



Be Refreshed!



Join us for a cup of tea, and be refreshed! Refreshment is one of the Bible's themes. For example – good company (like you) refreshes (Rom 15:32). Good news refreshes (Pro 15:30) – and I hope you'll read some here!

The Bible also says that repentance and turning to Jesus Christ brings refreshment (Act 3:19-21). We were refreshed to see three of our church youth confess their faith in Christ in December, and **all three were baptized!** They are pictured above, with the leaders who baptized them. From left to right: Ezequiel, Daniel (*baptized!*), Jim, Emiliano (*baptized!*), Paola (*baptized!*), Oscar, and Rod (our fellow missionary). I hope that news brings refreshment!

Pictures/video here: <https://bit.ly/baptisms-dec22>

Network of Bible Churches



It was refreshing to meet together with **leaders from seven Bible churches** in the area in January. We prayed and worshipped together, and did some planning for the year ahead. And enjoyed some tamales! Please pray for these leaders, who are facing major challenges, both personally and in the ministry. (Above: Bible church in Santa Barbara, Ixtapaluca)

Try something new . . .

Since you're enjoying a cup of tea with us, why not try something new? Here are our top recommendations:

Silver Needle
Russian Earl Grey
Irish Breakfast
Tieguanyin
Longjing

More ideas:
<https://bit.ly/16-teas>

Unreached People Group Our co-worker Rod went with a group to the state of **Oaxaca**, where a sister church has been serving one of Mexico's unreached people groups. For more about the visit and possible future ministry, check out **Mexico Matters** (Rod's blog): <https://bit.ly/unreached-jan23>

Did you know? Over 100 years ago, Theodore Harding Estabrooks, founder of Canada's Red Rose Tea company, came up with the idea of pre-blending and pre-packaging tea before selling, to ensure consistent quality. His idea caught on around the world! (*Opinion: Red Rose tea, from Kenyan tea leaves, is still great.*)

A refreshing Christmas This Christmas we enjoyed a visit from Hannah – our first Christmas together in four years! It took Hannah 39 hours (from her planned departure) to arrive, and it took her luggage exactly 6 days to arrive. But we're thankful for the time we had together!

Tea in Mexico Various tisanes are very popular in Mexico, and teas are on the rise. But if you ask in a restaurant, you're most likely to get chamomile or mint.



← **Sunday morning snapshot (photo by Nathanael). We're getting to know lots of new people!**

Canada: The Prairie Provinces Nathanael is looking to go to Canada in time for his graduation and exams. We're hoping to make good use of the opportunity to **visit some of you** over the summer! Please pray for us as we prepare – travel is, as you know, a whole new challenge. But we're looking forward to it! Let us know if we can have some tea together in person!

Grace & Peace,

*Jim & Shari
Hannah, Nathanael*

Notes of Prayer and Praise

♪ Praise the Lord that we have many new people in our church, and some from the past who have returned!

♪ Pray for Hannah who is looking for a new place to rent in the spring.

♪ Please pray for Nathanael, who is planning to move to Canada for a time. Pray for a place to live, and a job.

♪ Pray for health and strength in these busy and challenging times.

♪ Pray for wisdom as we both lead and also hand over leadership in the months ahead.

Unexpected theme

Speaking of visits, an unexpected "theme" of the next few months seems to be visiting with missionaries! We're looking forward to a few visits from fellow Avant missionaries, as well as MK Camp in April.

To update your address or change other preferences, please visit:
<http://bit.ly/join-change>