



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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Working Together in Unity

by Joan Wilson

**So we built ... and were joined together ...
for the people had a mind to work! (from Nehemiah 4:6)**

Even though we see it we can hardly believe it! At last we have a storage building for Crossing Borders Ministries! After so many prayers and plans it's finally completed - and just in time, too! The deadline for the school supplies is August 1 and we've been hoping to receive and distribute them from the new facility this year. This warehouse has come about through the sacrifice of many different groups coming together over several months, with Greg Beard coordinating all the different stages of work - like a modern day Nehemiah. (God led Nehemiah to rebuild Jerusalem's walls while Israel was under Persian rule)

In the midst of all this construction we have continued to operate our regular Tuesday distribution and receive shipments of beans, rice, and groceries throughout the week. June was especially a "blur" as we went from construction to set up and distribution, to receiving goods, to "crowd control" as a Buckner group held sports camp at the church for the Spanish mission that meets there, to preparation for our own Vacation Bible School at Fabens FBC, (thankfully, a group from Oklahoma came & led VBS). We also made a quick trip to San Angelo, TX for my Dad's surgery! (a miraculous event - from a predicted 3 weeks recovery to home in less than a week!) Then it was back to our "phase 3" construction and regular activities. And did I mention temperatures stayed at 100 the whole month?

This building process has given us precious opportunities to get to know all these friends much better, even hearing their own stories for the very first time in some cases. We learned how the Fosters from Amarillo were coming to work in Mexico before many of the churches we now work with even existed, and how they labored in little villages that have all but disappeared. We've grown to love & appreciate this couple even more in the past 8 months. Frank's persistence in sharing our ministry is behind why we receive potatoes, eggs, and more - and how the slab was funded by JB Roberts, Harold Smith, & "Hunger Plus". We finally heard the whole story of how Perry Rollins from San Angelo started coming to the border to bring toys to an orphanage because of a woman named Dorothy Mazuk. It was through Dorothy and her group staying in the church dorm that we met Perry. Perry caught the vision of what we were doing, and has arranged to bring such things as frozen venison, food bank groceries, and even hair care products for blondes! He's been trying for 6 years to plug his church into our work. Did he ever dream "his crew" would come through in such a big way? Glen Meadows Church not only paid for the building, they came down with flat beds, welders, power tools of every sort, and even their own forklift to build it themselves! They also planted themselves firmly in our hearts forever. So many wonderful friends.

So I trust you will enjoy this little "scrap book" of pictures. There is a powerful story behind each one, and I only hope to share more of them with you someday. Mostly, I am deeply grateful to each one pictured (as well as the few who are not!) May our Lord Jesus bless you abundantly for your gifts of service to us!

Phase 3: shelving; bathroom, plumbing, gas; electrical inside & out

Nelson family with Marisa & Bonnie (Weatherford BSM); Greg & son-in-law Chad; Brian Hill & his boys Junior & Beto



Georgiana & Frank Foster with Greg - setting the plumb line



Enrique, Elena, Frank, Georgiana, Bill, & Elfi - breaking ground



Phase 1:
A solid foundation



Laying the Foundation: Victor, Pastor Antonio, Tony Jr., Owen, Pastor Enrique, Pastor David, Frank, Elfi



Phase 2:
A place to call "home"



Most of the Glen Meadows Baptist Church crew from San Angelo - some of the men were elsewhere. They came in on Friday afternoon with all sorts of equipment & were loaded & gone by Tuesday morning!



2007 School Supply Kits - This year it will be "some assembly required!"

Our 7th Annual Supply Drive for the children in Mexico is going on right now. This year, we've asked everyone to make up completed supply kits out of the supplies they collect and we know many churches are working hard behind the scenes. These kits will be distributed by Mexico pastors to children who are at risk of dropping out of school for lack of school supplies. We estimate we will need kits for 1000 students! If you would like more information about how you can help, or to get a kit packing list you can call Elfi or Joan at 915-491-7528. **Supply kits should arrive here by August 1st.**



The REST of the Story!

by Elfi Register

As I read through Joan's article, I quickly realized there was still SO MUCH to tell and SO MANY more people to thank! While Frank Foster worked on getting the slab money and Don Maier coordinated the building plan, Greg Beard was still concerned we did not have all the funds needed to complete the inside of it. He estimated we were \$3000 short. But the Lord and His people are so faithful! When we shared this need in the April newsletter, we had TWO checks show up in the mail within days of each other. Praise God! What confirmation that HE is in the midst of this project. Others sent in donations as well, so that we are already discussing the rest of the building project way ahead of "schedule".

It's amazing how when you step out in faith, everything begins to come into alignment. Greg found that as he ordered and purchased all the different fittings and fixtures that go into making the building functional, people offered discounts and donations. And as he and Brian Hill discussed the electrical needs, it turned out Brian had much of what they would use "on hand". What extra they needed, Brian said he wanted to purchase and donate himself. All this on top of Brian being a qualified electrician who was donating his skill! There's also Greg's son-in-law Chad, who not only did the interior layouts, but flew in to help with the actual construction of the bathroom.

Even as I share these blessings, I fear I'll leave someone special unnamed, because so much has come together so quickly that I've even forgotten what day it is! Dearest friend, whoever you are, please know we're still very grateful to EVERYONE who has put their hands to this work. But our Heavenly Father has seen every single effort that has made this project such a success & HE doesn't forget!

There is always a story behind a story, and it's hard to find time & space to tell them all. For now, one stands out above the rest for me. When CBM started out in 2001, Cloudcroft FBC began delivering 25# bags of pinto beans to us. We began to develop contacts with pastors across in Mexico, but the process was not moving the beans as quickly as they were sending them. Then in June 2001, we helped our church put on Vacation Bible School with a youth group from Lamesa, TX, led by Mark and Calli Nelson. A young teacher named Joyce Pritchard came with them. The group wanted to have a "Mexico" day in Juarez, so we had them load up hundreds of pounds of the beans and took them to the "Hands of Luke" feeding station in Anapra. That was our first big "bean run" to Mexico.

The next summer, that youth group built our store room shelving. The year after that, the Nelsons found themselves in Clifton - sitting in on Greg Beard's Sunday School class when Greg said he wanted to start a ministry to feed people. They had him get in touch with us and you know how that has led to our building! On the front you'll see the

Nelsons, their sons, 2 college girls, and us. Once again, they led the team putting up our shelves. But their story continues through Joyce also. Joyce went to Farmington, NM to teach and she continued bringing youth to help with VBS each year. But she wanted to do more. It was her church that brought down the big tote of beans last year. On the final weekend of June, Joyce & members of her church brought 2 weeks worth of beans & rice already packaged into "family packs" that we distribute through the Mexico pastors. The men ended up helping work a day on the building, while Joyce & Jeanette went with us to pick out light fixtures and the ink to print this newsletter.

Our July will be spent moving all the "specialty" items into our new storage building - things that have been tucked into all sorts of corners around all the church properties. Some folks have the mistaken idea we'll move "everything" into the new building. Not hardly! Our normal food storage and distribution will still continue out of the church annex. Our new "home" will be for all the donations like eggs, meats, potatoes, bread, juices, baby food, & dehydrated goods that the church missionary dorm has had to "live with" for years - not to mention our school supply & shoebox drives. It will be so nice having a place to organize & distribute these extra donations from. And did we mention there's a bathroom? Now there's a story for another day!

Updates & Prayer Needs

Joan's dad, Ralph Teague, is home after major surgery to repair an aneurism on his aorta. He was only one day in ICU & 4 days in hospital - a third of the time they said to expect! Thank you, Jesus, for Your hand on Dad!

Our new website is still a "work in progress" but please keep visiting as the man designing and maintaining it is working on a way to download copies of our newsletters. You can visit the site at www.crossingbordersministries.com

Stan Parrish is a new brother in Christ who was part of the Glen Meadows team. Only a believer for 2 months, he chose to come work on the building, though he was sick from treatments for stage 4 pancreatic cancer. His short visit impacted & ministered to us all. Please pray with us for a miracle healing for him.

Cancer is such a curse! Judi Wright of New Life Home is still fighting her stage 4 lymphoma. She's applying for treatment at MD Anderson in Houston. She thanks everyone for their continued prayers.

Please continue to keep Pastor Hugo Garcia & his youth team in prayer. He plans to take up to 20 Fabens kids to "Opportunity Camp" in mid-July. These are new believers he hopes to develop peer leadership in for future ministry in Fabens.

Crossing Borders is a ministry of First Baptist Church of Fabens, developed and operated by Elfi Register and Joan Wilson. **All gifts for Crossing Borders are tax deductible.**

Make checks out to: Fabens First Baptist Church and in the memo portion note if your gift is for: Crossing Borders ♦ Elfi ♦ Joan

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

CBM phone numbers: cell# 915-491-7528 CBM 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 part of the North American Mission Board, whose members must provide their own finances.