



CROSSING BORDERS NEWS

Crossing Borders Ministries ♦ established 2001

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2000 School Supply Kits

Working in the Whirlwind

The past few months have been a flurry of busyness. Finding the time to collect our thoughts to share all that's happening has been a task all by itself! It's been a real experience of watching God work in the midst of the whirlwinds of life. We have been traveling a lot since April and sometimes what feels like 'just yesterday' is actually months ago.

Our summer months were a wonderful whirlwind of visiting, singing, and speaking among the churches and camp meetings in the Cloudcroft, NM area - Elfi's home where she grew up. What a blessing to reconnect with so many friends, and to escape the killer heat of the desert. While there, we caught up with friends who had a special donation—123 plastic buckets of dried food like beans, rice, potatoes, milk, and more! Both the food and the buckets are welcomed supplies for Mexico. We praise God for their generosity, and for John Dalton who hauled them down to us in several trips!

There's also been a whirlwind of loss for us. Joan's dad, Ralph Teague, went home to be with the Lord April 20. We had the privilege to sing with him, and when he couldn't sing anymore, we sang over him every evening during his final days. We were with him and his wife, Bev, when he left us peacefully in his sleep. Since then several of our friends have also died. For some it was because of age and illness, but others died as the result of terrible tragedy. Death brings grief no matter what, but their unexpected deaths shocked everyone who knew them to the core.

Not to be forgotten, our thoughts and prayers go out to our friends who have just been through the terrible hurricanes and all the flooding and destruction that has surrounded them. Right now they're wrestling through emotional storms as well as dealing with the physical aftermath.

School supplies, of course, was our most recent whirlwind. 2000 supply kits went out to 40 different communities! We never cease to be amazed by the way in which God pulls it all together. At times it's like a 3-ring circus, and it's hard to tell if we're the trapeze artists or the clowns! One crew was delivering kits while another crew was counting them out to stage for the pastors. There were pastors picking up kits to take across to Mexico and the phone ringing with a new church group needing directions on how to find us. Add to all this unloading food deliveries and having a roofing company doing all the church buildings?! It's certain that God is the Holy Ringmaster!

It's a blessing to be part of 2000 children getting an education they might never have had without God's intervention. All of us do the work, but HE moves the invisible mountains that are impossible for us to budge. Every vehicle that was loaded with supplies was prayed over, and they crossed the border without a hassle!

For one 6 year old boy, it's answered prayer. His mom was struggling just to get by and had told her children they wouldn't be starting school this year because she couldn't afford it. Her husband had abandoned them and who knew how they were going to survive. But this little boy told his mom not to worry. He had prayed, and he knew God would take care of them, and God would give them supplies for school too. She was amazed when a few days later a pastor came to her door with food and school supplies and an invitation to the feeding station they were beginning in her neighborhood. Mom and son both gave all the glory to God!

We give glory to God too! He is there, even in the whirlwinds. Next on our horizon is the Lamesa Baptist Association annual meeting on October 15. Then it will be gearing up for the Christmas shoeboxes! See y'all soon!

Faithful to the End

He used to volunteer on Tuesday mornings years ago. We nicknamed him Mr. Good Morning. Even then, he was frail and shuffled when he walked. He always wore a belt buckle that said "John" so we used to think that was his name until we learned it was really Timoteo! He sat at the corner of the work tables and opened plastic grocery bags for others to put packets of rice and beans in. He hardly spoke, but when he came in he always said, "Good morning." It was his only English!

He hadn't been able to be with us in a few years. But on May 23 this year, he got out of bed and made his daughter help him bathe and get dressed. He insisted he wanted to see us and wouldn't take no for an answer. He was so weak, and spoke with such effort it was hard to understand him. But we knew he was there to impart a blessing over us and to tell us goodbye. His daughter came by once more to let us know he passed away August 27.

It broke our hearts! Not only for his passing, but it was also too much like some of the last words with Joan's dad. Elfi had just told Ralph good night, and with great effort he said, "You girls do good work." She reminded him he was a big part of our ministry, for it was him who commissioned us as missionaries back in 2001. He whispered, "I'd like to think so." In many ways, we feel that CBM is part of his legacy. He was the pastor in Fabens for 14 years, working with River Ministry teams and creating the mission dorm, the dorm we now use for our projects!

What an honor to be so loved and blessed by God's faithful men.



Joan, Elfi, & Ralph at Mayhill Baptist in July 2016



Elfi & Timoteo in May

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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.



In October

Sunday, Oct. 15— Elfi & Joan
at Friendship Baptist, Lamesa 10AM
Lamesa Baptist Association annual meeting 4PM
at First Baptist, Lamesa
Birthdays
Oct. 7— Elfi Oct. 18— Joan

Blessed to Be a Blessing

This year has been a real test of faith for the pastors. Harassed by Mexican customs, vehicles breaking down, driving long distances to work in the oil fields all week to drive home for weekend services. With all this working against them, many of them find it difficult to come every Tuesday. In spite of all this, they persevere and have still been able to keep ministering to their churches and communities. We who are blessed have been called to be a blessing to others. Thank you, dear friends, for partnering with us to make an eternal difference in the lives of so many. **In the past 12 months we have:**

- Distributed over **63,000 pounds of beans & rice**
- Helped feed as many as **300 families every week** in **25 communities**
- Worked alongside a network of **20 border pastors and missionaries** along the **50 mile El Paso/Juarez Lower Valley**
- Distributed **600 grocery sacks** for our pastoral families, one each week, filled with everything from powdered milk to coffee, canned meats, and much more
- Empowered pastors in their ministries with **50 cases of Bibles & New Testaments in Spanish**, as well as evangelistic tracts & teaching materials
- Shipped out **20 pallets of additional food items**, from peanut butter to baby food, hot & cold cereals, canned fruits & vegetables, pasta, and more
- Sent out **hundreds of boxes of medicines for the sick**
- Sent out **hundreds of nice coats & blankets** during cold weather
- Sent over **2500 Christmas shoebox gifts** to kids in Mexico last year
- Sent **2000 school supply kits** to needy children & youth this year
- Supplied **5 feeding stations (comedors)** for needy school children

Christmas Shoebox Deadline to be in Fabens is Monday, November 27th

This is our 17th Christmas Shoebox Gift Drive!



Complete details on how to make a box & how to get it to us are on our website at:

crossingbordersministries.com.

Instructions and gift tag labels are there to print off.

If you don't have internet or if you need help, please don't hesitate to call us. We'll be glad to help you.

Have more questions? Give us a call at

915-491-7528.