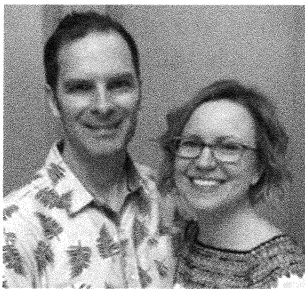




MISSION CONNECTIONS

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Spring 2023



**“Just Released:
The Moes’ Book
List!”**

Betsey and Eric Moe
*Mission co-workers
serving in Guatemala*

Dear friends,

Greetings from Guatemala! Life here is busy with CEDEPCA Intercultural Encounters, rehearsing for the upcoming school play, connecting with friends, and getting ready for Easter.

For this edition of our newsletter, we thought we would let you in on some of the things we do to learn, relax, and go to sleep by; not to be outdone by Michelle Obama or Oprah Winfrey, we want to share our current book list with you!

When we lived in the States, we were library rather than bookstore people. We used to love taking our kids to story time and checking out big stacks of books. In Antigua, book reading looks different. Our options are limited; often we are given books by a friend passing through town. But we also like stopping by a small used bookstore called Antigua Books. We are on a first name basis with the expat owner, Andy. Most of the books are in Spanish, but at least a third of the store is new and used books in English.

Some of the books help us to better understand Guatemala, some help us to practice our Spanish language skills. But mostly, we just enjoy the quiet company of a good book.

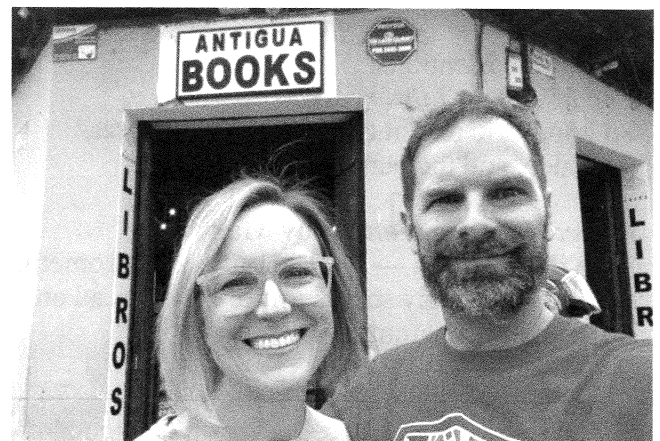
On Eric’s nightstand:

***The Shipping News* by E. Annie Proulx**

Antigua Books might not have the most current books, but it does have some gems, like this one, which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1994. It is a fictional tale of a man who moves his family to Newfoundland to start a new life. Right now, I’m enjoying getting lost in the crazy story and incredible writing.

***Last Bus to Wisdom* by Ivan Doig**

This was a surprise find at Antigua Books—a Pacific Northwest author writing a story set in



Antigua Books

Montana. It’s such a fun story about independence and friendship and having your eyes opened to a larger world—things I’ve been thinking about since our move to Guatemala.

On Betsey’s nightstand:

***Oscar Romero: Memories in Mosaic* by Maria Lopez Vigil**

This is a book given to us by Regional Liaison Leslie Vogel. Instead of a straight biography of Archbishop Romero, who was killed by death squads in El Salvador for his alliance with the poor, this is a collection of testimonies about him by people who knew him at every phase of his life. It amazes me how he grew into a noble martyr! There’s hope for all of us.

***The Death and Life of Aida Hernandez: A Border Story* by Aaron Bobrow-Strain**

Our son Henry gave me this book for Christmas. It’s the heart-breaking story of one woman who moved back and forth across the Arizona/Mexico border. To me, it showed how every person’s migration story is unique. Plus, this book mentioned Mark Adams, a fellow mission co-worker who lives and works in Douglas, Arizona/Agua Prieta, Sonora Mexico!

On Zoey’s shelf:

***Cuentos de Buenas Noches Para Niñas Rebeldes (Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls)* by Elena Favilli and Francesca Cavallo**

This book was a beloved gift to Zoey from CEDEPCA General Coordinator Judith Castañeda, who is always looking for ways to build up strong women. The one-page stories about inspiring women have been perfect.

On Owen's floor:

***Dracula* by Bram Stoker**

Owen loves watching movies, and he's a big Nicholas Cage fan. Cage has a new vampire movie coming out this summer, so Owen thought it was important to go directly to source material.

Honorable Mentions:

***The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig**

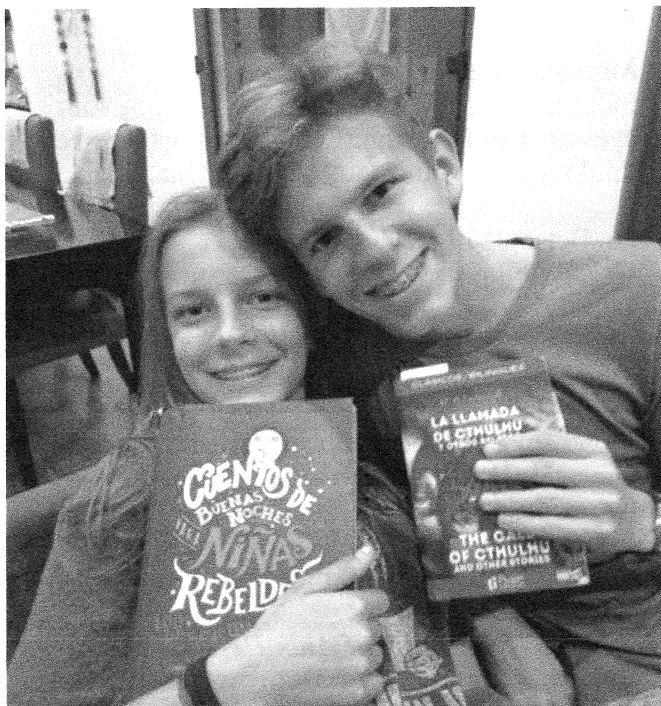
So good Eric read it twice! Explores regret, gratitude, and the paths a life can take.

***Hope: A User's Manual* by Mary Ann**

McKibben Dana — Reflections on this sometimes elusive, seemingly scarce gift of God. I read an entry when I'm coming up short.

***Grave Secrets* by Kathy Reichs**

Indiana Jones meets Sue Grafton in Guatemala.



Kids' Choice

***Freeing Congregational Mission: A Practical Vision for Companionship, Cultural Humility, and Co-development* by Hunter Farrell and S. Balajiedlang Khyllap**

***The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith** (found in Zoey's nightstand when we moved to a new place).

***Migrante* by Marcos Antil**

One Guatemalan migrant's first-person account.

***Silence on the Mountain: Stories of Terror, Betrayal, and Forgetting in Guatemala* by Daniel Wilkinson**

***The Casual Vacancy* by J.K. Rowling**

This Harry Potter fan couldn't pass this one up.

Anne Frank, The Diary of a Young Girl

This book has a whole new meaning when you're a dad with a 12-year-old daughter.

***Protestantism in Guatemala* by Virginia Garrard-Burnett**

A gift from Pastor Emerson Morales, former CEDEPCA staff, who thought this Presbyterian minister could use a little history.

We'd love to hear about any books you are enjoying right now. Maybe you will pick up one of the books we've mentioned and learn more about Guatemala, migration, inspiring women, or vampires!

Thank you so much for coming alongside us to support us, to learn about what God is doing in Guatemala, and to pray for the ministry of CEDEPCA.

Eric and Betsey

Thank you for reading our letter!

Please consider supporting Presbyterian Mission through our ministry. We are grateful for your prayers, personal communication and financial support.

Gifts may be sent to:

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

On the memo line, please write:

"In honor of the Moe's ministry—E132192" (individual giving)

"In honor of the Moe's ministry—D500115" (congregational giving)

Give online: pcusa.org/betsey-and-eric-moe

For more ways to engage in Presbyterian Mission, please email mission.support@pcusa.org.

Thank you for your faithful support.