



Crossing Borders News

News & Updates on Crossing Borders Ministries—FBC Fabens—PO Box 35—at 318 N. Fabens St.—Fabens, TX 79838

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Christmas in a Shoebox - How to Pack a Lot of Love for a Little Child

Well, the boxes have all been checked, sorted, and sent across the border to Mexico children in 27 locations! From December 1st to the 23rd, we processed and shipped out nearly 800 shoebox presents! This was our 5th Christmas at Crossing Borders, and by far it has gone the smoothest of any before. We had several SUPER work groups help us to keep everything on schedule, and really could not have facilitated this massive blessing without them. From toddlers to senior citizens, they all worked with equal parts of labor and laughter.

There's a lot of behind-the-scenes work that goes into each box. Someone wraps a box and lid and puts all sorts of neat stuff in it for either a boy or a girl. Then it is sent to us, either by that person or through their church. Next, our volunteers check each box. We look to see if



Elfi Register and Joan Wilson get ready to process the next round of donated shoebox gifts.

as the others. (It's important to us that we keep each gift as true to how the giver made it as possible!) Once that's done, the boxes are tied closed with yarn - with some bulging at the seams! Finally, the finished boxes are separated and packed tightly into shipping boxes that are picked up by the Mexico pastors. (Each pastor had submitted a list of needy children from his village, and shipping boxes were packed to match each pastor's requests.) The most challenging - and creative - obstacle our volunteers

encountered was having to take a box made for a 6-8 year old and make it into something an older child would equally enjoy. Tough but not impossible! In the end, I really do believe all of us were just as blessed as the children who received all your gifts!



Children from La Luz home school group listen as Joan gives instructions on how they will process the shoebox gifts donated from their church.

anything leaked or melted. Sometimes boxes are made by a group that only had a few things to put in each box. When we're able, we add more goodies to those boxes so they are just as full

We are in the process of putting together a monthly email newsletter. I will provide more up-to-the-minute information and prayer requests than is possible in our quarterly mailing. If you would like to be included on our e-list, please send us an "Include Me" note to our email address: CrossingBorder@aol.com. Please notice that there is no "s" in our e-address.

Finishing 2005 STRONG!

As we look back at this past year, we see all sorts of peaks and valleys. Foremost of these has been the struggles and surgeries of young David Ornelas. His bone marrow transplant went very well and since then he has gained over 5 pounds and been doing all the things little boys do - including tormenting his sisters with plastic bugs! Doctors are still concerned that he has fluid on the brain and his CT scan showed a "speck" where the tumor had been. It may just be scar tissue, but it could be cancer. His other tests have come back negative so we continue to pray and hold on to hope for him.

Remember Danny Campos? Two years

ago, we had you praying because he was at death's door. He's doing so well now, we recently turned our Tuesday Bible Study over to him with wonderful results. He's preaching & teaching in such a way that the people can see that being fed by God's Word is better than the beans and rice.

And we have seen LOTS of food pass through our doors this past year! Believe it or not, 36,000 pounds EACH of beans & rice were distributed to the people of Mexico during 2005. In addition, there were thousands of pounds of canned goods & potatoes; hundreds of pounds of sugar, flour, & masa; plus lots of other things from noodles to powdered milk. It's just AMAZING what we have accomplished together!



8 year old David Ornelas with his parents, improving since his bone marrow transplant.

Meet the Ministries You Have Helped This Year

Many of you have asked for an updated list of the pastors we work with, so that you can pray for them by name. We help supply food and other needed items through 24 men to 35 ministries along the Rio Grande Valley in our area. Each ministry receives 10—15 "Family Packs" a week to help meet the needs of impoverished families in their churches and communities. A "family pack" consists of 2.5# each of beans & rice. We are able to distribute 300 "Family Packs" each week - that's 750 # of each. We have people committed to supplying those 750# every week, yet the need is even greater. Actually, we need 1000# of beans and 1000# of rice each week to meet the distribution requests. Because of this shortfall in supply, the pastors cooperate by taking turns coming only once every two weeks and we have also had to set a limit on the number of local families we can help. In this way, we are able to "stretch" what we DO have a little farther. So, here are our pastor - friends by name, (in no particular order) so you can better pray for them.

1. **Pastor Antonio Perea**, "Dios Con Nosotros", Praxedis G. Guerrero, MX
2. **Pastor David Lopez**, "Iglesia Bautista La Trinidad", Guadalupe, MX
3. their work in Serape, MX
4. **Pastor Verulo Garcia**, "Iglesia Bautista El Penuel", Colonia Esperanza, MX
5. their work in Centenario, MX
6. The pastors' cooperative work in Cajoncitos, MX
7. **Bro. Reyes Dominguez**, "Mision Paredes", Paredes, MX
8. **Bro. Alfredo Lira**, "Mision Sarabia", Colonia Esperanza, MX
9. **Pastor Enrique Ornelas**, "Mision Bautista Barreales", Barreales, MX
10. **Pastor Lorenzo Pinales**, "Iglesia Bautista Mt. Sinai", San Isidro, MX
11. **Bro. Froy Rodriguez**, "Mision Bautista Loma Blanca", Loma Blanca, MX
12. **Pastor Jose Cruz Rodriguez**, "Iglesia Bautista Dios es Amor", Sausal, MX
13. **Pastor Guadalupe Amaya**, "Iglesia Bautista Cristo es El Redentor", Sausal, MX
14. their work in Sauzal Viejo, MX
15. their work in Manuel Valdez, MX
16. **Pastor Raymundo Rodriguez**, "Iglesia Bautista Esmirna", San Agustin, MX
17. **Bro. Daniel Campos**, area evangelism, Mexico & Texas
18. **Pastor Adriel Lovera**, "Iglesia Bautista Maranatha", Porvenir, MX
19. their work in El Faro, MX
20. **Pastor Elias Serrano**, "Templo Bethel #2", Colonia Esperanza, MX
21. their work in Agua Dulce colonia, TX
22. **Dr. Flavio Martinez**, Guadalupe, MX Office - eldercare ministry
23. **Bro. Ramon Lara**, "Mision Bautista Reforma", Reforma, MX
24. **Bro. Israel Guzman**, "Mision Roca Eterna", Rancho Nuevo, MX
25. **Bro. Norberto Rivas**, "Iglesia Bautista El Buen Pastor", Praxedis, MX
26. **Pastor Felix Figueroa**, "Templo de Cristo Adonai", La Perla district, MX
27. their ministry to street children & Tarahumaras in Juarez
28. **Pastor Francisco Ramirez**, "Templo Agua Viva", El Millon, MX
29. **Pastor Fernando Garcia**, "Iglesia Manantiales", Agua Viva, MX
30. **Bro. Bernie Segura**, River Ministry churches of Pilaes, Lomas, Porbenir
31. Iglesia Bautista Monte Olivo Food Pantry, Juarez, MX
32. **Bro. Jose Lasalde**, Mision Bautista Fabens, Fabens, TX
33. Mission in Huajumar to Tarahumara Indians in the Sierra Nevadas,
(sponsored by our Mexico Baptist pastors)
34. **Bro. David Lopez, Jr.**, "Sparks Mission", Sparks, TX
35. Tuesday Bible Study for CBM workers & community, Fabens, TX
(taught by Bro. Danny Campos)

How You Can Help

Every Tuesday, we set up a Distribution Day in our church's annex for pastors and missionaries. They know they can count on us to be there between 9:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. with beans, rice, and other needed items, both for their own families and for the needy families in their communities.

• WE COLLECT THESE ALL THE TIME:

All-purpose Flour Sugar Instant Coffee
Powdered Milk Bar bath Soap
Toothpaste Shampoo Paper Towels
Toilet Paper Tomato Sauce
Canned Vegetables Canned Fruits
Pasta Canned Chicken / Tuna
Peanut Butter Bulk Pinto Beans
Bulk White Rice

- We can always use volunteers to help on Tuesdays, plus whenever we have a special emphasis such as our School Supplies Drive in July & August, or the Christmas Shoebox Gifts we just completed. Just call to schedule a work day for yourself or your group.

- MONTHLY FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS ALWAYS NEEDED. Donations to CROSSING BORDERS helps buy the rice, beans, and other items we distribute. SUPPORT FOR ELFI OR JOAN HELPS THEM IN THEIR MISSION CALL. They are full-time Mission Service Corps missionaries who do not receive any state or national funding, but must raise their own support in order to stay on the mission field.

- PRAYER IS ALWAYS NEEDED! Please continue to pray for our church, our families (especially Joan's sis, Tina), our volunteers, & our health - we've been fighting off flu & cold germs daily! And pray for David & Barbie and their mission in Sparks (near Horizon City).

Crossing Borders is a ministry of First Baptist Church of Fabens, developed and operated by Elfi Register and Joan Wilson.

Your financial support is vital to this ministry.

When sending your check, please make it payable to:

Fabens First Baptist Church

and attach a note to specify if it is for support of Elfi and/or Joan or for Crossing Borders general fund.

Send to: Crossing Borders Ministries c/o FBC Fabens
PO Box 35 • Fabens, TX 79838

Phones: cell# 915-491-7528 • office # 915-764-5343

email: CrossingBorder@aol.com

Thank you for your continued prayer & support!

Elfi & Joan are Mission Service Corps missionaries
out of FBC Fabens. MSC is under the North American
Mission Board.



Have a Blessed and Happy New Year!

