

CROSSING BORDERS NEWS

April—May 2014 Volume 14, Issue 2

Happy Birthday April!
She's 1 year old on June 16
She's the baby girl who doctors said would
be a "vegetable" IF she survived—
but GOD has other plans!



Manny & Ana Alvarez & daughter Claudia June will mark a year since his ordeal began. His doctor told him, "You aren't supposed to be alive right now."



rice, shoebox gifts and Bibles in Spanish.

(FYI: he managed to eat two of them!)

OUR EXTRAVAGANT GOD

by Elfi Register

We never cease counting our blessings! Back in 2001 when we began this ministry we had no idea what the Lord had in store for us and for those walking along side us. Just yesterday while visiting with one of our pastor's wives we marveled at the provisions of the Lord in our lives and in the lives of those we minister to. We spoke about how it is more blessed to give than receive and how the Lord supplies us with abundance to share with those that are less fortunate. We also spoke about the many people that are behind this ministry, people in many places throughout the United States and many people that we have never met! People that have been moved by God to help lift us up as well as those that are less fortunate. Wow! What an amazing God we serve.

We thank God for the miraculous healings we have been allowed to witness this year! Little April (said A-bréel) is about to be a year old and thriving! Just last year she was at death's door as well as her mom Elisa. God intervened and both are doing well. Our brother (in Christ) Manny had surgery last June and had many complications, in fact his recovery took nearly a year in the hospital. The doctors said that he shouldn't be alive, but God intervened in his life as well. One of our pastors shared that they are also receiving miraculous healings in his church. Their church has bonded together with prayer and fasting and intense worship. They are seeing people being healed of cancer and other ailments. They have put their faith in God and God is showing up in a mighty way! What an awesome testimony!

Each week when we send the pastors the beans and rice, groceries, Bibles and other items that have been sent their way we thank the Lord for yet another week of HIS provision. We know that with each item that is sent that Jesus love goes along with it. The same goes for the Christmas Shoebox gifts and the School Supplies we send each year. We're not just dispensing items, we're equipping men and women of God with the tools that the Lord uses to bring people to Himself. We hear stories each week of whole families that have come to salvation because of these gifts of love.

Thank you, our dear family, for walking along side us these many years! The Lord has used you more than you'll ever know. Joan and I will once again be in the Cloudcroft, New Mexico area for the month of June visiting churches and supporters. Perhaps we'll see you while we're there! Have a blessed summer and don't forget, our annual School Supply drive is coming up soon!

2 Corinthians 9:10-14 in the Message Bible says:

This most generous God who gives seed to the farmer that becomes bread for your meals is more than extravagant with you. He gives you something you can then give away, which grows into full-formed lives, robust in God, wealthy in every way, so that you can be generous in every way, producing with us great praise to God.

Carrying out this social relief work involves far more than helping meet the bare needs of poor Christians. It also produces abundant and bountiful thanksgivings to God. This relief offering is a prod to live at your very best, showing your gratitude to God by being openly obedient to the plain meaning of the Message of Christ.

You show your gratitude through your generous offerings to your needy brothers and sisters, and really toward everyone. Meanwhile, moved by the extravagance of God in your lives, they'll respond by praying for you in passionate intercession for whatever you need.

Praises, Prayer Requests and Updates

In April, the YWAM group that was going to give us a helping hand in the community had to cancel at the last minute. But God had other plans

In May, a work team from St. Paul Methodist in Las Cruces (NM) stayed in the FBC dorm while they helped a migrant family repair their trailer. They fixed sewer lines & hooked them up with running water and gas. And we had the joy of making some new friends!

Patti Ornelas must renew her documents, which means she has to remain in Mexico until the process is finished. She is staying in an undisclosed location, but her life is at risk every day she's there. Please be in prayer for her safety, and that her documentation will move quickly. We feel crippled without her here!



Elfi & Patti leading music in Tuesday morning services

Pray for our pastors, like Bro. Garcia, who are preparing for VBS & summer campaigns to reach the lost with limited resources.

Coming Up in June

CBM takes to the road again, when Elfi and Joan visit with supporting churches in and around Cloudcroft, New Mexico throughout the month of June. The schedule was still being finalized at the time of this printing. We hope to see as many friends as possible!

This year sure has been one for the books, with extreme weather, power outages,

What's Next ...

This year sure has been one for the books, with extreme weather, power outages, earthquakes, and whatever else you may have suffered in personal "storms" of life. I think it's safe to say we've all been shaking our heads and asking, "What's next?"

In Amos 9:9 the Lord says He will shake the nations "like grain is shaken in a sieve, yet not one true kernel will be lost." Sometimes we forget that God is still with us, even in the midst of terrible circumstances, for He has promised He will always "be there" for those who are truly His. This is exactly what we witnessed first hand in the lives of April, Manny, and their families who struggled to hold on to that promise. Both life events happened while we were visiting the New Mexico churches last year, yet the Lord challenged us to "be bold" in our petitions and believe Him for the impossible, for there is no distance in prayer!

It can't be put into strong enough words just how impossible April's prognosis was. While her mom struggled in distressed labor, the family was asked, "Do you want us to save the mother or the baby?" When it was discovered April had been in the womb with a detached placenta, the family was again prodded to "pull the plug" because they would be facing a lifetime of issues with a baby that was going to be in a vegetative state—if she even survived. Only death was being spoken over this baby! But her grandparents pastor a church in Mexico that went into 24 hours of prayer and fasting. The church we were visiting that Sunday also joined us in fervent prayer. On the day they were disconnecting her, the Lord called us to powerful intercessory prayer, where we spoke radical and impossible things for her future. And now here we are one year later, with the only evidence of that ordeal a scar on her cheek! She's met or exceeded all benchmarks for her age! Hallelujah!

Manny's story is no less miraculous, but has been a much tougher journey. What was supposed to be a "simple" operation turned into a post operative nightmare. He had two major bouts with peritoneal infection that required additional surgeries, developed pancreatitis, and went into a coma. His family, too, was asked to disconnect his life support. In Manny's case, the Lord impressed on us that He was working in the midst of the struggle, to build Manny's faith as a new believer in Christ. So now, one year later, we are seeing signs of this "new life." Last week, to our joy and surprise, there's Manny and Ana shoveling pecan shells in the church parking lot. On their own they've taken on the task of filling in potholes one pickup full at a time!

So what's next? Well, for us it's off to Cloudcroft again in June, seeing as many of our friends and partners as we can. As always, we're just a phone call away if we're needed back home, whether that's the work of prayer or to supply information. And we will travel back and forth from Cloudcroft to Fabens a few times as well. In July, we'll work with three different mission teams staying in the dorm. VBS will be July 20-23. At the end of July we move into the dorm with the School Supply Drive. The Keiths are planning again to come help with that part, and the Coles will return the first week of August to help with the sorting and staging of the kits for the pastors to carry back to Mexico. If you haven't participated in this project before, on our website you'll find information on how to put together these supply kits at your end and get them delivered to us for distribution to our network of pastors here on the border.

Psalm 56:4 says, "I praise God for what He has promised. I trust in God, so why should I be afraid? What can mere mortals do to me?" Amen and amen!

Crossing Borders Ministries \cdot PO Box 35 \cdot Fabens, Texas 79838

Phone: 915-764-5343 / Cell: 915-491-7528 / 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.

School Supply Drive

School Supply Drive time will be here before you know it!
Details are on our website.
Click on SPECIAL PROJECTS.
Kits need to be here
no later than August 1