing worship, food, and fellowship!

Our retreat theme was: Rooted in Grace, Grounded in the Word, and Growing Together. The main speaker was Pr. San Kim and our last session was led by Pr. Prashant Joseph. (Watch the retreat video on our website!)

Now, some reflections from Giulio, who led worship at retreat for the very first time ever!





By Demetrio "Giulio"
Pignataro

My retreat experience was amazing, I had such a good time with all of the church members including some of IKSBC. It was a more uncommon experience for me compared to other retreats i've been to, primarily because it was my first time leading worship in front of my church. I had so much fun leading worship and the nerves were definitely there. But my passion for worship and praising God with the congregation was greater than any nerves. I even developed friendship with new people and did things I don't normally do. I ended up going on a 6AM run with Veronica and a group of others. I couldn't keep up with them the whole way but I had fun for a good 2 and a half miles. I overall had a good retreat experience and would love to do it again.





3-Day Mexico Mission Trip

Where two or three are gathered in your name...

Over Labor Day Weekend, we took a team of our members as well as members from Immanuel Southern Baptist Church, and First Evangelical Community Church on a 3-day mission trip to Bet-El Mission Center, Tijuana Mexico.

On the first day we fed and held service for the homeless in the area. The second day we hosted a one day VBS and a youth worship night. And on the third and final day we held both adult and children's service as well as lunch for the church.

Thank you to all those who were able to attend and serve! And a big shoutout to all your powerful prayers!





By Matthew Chen



Desperté

This was my first ever time driving in a mission trip or even Mexico for that matter. And for some strange reason this was the most car related troubles I have ever seen on any mission trip I have been on. I must preface this by saying none of it was my fault, it was all just a strange coincidence (right?).

The first car trouble we encountered was before we even left the church. We had just finished praying and were about to leave for the border. When we noticed one of the cars had a flat tire. As if it had deflated while we were praying. (not guilty)

The second one happened while we were trying to rent two vans in Mexico. One van was ready for us to rent, but the other was not. So, the rental company gave us an SUV. I drove the SUV around for the day. Aside from the fact that driving in Mexico was like playing bumper cars except you're not allowed to actually hit the cars, it was manageable. The trouble happened when my dad took the SUV to pick up those who were arriving at night. Out of nowhere the engine failure warning came on and the alarm would not go off. My dad had to return the car and the rental company ended up giving us our original second van. (plausible deniability)

And that is the story of my first ever time driving for missions. Would I do it again?, Yes! Would I be allowed to again?...



LOOKING AHEAD

HALLELUJAH NIGHT!

October 31st

Please see Matthew Chen
if you have any questions

*20 For where two or three are gathered in my
name, there am I among them.*

Matthew 18:20 (ESV)

