

CROSSING BORDERS NEWS

December 2014 Volume 14, Issue 6

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us ...

John 1:14

The Christmas story never grows old. God doing the impossible, coming to walk among us in order to restore us to Himself. "The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood!" (Message Bible) How awesome is that!

We are reminded over and over again that whatever we do for the "least of these," the Lord counts it the same as if we did it for Him. When we extend grace and mercy to the poor, we become His hands and feet on this earth. What a privilege! We have seen His light shine through the volunteers who came to sort and stage 2500 boxes for children. Every box was checked to be sure that everyone remembered to put in toothbrush, toothpaste, candy, and presents. And we still need to rescue candy from tasting like soap! Also, we looked to be sure there were two gloves or socks—you'd be surprised how much that matters. Yet every box was left as "original and undisturbed" as possible. We know how so many of these boxes were prepared with care and prayed over before it ever arrived here. We know, because so many were **PERFECT** just the way they were! That in itself made all of our jobs go so much faster! The gifts have all shipped out now, and we know that everyone who participated in the process had a part in putting smiles on children's faces, and blessed the heart of Jesus as well!

And there's no such thing as "extras" with shoebox gifts. Every box is needed, whether we knew it ahead of time or not. We have heard the stories of children waiting an hour and a half in line to receive a gift, only to have the heartbreak of finding out there's no more. What sorrow for a child! Praise God for people of compassion who will say, "Don't cry. What's your name? We will have a present for you tomorrow." Then they come asking for any "extras" we may have. So praise the Lord for those "extras" that came in again this year! They were a supply from the Lord who knew the need before it occurred. Every box counts! The ones and twos as well as the 100s.

There was a whirlwind of activity that went on in addition to the shoebox gifts. We filled up pallets in the warehouse with rice cereal, dry milk, cornmeal mix, canned goods, coats, blankets, and clothing, **PLUS** fresh eggs and venison! Blessings coming in and going out! May you, too, be blessed for joining us in being His hands and feet this Christmas!

2500 Shoebox Gifts!

Merry Christmas and Feliz Navidad



Deliveries came in group by group throughout November



Boxes ready to ship out to pastors were prayed over



Every box was lovingly inspected for all the essentials—and candy rescued from soap!

The first of many Christmas parties this week! All these children send you a big muchas gracias!



Our Deepest Thanks

Many thanks to our wonderful army of volunteers! Pictured here are most, but not all, of the teams who came and helped process all those boxes. We really couldn't have done it without them. They came from as far away as San Antonio, Eastland, Lamesa, San Angelo, Cloudcroft, Alamogordo, La Luz; and as close as El Paso and the house next door!

Also, thank you to Willie Inge, Alamogordo, and his crew for taking on the bean hauling while Hans Steinhoff recovers from intestinal surgery. We were in the waiting room together back in October when Willie felt God's nudge to take up Hans' job until he was back on his feet. The Lord bless you, Willie!

Prayer Reminders

Please keep Hans Steinhoff in prayer. He will have more surgery on January 12, so remember to cover him in prayer that day.

Please continue in prayer for Margarita Lopez, wife of Pastor Lopez in Guadalupe. Join us in praying for a supernatural remission of this curse called cancer. The prayer chain for her healing agrees in prayer every evening at 9:00 pm.

Our beloved friend, Pastor Don Randall, went home to be with the Lord on December 17. He will be buried on the Navajo Nation where he moved in order to pastor a church in Smith Lake, NM. Please keep his wife, Alana, and their family and ministry in prayer.

Pray for the villages across the River from us. Praxedes and Colonia Esperanza had violent gunfighting in their streets that lasted several hours. People are fearful and worried yet again. On Tuesday, the fear was evident among the pastors we spoke with.

A Little Time Off

Crossing Borders Ministries will take a break for the last Tuesdays of December, the 23rd and 30th. Many of the pastors will be traveling during Christmas and New Year break, as will some of our volunteers, and Elfi and Joan, too! After 3 weeks of working every day, we all welcome the rest! Please check in with us on the cell # before any plans to visit or make deliveries during this time. CBM will resume its regular schedule on January 6.

*Happy New Year
y Feliz Año Nuevo*

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Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support of this ministry!

CBM is God's commission to missionaries Elfi Register and Joan Wilson to support, encourage, and release FAITH in the needy and less fortunate. CBM operates out of First Baptist Church of Fabens. Donations made through FBC Fabens are tax deductible, so please make your check payable to: Fabens First Baptist Church. Include a note to specify your gift for missionary support of Elfi and/or Joan; or for CBM's General Fund

Elfi & Joan are Mission Service Corps missionaries out of FBC Fabens. MSC is part of the North American Mission Board. These missionaries raise their own finances.

