



CROSSING BORDERS NEWS

Crossing Borders Ministries ♦ established 2001

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Choquita



Colonia Esperanza



Anapra

Christmas Blessings for Us All!

All the shoebox gifts have shipped out from the ministry and most have been put into the hands of children in need—over 2500 in all! Once again every box counted, so well done everyone! Here are just a few pictures that have already come our way. Young and old alike were blessed by these little boxes filled with presents, love, and prayers. Over and again we're told how so many of these children would have no gifts but ours this Christmas, so it's all the more important to make sure every box leaves here as awesome as possible!

We know some folks get upset that we inspect every box before it ships—even boxes they have already checked. But you never can be too careful when it comes to crossing an international border. Also, despite our best efforts some folks manage to miss the memo on “no soap, no liquids, no military toys” or the other one on “include toothbrush, toothpaste, and candy.” We don't want any child to feel slighted so we make sure every box has all the essentials! But we DO NOT undo ANY of your nice boxes, so rest assured it was received by a grateful child just like you meant it to be! Best of all many, many boxes passed inspection to speed up the sorting process, praise the Lord!

Getting these boxes across the border is another story. Whenever we load a pastor's vehicle we lay hands on it and pray for God's protection to get everything across without incident. One pastoral couple was even granted God's favor to cross their truck with the bed loaded to overflowing—until last week. The Mexico guards wanted to “charge” \$700 to let them go through this time! This couple refused to pay the bribe, turned back, and began to pray all the more. Finally, on Dec. 22 they were given permission to take all they had across—free of charge! They took not only presents but coats, blankets, clothing, plus extra beans and rice! The prayer of FAITH moves even nations!

In the midst of all the shoebox work, we were blessed to have good friends of the ministry come alongside to help process all those boxes. They came with happy fellowship, good food, and lots of laughter—wonderful gifts you can't tie a ribbon around. They also brought deliveries of bulk food and other needed items that will ship out in January. So as the ministry shuts down for a well earned two week break, we will catch up on paperwork and finally get this newsletter out to all of you!

Meanwhile, winter storm “Goliath” dumped snow & below freezing temps on the border, too! The poor are ill prepared for such weather in the Juarez valley. So we can use more coats & blankets for the pastors to take across. You can see the old grandmother in Anapra using her blanket like a scarf & coat. But they still manage to have fun, with plastic bags for snow boots!



3" of snow shut down Sauzal Viejo in Mexico



Mexican snowman complete with sombrero!



Don't let their young faces fool you. Some of these kids from La Luz Bible Church have been coming to help us for 14 years! Caleb, the tallest, said he wanted to come work one more time before he heads off to college in Arizona.

A Very Special Thank You to All Our Volunteers

Processing 2500 shoeboxes was a daunting task! We couldn't have done it without the help of the many volunteers who gave up a day or more to help us make sure every box went out the best it could be! Thanks to those who delivered all the boxes to us, and thanks to everyone who shopped and prepared their boxes they sent our way!

Time for a Small Break

Crossing Borders Ministries is on Christmas break and won't be open till January 12. See you in 2016!

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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.



2500 Shoebox
Gifts!

*We wait in HOPE for the Lord;
He is our help and our shield.
In Him our hearts rejoice,
for we trust in His holy Name.
May Your unfailing love rest upon us,
O Lord,
even as we put our HOPE in You.*

Psalms 33:20-22

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