

June 2010

Dear Everyone,

Greetings from a cool and damp San Francisco. I had the thought-provoking experience this week of watching a Catholic priest go out to bat for the validity of my church, contrary to the view being expressed at the time by one of his lay colleagues. Progress is being made on all sorts of levels...

Martin continues to lead Bible studies in the prison on Saturday mornings with Miguel. Actually the study this Saturday will be led by one of the prisoners, (Martin has helped him with a crib-sheet) which is progress in itself. Martin and Miguel then attend the public visiting, together with a new recruit, Carlos who has been going into the open sessions with them. Martin has also managed to link up with a Brethren group who go in on Tuesdays, who have invited him to preach twice so far. Outside the prison, Martin has been asked to run the men's Bible study group for our church, which meets once a week in the house of one of the members. These different groups between them involve quite a lot of preparation in Spanish for Martin, even though he has managed to overlap a proportion of the material.

Hazel has been visiting the local hospital with some women from the church, starting a program similar to the one I was involved in in Cordoba, where we used to go into the most dire hospital in town and offer spiritual and practical help, particularly to folk who may not have family, or whose family are unable to support them. The work in the village of Quebracho Herrado is also increasing; we are seeing more children at the homework group, and the last couple of weeks Hazel has been accompanied by two women from church, who Hazel is now encouraging to go off out by themselves and build on some of our existing contacts in the village. We also finally managed to enroll my little disabled friend at the Catholic special school (no fees), where he goes three days a week. As a result of that, Hazel was invited to volunteer at the same school, so I am now there two mornings a week. As a result of that, the youth group at our own church suggested that they might be able to organise a service project at the institute. As a result of that, I had a meeting with the priest in charge and some of the staff; hence my comment in the first paragraph above. We really like where this project is going in terms of saying "even though we might not agree with every bit of your theology, we're going to roll our sleeves up and work with you anyway". There are some forms of confusion that we suspect that God might approve of, and this may be one of them. Thanks for reading and supporting us. Updates on the blog in the usual place at www.frostmartinhazel.org

Disclaimer; I didn't take these photos, haven't had the camera out lately in fact, will try and do better next time.



The prison. Not Alcatraz, that's the other San Francisco



Entrance to the Hospital Iturraspe



Latin Link



Love From

Hazel Martin
X



and Joni