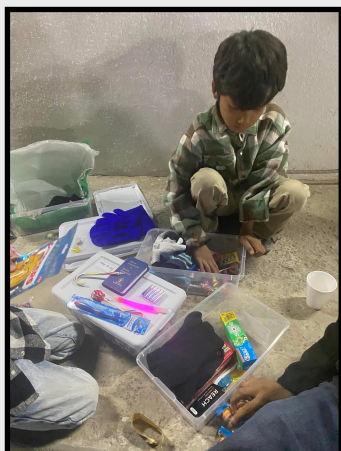




Crossing Borders News

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

2300 Christmas Shoebox Gifts



Top to bottom:

Shoebox gifts in the hands of needy children

Thousands of boxes to distribute

Our intrepid crew who stayed with us a week to fill the pastors' requests, along with our ladies who fed us lunch

God is Always Working

We thank God for you and your faithfulness to pray! Your prayers have carried us through some rough storms in the past few months, though you weren't even aware of all we were going through. We do apologize we're late getting important ministry news to you, and so grateful you continued support for us and Crossing Borders in spite of it. Thank you!

The work behind the scenes for the shoebox gifts took many hands and many hours to accomplish, but it all made it possible to bless **2300** needy children. The Christmas video of them receiving their gifts is now on our website. We know it will be a blessing to you as you see all those happy faces!

March 7 we will be celebrating our 24th anniversary with our pastor and missionary friends from Mexico. Pray for these precious men and women of God as well, as they continue to lift up the name of Jesus in the troubled times that continue along our stretch of the US/Mexico border. Pray they are able to continue crossing over to receive the food and other supplies that are so needed to care for the "least of these" in their churches and communities.

Now about those "storms," the two of us ask you to be praying for our renewed strength and health. Joan has made remarkable progress concerning her heart failure in December 2023, but it still needs to regain full function and not be so enlarged. Then Elfi had surgery this past Dec. 16th, which had been postponed for many months. She's recuperating slowly but surely, and will still need additional follow up treatment. Sadly, the very day and hour she went into surgery, the terrible news came that her brother Eric had been found dead at home, possibly from carbon monoxide poisoning.

Through all of this, we stand in faith that our God is always working, even when what's happening doesn't make sense. 2 Corinthians 4 says, "we are pressed down but not crushed, struck down but not destroyed." We are not exempt from the storms of life, but we can cling to the promise that Jesus will never leave us or forsake us. As believers we are NEVER alone!

It still amazes us how the Lord supplies every need through your faithfulness. And we praise Him for our small army of local volunteers who help sack up beans, rice, and groceries for the pastors to pick up. Hard to imagine the days we did all this by ourselves! As always we ask you to pray for the ministry finances needed. Food expenses are tight for everyone, and that goes for CBM as well. Pray for all who are part of our faithful support network. Many of you have health issues or losses of your own, yet have continued with us as true friends. We along with the pastors pray for you as you pray for us. The Lord bless and keep you in the palm of His hand.

"God is our Refuge and Strength, a very present Help in trouble"
Psalm 46:1



God is our Source & will always provide for the least of these according to His riches in Glory. He provided a "double blessing" by multiplying twice as much beef and venison in November and December!



News & Prayer Requests

- Every two weeks, we supply beans and rice through a cooperative network of pastors and missionaries. They distribute to families in the lower Juarez Valley region across from Fabens, Texas. We also provide a sack full of groceries every week for these pastors' families, helping care for them as they care for so many others.
- March 7, CBM 24th anniversary celebration. You're invited to come celebrate with us!
- Pray for the family and friends of our dear Pastor David Lopez Sr., who passed into Glory in December. Many of our pastors and missionaries we network with were raised in La Trinidad Baptist Church under his guidance.
- We never fail to talk about one amazing woman when we work on Christmas shoeboxes: Carolyn Hogg. Back in July, Carolyn passed away and we had the privilege of singing at her memorial service. Please pray for all of us who still grieve and miss her. She loved everything about the Christmas gifts; buying, assembling, inspecting, packing, sorting. If it involved a shoebox gift she was there and for years was in charge of getting them from Lamesa, TX to us in Fabens. Along with her husband E.L., their first delivery trip they filled their minivan to overflowing! We doubt they could have found space for even a candy cane! Such wonderful memories! In later years, Carolyn's health issues made it painful to travel very far. She and EL resigned as river ministry coordinators, and Corney and Evie Dyke took the reins, continuing to minister several times a year in our border region - including the delivery of Lamesa Association's shoebox gifts. Praise the Lord!

Pray for Pastors & Missionaries in Mexico

Omar & Luly's Lara, First Baptist in Fabens, missions in Anapra, Etapa 9, Delicias, Juan Alvarez school Ministry

Dr. Hugo Mendez, La Paz Church

Patrocino Ambrocio, Vida Nueva Church

Isidoro Villela, Templo Elim

Nieves Mares, Mte. Sinai Church, Getsemany Mission

Luis Garcia, El Penuel Church, Sarabia & Centenario Missions

Patty Mendoza, La Trinidad Church

Antonio Perea, Dios Con Nosotros Church

Tomas Mijares, Sol de Justicia Church, Casa de Dios

Luis Piste, Oasis de Amor Church

Pablo Gonzalez, Antioquia Church, Torre Fuerte Mission, BAN Children's Ministry

Ruth M. Cruz, Cruz and Corona Ministries

Eduardo Guzman, Cristo Redentor Church, 6 missions

Alfredo Lira, Rancho Nuevo Mission

Lucio & Rosa Ontiveros, Agua Viva Church

Enrique Ornelas, Neighborhood Ministry

Ruben Sandoval, La Hermosa, Bethel, & Dios con Nosotros missions

Gabriela Tarango, Christian Family Center Church

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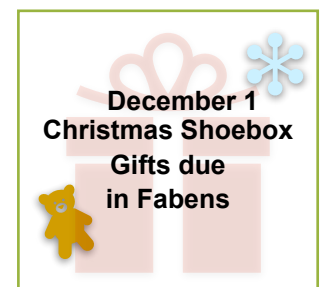
WEBSITE: crossingbordersministries.com

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.



December 1
Christmas Shoebox
Gifts due
in Fabens