



CROSSING BORDERS NEWS

Crossing Borders Ministries * established 2001

October-December 2018 Volume 18, Issue 4



Presents with a purpose—sharing God's love because of the gift of His Son, Jesus



Volunteers help fill boxes that lacked all the things needed in our gifts



There's always time to share some Christmas joy and meet new friends

The Wonder of Christmas Miracles

This week the last of **more than 2800 Christmas shoebox gifts** crossed safely into Mexico. That in itself is a miracle, as pastors are hassled every Tuesday when they go home with beans and rice. They must resort to driving miles out of their way to cross the big bridge at Zaragoza in hopes of getting a "green light" so they don't have to endure a shake down. It's the shoeboxes themselves, though, that are the real miracle!

By the end of November we'd received the requests from the pastors, but after all our groups delivered their boxes to us we found that we were 300 boxes short. Some deliveries were huge so we took the totals they gave as accurate, but as we began processing them to match what each pastor asked for, we discovered the numbers weren't coming out. We took inventory 4 different times and came up short every time. We were praying and discussing who would have to be dropped or shorted in their requests. We had people all through our network praying!

In faith, we kept working along with our volunteers. The night before our final work day, as we were getting ready to go home for the night, Elfi said let's count one more time. And the boxes were miraculously there! No last minute deliveries had come through the door, yet there they were! A real "loaves and fishes" miracle! There's no other explanation, because after 18 years we certainly know how to count boxes. Praise the Lord!

We can't wait to hear what other miracles will come as a result of these shoeboxes! And not just the boxes, but all the homemade blankets, new coats, jackets, and shoes that were donated will be amazing blessings to all who receive them.



The Hands and Feet of Jesus

Just like when Jesus multiplied the loaves and fishes, the disciples still needed to distribute what He'd blessed. We're so thankful for all the hands that came in contact with the boxes; putting them together, getting them to us, sorting and labeling them for the pastors, as well as for those who will deliver them to each child. As we tell our volunteers, whether they know it or not God chose them to be the hands and feet of Jesus to these children. The Lord will surely bless them for their labor of love! (Prov. 19:17)



Prayer over the wall full of gifts ready for the pastors to pick up



Bonds of Love

Our trip to Lubbock and Lamesa in October was a wonderful one. The Lord gave us opportunities to share about the work of Crossing Borders in both places, and blessed us with meeting many new friends and reconnecting with longtime ones. At South Park Baptist in Lubbock, we were happily surprised by Pastor Calvin and Jean Gray. He was Elfi's pastor in Cloudcroft when she was a teen, and years later had been instrumental in promoting our annual school supply drive. They now live in Lubbock, so it was great to visit with them over lunch.

Special thank you to our precious friends, Richard and Jeri Boyles who opened the door for us at South Park, and for extending every hospitality to us while we were there. They've been part of our CBM family for many years. We loved connecting them to our other precious friends in Lamesa, EL and Carolyn Hogg, whom God used in opening the door years ago for CBM in Lamesa. These two couples partnered together to get some of Lubbock's donations to us in November.

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Mercy to the needy is a loan to God, and God pays back those loans in full Proverbs 19:17
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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.



Crossing Borders on Break

Dec. 21—Jan. 7

Elfi, Joan, and all of the CBM volunteers spent long hours behind the scenes getting all those boxes processed, so they're taking a much deserved break beginning December 21.

CBM will be closed for Tuesday Distribution Day on Dec. 25 & Jan. 1. Pastors begin crossing from Mexico for Distribution Day again on Tuesday Jan. 8.

Thank you for being part of this ministry with us. You are a far bigger blessing than you know! *We wish you a blessed Christmas and a wonderful New Year!*



No one's too young or too old to help us with shoebox gifts! Make plans to help us next year!

More than gift boxes are given out at Christmas. Blankets, coats, jackets, beans, rice, and much more travel many miles to people in great need.



God is Yes and Amen -

Tuesday the 18th was a crazier than usual day. Gifts and groceries were shipped out and a party for the pastors and volunteers went on. When it was time to leave, Elfi picked up her briefcase from the office desk and found a sheet of copy paper under it with just two words:

GOD PROVIDES

Now the desk had been clear when she set her briefcase down, so only God knows how it got there. But if we'd had any second thoughts about the miracle of the boxes, that simple message wiped out any doubts. It all but said, "Love, Dad."