September - December 2011 Volume 11, Issue 4

Crossing Borders Ministries

Crossing Borders

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

we shawks to the LORD for He is good,

His love endures forever - Psalm 136:1

For the Lord IS Good!

by Elfi Register



From the border of Chihuahua and Texas ...



... to the children of the Sierra Tarahumara ...



... your Christmas Shoeboxes bring many smiles to needy chil-

We never cease to be amazed by the goodness of the Lord! The past few months have been a whirlwind of blessings, so where do I begin? I suppose I can start by calling attention to Brother Lorenzo's article below. They've finished their first clinic and already opened a second - which he explains. Six cases of Illustrated New Testaments for children (in Spanish) were donated recently, and we sent them all for the kids who are being ministered to at these clinics. They were a hit!

Our trip in September to Lamesa, TX was a wonderful time of seeing long-time friends and meeting many more who've been supporting our ministry "behind the scenes" for years. It was great to put faces to the blessings, and hug their necks, too! September also brought amazing increase to our ministry with the Fabens kids. The "new" girls who started coming to my high school group have kept inviting other friends, so that my class has grown to over 20

teens! It's been a bit overwhelming at times. However, the Lord IS GOOD! At the end of the month, three young adults "showed up" expressing their desire to work with us on Wednesdays! One is the mom of some of our kids, who has a heart for kids but also struggles under some heavy burdens. Please keep her in prayer. The other two are a young couple with zeal to get involved - even though they're babies in the Lord themselves. Please pray for Jorge, Valerie and their baby son Aidan, as they grow in Christ and in the work God has clearly called them to.

At the end of October, Immanuel Baptist in Farmington, NM sent down nearly 4000# of pinto beans plus 600# of rice. Wow! This is a tremendous blessing - especially in light of climbing prices (see page 2). It's helping the pastors feed even more starving people! Also in the month, our Clovis, NM friends brought a load of cereal, salad dressings, tostadas, and cases of Snickers energy bars.

Those energy bars were a hit this month, when we had "movie night" with our kids - showing "Soul Surfer" and eating popcorn & those bars. A great night!

Now, it's been a scramble to get ready for the Christmas Shoeboxes. We want to thank everyone in advance, who've been wrapping and filling boxes and packing them up to bring to us. Our calendar's already booking up for December, the pastors are turning in their lists of the children they want to give gifts to, and all of it will come together and be shipped out the first two weeks of December! Whew! I'm tired just thinking about it!

One thing is certain, the Lord IS good, and so are all of you who support this ministry and serve as the hands and feet of Jesus! We thank the Lord for you all, and pray that He blesses you with a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas!



CAAF Clinics in San Isidro and San Agustin minister to the emotional and spiritual needs of women and children



A Clinic of Hope

by Brother Lorenzo

CAAF Juarez (formerly Casa mi Esperanza) had a vision to open three extensions of their Center - "Rio Grande", "Southwest", and "Del Valle". We were approached to open the Del Valle unit here in our church. It was then that we joined in this great ministry. CAAF stands for "Center of Attention and Assistance for the Family".

The violence that exists in the Juarez Valley has left psychological scars in families, many seriously... widows who have been in total neglect both economically and morally; the orphan children; families who, although they have not been touched by violence directly, live with fear; fear among the young people who have seen the need to suspend their activities outside the home. In addition to this, there is the lack of employment, because many businesses have closed or have left town. For this reason the Sinai Baptist Church had the foresight to



Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

- No "Thanksgiving" letter would be complete without trying to thank as many people as possible! Everyone who supports this ministry has a part in the thousands of lives who are helped every week. While we can't begin to list all of you by name ... some of you would prefer to be anonymous anyway ... but you know who you are, and we thank you, and thank the Lord for you, too! Together we make an eternal difference for people we may not ever meet until we arrive in Heaven.
- Hans and Linda Steinhoff have been driving down from Cloudcroft, NM every other Monday for the past 10 years to deliver pinto beans purchased largely through the Cloudcroft First Baptist bean fund. Hans has hauled so many beans over the years, he once had a dream we bought him a truck with a lift-gate for making his deliveries!
- Drex & Sammi Clonz of Scotsdale Baptist in El Paso load up their vehicle once a month with the donations from their Adults on Missions group. One month it might be flour, another month canned meat, but its always quality AND quantity food that blesses people on BOTH sides of the border!
- Dick & Pat Murtland used to come once a month ... that's before more people at First Baptist of El Paso got involved! Now, we see them 2 or 3 times a month! They bring clean grocery bags, egg cartons, or whatever else our ministry needs in a given month.
- Our friends from La Luz Bible Church (NM) are still driving down to bring helpers once a month, and they join with our community volunteers to pack beans and rice, and they stay around to help load the pastors with any other donations we've had come in that's stored in the warehouse across the street.
- Don't know how we'd accomplish all we do without ALL of your prayers, financial support, and hands-on help! It's wonderful to be part of the Body of Christ!

Special thanks to our friends at Grace of Giving Ministries who supply our rice and pastors' groceries, and El Paso Christian Home for Men who haul supplies for us each & every month!



Beans & Rice Price Alert!

Bean and rice prices have spiked in the last two months - and it looks like the floods/droughts that hit our nation are part of the reason.

> Beans: \$31.50 / 50# bag Rice: \$17.38 / 50# bag

To maintain our current distribution of 1000# of each per week, that's \$977 a week just for beans and rice.

The Cloudcroft Bean Fund and Grace of Giving Ministries are maxed out right now. Please join us in praying for everyone who helps make these purchases possible.

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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:

<u>Fabens First Baptist Church</u> 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.

Clinic ... (continued from page 1)

open a ministry, becoming a resource of support to this society.

The CAAF Del Valle unit is a ministry working cooperatively with the mission of the Sinai Baptist Church in promoting and expanding the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This ministry combines the emotional support of psychotherapies provided by a professional and volunteers trained to provide spiritual counseling.

This Center keeps the record of each of the patients and volunteers to help with psychology, reception, cleaning, spiritual counseling, and advocacy. The CAAF Del Valle currently serves 67 patients per month, providing individual psychotherapy and spiritual counseling.

In October we were contacted by a teacher of the primary school of San Agustin, calling urgently for psychological help for children. Their school has been expelling children for misconduct; children who, if they can't return to school, see no other option but to choose vagrancy and therefore the majority of them will turn to violence, theft and more. We thank God for the opportunity to minister to these children through psychological assistance, and in this way introduce them to the spiritual help they also need. An average of 64 children since

the beginning of the month and 9 parents are attending there.

The kinds of behavior and learning problems they suffer with comes from the anxiety of loved ones who have "disappeared". Sadly, one boy's teenaged sister was found last month in a mass grave. We thank God that He used us in this family's crisis by having us with them the day she was found, and so we could minister to the boy and his mother in their grief.

CAAF Del Valle also conducts workshops of occupational therapy where the elderly have exercise and crafts activities, which help them both economically because they sell the crafts, and as a distraction from their fears and anxieties. There are 32 elderly patients served weekly.

Thank you for the prayers which have served to keep this ministry going, for the economic help in the refurbishment of the facilities of CAAF Del Valle in San Isidro and San Agustin, and for the beans and rice that have been of great blessings to low-income people.

We ask for your prayers that more people will know God's love through this ministry and choose to follow Him. We also are asking God to provide a salary for a person who can cover the reception and patient intake for the CAAF of San Isidro and San Agustin. It must be someone committed to take care of such confidential information.