



# Crossing Borders News

Crossing Borders Ministries ♦ established 2001

April—June 2023 Issue 2



Pastors & missionaries sang for us at CBM's 22nd anniversary

## God is Faithful

Summer is right around the corner, and our annual school kits drive is not far behind. The school kit information is on our website. The due date for prepared kits to arrive is Saturday, July 29. This gives us two weeks ahead of schools starting in Mexico to sort kits according to what pastors have requested.

Our first school supplies kits went out in 2001, a donation from some Baptist GA girls in Lamesa, TX. It was their mission project that year, putting pencils, erasers, and a few other things in lunch bags to be sent to kids in Mexico. There were 120 of those sacks, and the inspiration for our annual drive each year after. Their "little" project was the seed that helped launch the education for many thousands of children!

When you stop to think about it, this will be the 23rd school session we will help kids attend. That means children of some of the first kids we helped go to school! Through your prayers as well as buying and packing kits through the years, our partnership with pastors in Mexico has blessed and improved the lives of whole communities. Because it's their local pastor, the families who truly have a need are ministered to and their community sees these are blessings from God and many have come to salvation in Jesus Christ.

Being co-laborers with pastors and missionaries has always been the Lord's blueprint for our ministry. We are part of His greater plan to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, bring His Light to those who dwell in darkness. "Mercy to the needy is a loan to God, and God pays back those loans in full" is the Message version of Proverbs 19:17. The men and women we've partnered with follow this as God's calling for them, having sacrificed much to serve in the communities He has planted them in. We've ministered to them as they have endured through cartel violence, unbelievable poverty, and a global pandemic.

As you may know, every week we supply these pastors with groceries for their own families along with beans and rice for needy families in their church and community. Our food costs have continued to rise just as they have for you. Rice is nearly \$20 per 50# bag and beans around \$30. With food prices up and contributions down, we ask you to pray that we will have wisdom from the Lord on how to continue to meet the great need here on the border.

You are part of all this through your giving and prayers. When you write a check, pack a school supply kit or shoebox gift, make a delivery, lift us and our pastor friends in prayer, you are part of God's answer to someone's prayer for help. You have joined HIM in what He is doing. We thank the Lord for your faithfulness as you walk with us in ministering to the "least of these." May He bless and keep you in these trying times.



Elfi & Joan were honored to receive a beautiful plaque from the pastors during a special service, followed by lots of food, fellowship, and a lovely cake made by one pastor's daughter



Our Pastors Omar & Luly's Lara, left, with some of our dedicated friends who supply & support the ministry



## More News & Prayer Requests

Continue to pray for the family of Pastor Guerrero, who passed away earlier this year. His beloved wife just passed away in April. We grieve the passing of this precious couple along with their family.

Continue to pray for Pastor Enrique as he steps out in faith to follow where the Lord is leading. He is helping a struggling church in Mexico to recover and move forward.

Pray for our Pastor Omar and Luly's Lara as they continue to expand the vision for FBC Fabens. They are training up leadership within the church body and discipling new believers coming into the church. Part of their vision includes bringing their ministry in Delicias under our church. CBM has already been helping them there for years. They have land there and hope to one day build a mission. It's a big vision, but we serve a big God!

First Baptist of Fabens turns 100 in November, and lots of sprucing up is going on around the church. We will let you know as plans are finalized for the big celebration. We are excited to see what God will do through this church in the future!

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*Proverbs 19:17*

MORE ISSUES OF CROSSING BORDERS NEWS ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE UNDER "NEWSLETTERS"

## School Supply Kit Drive News

### Kits due in Fabens on July 29

At the beginning of every August we conduct our School Supply Kit Drive for the children in Mexico. This gives us two weeks to sort & ship out to the pastors across the River in Mexico. We supply some 2000 students, depending on how many kits are donated. That said, about 50% are Primaria, 30% Secundaria, and 20% Preparatoria.



Volunteers are always needed! Here we are last year. Christine, Joan, Pastor Tonio, & Elfi in back. Nannette & Fred in front



Complete instructions for how to prepare each kit are on our website. You can print these out, along with the labels that need to go in the 2 gallon or larger Ziploc style bags. Please put one of our half-sheet sized labels inside each bag, clearly visible. This helps us & the pastors give the proper kits to each child.

Mexico's children are only required to go to school through the 6th grade. But in our border region, too many children "fall between the cracks" because their family is too poor to pay for tuition, uniforms, or supplies. If a family cannot afford these things, they can ask the Mexican government to exempt



their children from having to attend school. This might help the family financially, but also traps them in a cycle of poverty. Thanks to your generosity, we've seen many children advance all the way into university through the years! We praise the Lord for those who have a heart to help us again this year! Muchas Gracias!



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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.

