



# CROSSING BORDERS NEWS

Crossing Borders Ministries \* established 2001

May-September 2019 Volume 19 Issue 2



**2200  
School  
Supply Kits  
this year!**



**A blessing  
for lots of kids ...**



**... With many hands  
to make it happen!**



**Evangelistic  
Campaigns on the  
border & beyond  
assisted by your  
donations**



## *Another Busy Summer*

To say it's been a busy summer doesn't begin to describe the roller coaster days we've experienced the past 5 months. We've logged lots of miles as we shared about the ways God has been at work through us and Crossing Borders Ministries. In that time, we reconnected with a few old friends and introduced CBM to many others. We also continued to inform prayer chains across the country about the asylum situation of our Pastor Enrique. (See page 2)

We were excited to present CBM during Missions Day at Big Country Baptist Assembly in May. It gave us an opportunity to speak to 3 different Baptist Associations at once. Collectively, they represented churches that donate over half the school supply kits each year as well as support many other ministries we oversee. After that it was on to the Camp at Cloudcroft RV Park for a gospel event. But May also marked the Heavenly homegoing of 2 precious men of God who were special friends of CBM. (More on page 2)

Once in the Cloudcroft, NM area, there were a multitude of opportunities to minister through music, speaking, and sharing about the latest happenings along our border region. It was a blessing to see so many friends in the little mountain villages and campgrounds. The plan was to be there 8 weeks, but a 9th one was added due to catching a bad summer cold that made us too sick to drive home! We missed out on seeing our Lamesa mission team friends who put on 2 VBS programs in the area and delivered hundreds of like-new chairs for the churches in Mexico. Thankfully, we were nursed to health by a friend's homemade Jewish matzo ball soup!

We were able to get back home just ahead of the school supply kit rush. While the team from Oklahoma was leading VBS in Mexico and at FBC Fabens, we were hustling to do weeks of preparation in a few days' time. We were so grateful for the team from Tri County Association who joined us and our local volunteers to sort loose donations, organize all the kits that came in, shop with financial gifts to make enough kits to meet the needs, and run inventory over and over again.

It takes many hands to see the School Supply Drive through all its stages, but thousands of kids were blessed with an education and hope for a better future. This year it meant everything for a group of kids living in a squatter settlement called Rancho Anapra. They'd learned in Sunday School about praying "morning, noon, and night." With the simple faith of children, they walked to their church 3 times every day, praying that God would help them get supplies to attend school, because their parents didn't have jobs to buy them. Meanwhile, Pastor Omar and wife Luly's (always searching for places of great need) were told by his sister-in-law, Gaby, about "Leon de Juda" Church. Unaware the kids had been praying "morning, noon, and night," they traveled out there to take school kits and meet the pastor. Not sure who was more blessed that day—the kids or Omar and Luly's! The Lord truly works in mysterious ways!



Elfi & Joan with their bluegrass friends at Elk Camp Retreat - Labor Day weekend

### ***Our Birthdays this month ...***

- ◆ Oct. 7, Elfi Register
- ◆ Oct. 18, Joan Wilson

### ***On the Road Again ....***

Elfi and Joan will be travelling once again, visiting with supporters in San Angelo and Lamesa, TX. Please keep them in prayer as they spend long hours on the road.

- ◆ Oct. 20, Lamesa Association Annual Meeting

### ***Heavenly Homegoing ....***

- ◆ May 12, George Hughes, Clovis, NM

He preached with his life, not just words. His calling was to feed the hungry both physically & spiritually. Through the years he delivered thousands of eggs, tons of fresh produce & case-goods, sacks of beans, thousands of New Testaments, Bibles, & tracts. Pray for his wife, Joyce, & their family.

- ◆ May 30, James Davis, McAlester, OK

He pastored at High Hill Bapt., OK. With wife, Susan, had a passion for showing the love of Jesus through mission trips to the border to minister to kids in this area at VBS. Because of his missionary passion, donations were made to CBM in lieu of flowers.

### ***Christmas Shoebox Gifts Time is Soon***

**November 26, shoeboxes due in Fabens**

Instructions on how to make our shoebox gifts are online at our website. You'll also find information on ways to deliver your gifts to CBM.

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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.



### **Showers of Blessing**

*Although we aren't focused on "the numbers," it's always good to look back over the year and count the many blessings the Lord has sent through His faithful servants.*

3,000 New Testaments	600 Spanish Bibles
70,000# beans & rice	1000 grocery bags full of food
6 pallets of dehydrated food	1000# frozen venison
2800 Christmas Shoeboxes (2018)	250 school backpacks
2200 School Supply Kits (2019)	Pickup truck full of medicines
Hundreds of pairs of new shoes	Hundreds of coats & blankets
Dozens of school uniforms	Lots of new children's clothes
Cases of hygiene products	Trailer loads of shelf-stable food

### ***Important Update on Pastor Enrique***

The struggle continues for our Pastor, Enrique Ornelas. Thank you for your prayers so far, and we urge you to keep up the spiritual warfare. Every step of his journey has been plagued by delays and misinformation. The Board of Immigration Appeal sent back his petition without reviewing anything, stating it wasn't filed "within 30 days of the ruling." Enrique's attorney is filing a motion to protest their claim.

In December, they were told by the immigration judge he would let them know of his ruling in "a few weeks." Then there was the government shutdown in January. They kept calling their attorney, but no one had heard anything, so they kept going to their monthly appointments with the immigration office. In April, an officer new to their case informed them the computer said there'd been a deportation order on them since December! He advised them to contact their attorney immediately. The attorney demanded an answer from the court, and was finally supplied with a copy of the ruling – in April. The appeal was promptly filed after that. So the problem is the judge ruled against asylum on Dec. 8, but they weren't able to file the appeal until April, when they had the ruling in hand and knew what grounds they had for appeal.

All of this has been frightening for the Ornelas family and heartbreaking for us! We returned from our latest trip this month to find they had put an ankle monitor on Pastor Enrique! What an outrageous insult toward this man who has followed EVERY instruction given him by immigration authorities!

### ***Yet the Lord is always working***

Though they are worried, Enrique and wife Nena are choosing to trust God has a plan in place—even if none of us can see it right now. When the agent went to put a monitor on Nena first, she was so distraught and crying that he couldn't bring himself to do it. He admitted to Enrique that this wasn't right, especially him being pastor of a church. But it was his job and he was required to do it. He was choosing the "wisdom of Solomon" and "cutting the baby in half," only putting the monitor on Enrique. (Solomon didn't actually cut a baby in half, but his command to do so was to reveal the heart of the real mother) A female agent whispered to them that she, too, was trusting God would honor their faith in Him.

When we went to the post office, several checks had come in specifically for Enrique's legal fees. So we know all hope is not lost! The Lord wouldn't put it on peoples' hearts to send donations for him unless there was a case to be made. So keep on praying, prayer warriors! It's not over till it's over!

**Pastor Enrique & Nena Ornelas**



**CBM IS A MINISTRY OF HELPS, CROSSING "BORDERS" OF DESPAIR & DIFFERENCES TO SUPPORT, ENCOURAGE, & RELEASE FAITH IN THE NEEDY & LESS FORTUNATE**  
**ISSUES OF CROSSING BORDERS NEWS ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE UNDER "NEWSLETTERS"**