



Our mission: to support, encourage, and release FAITH in the needy and less fortunate

The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few ... Luke 10:2

**1700
School Supply
Kits!**



08/15/2011

*¡Muchas
gracias!*



*Joy from a
pencil*



*Children as far away as Torreón
received school supplies*

Come Rain or Shine

by Joan Wilson

Some Summer, huh? Half of us have baked in record-breaking temperatures while the other half have never seen such wide-spread flooding! Even as I write, I know some who read this newsletter have been hard hit by the disasters striking this nation from one end to the other. We might not know about your particular ordeal, but we've been praying for everyone touched by these disasters. Perhaps, the thing that's turned your world upside down wasn't any of the floods, fires, or earthquakes - but the storms that come from emotional upheaval or spiritual crisis. We're praying for you, too.

Living in the desert has an "up" side, if you can call it that. We're always hot in the summer, and it never rains except as a 30 minute deluge that washes out yards and streets, and then it's hot and dry again. For us that's "normal". I suppose it's normal, too, to be hit by the "storms" that accompany ministry life, but we've had a double-dose this summer. It makes me think we're experiencing spiritually what the weather's been dishing out physically. It's been a

tough summer for a lot of us.

I know this might come as a shock but "don't worry, be happy" is NOT in the Bible! (I hope that put a smile on your face!) We forget that "happiness" is totally based on our circumstances - what's happening around us. Jesus offers us so much more! He offers JOY! The joy He gives isn't dependant on anything other than staying connected to HIM. Jesus said, "In the world you will have trouble - but be brave! I have defeated the world." (John 16:33 NCV)

Whatever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report ... think on these things (Philippians 4:8)

With the "stuff" that comes along with a full summer schedule, I was feeling "weary" in the midst of all the "well-doing" (Galatians 6:9) and I was really concerned that I might be "burned out". I'd forgotten the second half of the verse ... we'll "reap the harvest" if we don't give up! As I kept going back to this verse over and over, the Lord began to show me some negative things that had crept into my heart and mind. Like debris left from a

fire or flood, there were things that needed to be dealt with one piece at a time.

The kids in Mexico are dealing with a lot of stuff, too. What they witness on a daily basis could make an adult lose their mind, and there's a real concern among "experts" that this generation of kids are so traumatized that it will deeply affect the future of their country. It's why an atheistic government is willing to let pastors open PTSD clinics in their churches.

One look at these pictures of some of the kids who received school supply kits, and you see that the Lord can use even pencils and notebook paper to bring His kind of joy into their circumstances. This year, you helped Crossing Borders supply 1700 kits for needy children in these troubled times. What a huge blessing!

So no matter what you're going through, don't GIVE up - LOOK up to the Lord Jesus! Keep Him the center of your life, and you'll find He's a Rock to hold onto - come rain or come shine!

Keeping the Faith

by Elfi Register

I have been sent to strengthen the faith of those God has chosen and to teach them to know the truth that shows them how to live godly lives - Titus 1:1 NLT

The spiritual darkness is so great here, it's a wonder anyone survives. We were surprised at just how many kids are still in the communities across the Rio Grande in Mexico. We expected the pastors to ask for fewer kits than last year, but they asked for the same amount, and more in some cases! Each downtown may look like a ghost town - with stores boarded up and no supplies to be had. But the people themselves have nowhere else to go, so in their cultural way they figure, "we might as well send the kids to school." The 1700 school kits went to 40 locations - some all the way to Torreón and also





Egg-citing Blessing!

This summer we've received more than 400 dozen eggs through a faithful friend (you know who you are!) Now, they need OUR help in supplying empty egg cartons!



*Dia de los M&M's
In the face of all the fear and death - a donation to put smiles on the faces of adults and children alike!*



2011 Christmas Shoebox Drive

Our 11th annual gift drive for needy children along our border region is just around the corner!

At least 1800 boxes will be needed

Complete box-making directions and other details are on-line at: www.crossingbordersministries.com under "Special Projects"

Boxes due the week of December 1

Faith ... (continued from page 1)

to the Sierra Tarahumara above Creel. Your gifts to these kids blesses the heart of God!

Just the other day, I received a phone call from the lost and found service that handles Fed-Ex claims. The woman was calling because they had 18 large zip type bags with assorted school supplies in them. It was our "missing" box from Pennsylvania! "Tara" and her co-workers had looked up our website, and she wanted to tell us they think all we're doing is so great. She shared that she remembered her mom always had a heart for kids in Mexico, and used to gather up clothes to send for them. When I described how the pastors give us lists and that there's a name attached to every kit that goes out, she said it made her want to cry! The day she called was a stress-filled one for us, so I'm not sure who was blessed more by the call - her or me!

The killings continue in Mexico and it's nearly impossible to imagine what it's like to live in such conditions. People have been severely beaten or killed just because they had the misfortune to see what happened to their neighbor. We're in awe of those that are still standing in the face of such brutal violence. The pastors put themselves and their

Updates & Prayer Requests

- ◆ In June we spoke at several New Mexico churches that support CBM. Since then, volunteers out of these churches have driven down on Tuesdays to help on Distribution Day. Wow! In July we hosted 3 summer teams who helped minister to our kids. What fun! And August was all about school supply kits!
- ◆ Thanks to love gifts, Brother Lorenzo's clinic expansion is almost finished! They're seeing clients already! They send their heartfelt thanks to those who made this vision possible.
- ◆ The Lord has opened the door of opportunity for thousands of dozens of eggs to be donated to our border region. Pray with us that this door will remain open! It's a huge blessing for the poor along the border.
- ◆ The egg packing operation will soon need empty egg cartons. The CBM network was their best carton supplier years ago, and they ask you to begin sending us your clean, empty cartons once again so they can pick them up on future egg deliveries.
- ◆ Elfi and Joan will be speaking at Friendship Baptist Church in Lamesa, Texas Sunday, Sept. 11 during their morning services - 10:00 AM. If you're in the area, we hope to see you there!

families in harm's way every time they minister to a murder victim's loved ones. Every week, we hear of another rash of killings that sends more people fleeing to the US.

The Lord has been so faithful, sending even more food donations for the pastors to take for their starving people. On Tuesdays we load them up with as much as their vehicles will hold; eggs, cereals, tostadas, oatmeal, peanut butter by the case, and lots of extra beans and rice. We've doubled and tripled what goes out on a typical Tuesday! Like in the days of Joseph, the Lord has positioned Crossing Borders to "keep many people alive." It's a privilege to minister alongside these pastors, doing whatever we can to strengthen and encourage them "in the faith."

Over the summer, I've watched my "Wednesday girls" make baby steps of growing in the Lord. Now that school's started, the group added 4 new girls - band students - that they invited to come with them to church. Of course it's, "Elfi can you come pick us all up at the band building?" Of course I say, "Yes!" My girls are growing bolder in witnessing about their faith to students and teachers alike, and even telling others how they can ask Jesus to come into their hearts and save them! They still deal with a lot of dark issues in their homes and within themselves, but it's such a "shot in the arm" to hear one girl lead another girl to Christ right in front of me during class! Thank you for all your prayers over these girls - your prayers haven't been in vain! Thank you, too, for the many ways you help us "keep the faith!"

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**We're on the WEB at
crossingbordersministries.com**

a ministry out of First Baptist Church of Fabens - developed and operated by Elfi Register and Joan Wilson.

Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support of this ministry! Donations made through FBC Fabens are tax deductible. Please make your check payable to:

Fabens First Baptist Church
attach a note to specify if it is for support of Elfi and/ or Joan or for Crossing Borders General Fund.

Elfi & Joan are Mission Service Corps missionaries out of FBC Fabens. MSC is part of the North American Mission Board, whose members must provide their own finances.

