



2000 Shoebbox Gifts

From delivery to sorted on the shelves



.... to loaded and ready to cross into Mexico takes a three week process to get it all done.



Every vehicle was prayed over before it went across, asking the Lord to see all the gifts safely into kids' hands

Our crew from La Luz Bible Church, with us since we started 2001! Fred & Barbara, Rita, Kenneth, Rhonda & Pastor Ron (left to right)



Pastors Andy & Ella from Mountain of the Lord Faith Fellowship came down twice to help, and our faithful volunteer Christine was with us every day, working or running all kinds of errands

Merry Christmas!

We hope the joy of this wonderful season surrounds and fills you with every good thing the Lord has for you! In this electronic age we have texted, talked, and emailed throughout the year, but we apologize for not getting another newsletter out before now. You're in our prayers always, as well as being prayed for in churches and missions throughout Mexico. Your faithful friendship impacts many thousands of people every day, who thank the Lord for you being a part of this ministry!

This was a very different shoebox drive this year. The good news: we sent out more than **2000 gifts** to needy children and youth. The bad news: current economic conditions had several churches deciding not to participate, putting us some 500 gifts short! We had asked the pastors to give us smaller lists but we still didn't have enough boxes for all their requests. Our dedicated volunteers worked little "miracles" for nearly 3 weeks so that in the end we only came up 95 gifts short. In 22 Christmases, it's the first time we couldn't supply every list AND the first time the shortage was our girls! Those aren't the kind of "firsts" anybody wants.

In addition to the gift shortage we struggled through a lot of illness. Elfi had a severe throat infection that made it very hard to swallow. She was too sick to work our entire first week. Praise the Lord for blessing us with Luly's, who among her many abilities is a skilled charge nurse. She treated Elfi medically, brought her soft foods, and prayed over her as well. As others showed up to work sick, she treated them too. On top of all this, Luly's and her family cooked lunch for us and our workers every day! When we tried to tell her she didn't have to cook after taking care of everyone, she said *'don't tell me no! It's my heart to do this!'*

Twice a year we focus on blessing children; school supplies in August and shoebox gifts in December. Sometimes people forget that CBM operates all 12 months of the year! Everything we send - beans, rice, groceries, clothes, medicine, and more - goes out by way of pastors and missionaries, to be distributed to those they know need it most. CBM has always worked "behind the scenes," giving God the glory through the preaching and compassion of these dedicated men and women. The thousands of men, women, and children who receive from them know all the gifts come from the Lord Jesus Christ, who loves them, cares for them, and desires to meet their every need.

The two of us are still traveling back and forth between Cloudcroft and Fabens every month. Omar and Luly's continue to head up our precious volunteers who pack beans and rice and meet with the pastors from Mexico every two weeks on Fridays. All of us stay in constant contact with each other, covering each other in prayer or coordinating deliveries and meetings. Like you, we've also grieved over seeing too many friends leave this life for their eternal home in Heaven. We keep reminding ourselves we shall see them again. It does keep us aware that this world is not "home", that we are on a journey "just a passin' through."

We, and all the pastors, missionaries, & families you have helped to bless, send you our heartfelt "Muchas Gracias!" "Feliz Navidad!" y "Prospero Año Nuevo!" We thank you for sticking by us all these years. Your prayers and gifts, and sometimes even your sweat and tears, are all recorded in God's book of remembrance (Malachi 3:16-18). Jesus said what you've done for others, you've done for Him. May He bless and keep you, over and above what you could ask or think!

Elfi & Joan
tired but thankful



More News

FBC Fabens turns 99

Thanksgiving marked our church's 99th anniversary with a weekend of celebrations. On Saturday November 26, there was a service in the sanctuary with a feast afterward. El Paso Baptist Association Director Larry Floyd preached, and the pastors from Mexico came to celebrate Crossing Borders for being God's provision for their communities, and for the long history FBC Fabens has for supporting mission work. Few remain who'd remember our church had a part in starting La Trinidad Baptist Church across the Rio in Guadalupe. Many of the pastors we partner with grew up with or were mentored under Pastor David Lopez, Sr. there.

However, the two of us missed it all as we were snowed in up in the mountains! We dug ourselves out and got to Fabens later that evening. By then Elfi was already starting to feel sick. There was more celebrating on Sunday with lots of worship and people giving thanks for God's faithfulness all these years, and of course more food. Next year is our 100th anniversary, so we hope you'll be able to come celebrate with us!

We're on Christmas Break

CBM is on break until the pastors return on January 6, but contributions received by Dec. 30 are tax deductible for 2022.

School Supply Drive Update

We were able to send over 1800 school supply kits to 45 different locations in August. Our yearly school supply drive video went out to group leaders and other participants. If you haven't seen it yet it's on our website as well. You can watch it there and also download it to show to friends and family who participated in this event. Seeing all the children and teens who now have a chance at getting an education is priceless!

It bears repeating that those small packages of basic supplies makes an enormous impact in the lives of everyone who receives them. Every child who's able to go to school is taking a step toward a better future, not only for themselves, but for their families and their nation as well. This was our 22nd school drive, and in those years we've had the joy of seeing kids go beyond grade school to eventually graduate university to become doctors, nurses, teachers, pastors, social workers, and the list goes on.

We take for granted how blessed we are to live in a country where even the poorest among us is able to receive a free education through high school.

Thank you for helping us make this important project possible! The Lord bless you for being His hands and feet for so many kids.

Please remember these pastors in prayer as they continue to minister under difficult circumstances

Iglesia Bautista Cristo Redentor	Eduardo Guzmán
Iglesia Bautista Dios Es Amor	Jose Cruz Rodriguez
Iglesia Bautista Mt. Sinai	Nieves Mares
Misión Getsemani	Nieves Mares
Centro Familiar Cristiano	Gabriela Tarango
Iglesia Bautista El Penuel	Luis Garcia
Misiones Centenario, Paredes & Sarabia	Luis Garcia
Iglesia Bautista La Trinidad	David Lopez, Sr.
Misión Anapra	Omar/Lourdes Lara
Sol de Justicia	Tomas Mijares
Iglesia Bautista Vida Nueva	Jose Patrocinio Ambrocio
Oasis de Amor	Luis Antonio Pisté
Iglesia Bautista Antioquia	Pablo Gonzalez
Templo Agua Viva	Lucio/Rosa Ontiveros
Iglesia Bautista Dios Con Nosotros	Antonio Perea
Iglesia Bautista Esmirna	Uriel Castro
Templo Elim	Isidoro Villela



A perfect box made with love in Jesus' Name, with a T shirt that says "family"

School supplies provide a hope and a future for kids throughout Mexico



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E-mail: crossingborder@aol.com

WEBSITE: crossingbordersministries.com

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.

