



## Celebrating 21 Years

Twenty one years... How time flies! It doesn't seem possible that it was that long ago we were writing our first newsletter to let friends and family know we were following God's call to begin a ministry of helps. We could write a book on just how quickly the Lord affirmed that call with supplies and support, often from surprising directions! Some of you reading this were part of that amazing launch, and how thankful we are that you've been on this incredible journey of faith with us ever since! Whether you've walked alongside us from the beginning or joined us through the years, we know you'll agree that it's been God-inspired all the way.

During the covid pandemic, we made changes in how the ministry continued to operate. Some have become permanent. The most noticeable one is that CBM no longer opens up on Tuesday. We now open on Friday, with the pastors coming for distribution every other week. The alternate Friday is for our ladies to meet for cleaning the church, study, and a fellowship meal. Our small army of volunteers love to visit and eat! In charge of these Fridays is our faithful pastor's wife, Luly's Lara. She and Pastor Omar have clearly been called to help both Fabens First Baptist and CBM move forward in God's overall plan for our border region.

The Lord keeps expanding our ministry "borders" as well. We (Elfi and Joan) continue to have an open door to minister in the Cloudcroft, New Mexico area. God recently spoke to us about "360." As we've meditated on this, we see how so much of our call to ministry is coming "full circle." Years before CBM existed, we started out as prayer partners, interceding for the El Paso/Juarez valley. We moved into worship ministry, playing guitars and singing at prayer events throughout the region. As worship leaders we were part of a church that opened a food pantry. Then came the call to give our "all" in full time ministry with His promise that He would provide. That was our first real exposure to the level of need just a few miles across the Rio Grande. Four years of ministering to mission teams while they were in Mexico taught us many cultural "do's and don'ts" until the Lord birthed Crossing Borders through us in March 2001.

We finally celebrated our 21st CBM anniversary on Friday April 1. Some of our pastors, volunteers, and support ministries were able to be there to make it a grand celebration. We were asked to sing but had no idea our folks had planned such a big event! When we got to church we were stopped from going into the fellowship hall, where we always set up our distribution day, and were sent instead to the sanctuary. What a service! Pastors spoke, the ladies' choir and others sang, and

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Joan and Elfi received a beautiful plaque to commemorate their 21 years as founders & directors of Crossing Borders Ministries



The Burnett family, Christine Swan, Greg & Dora Beard, & John Dalton (behind them) faithfully deliver food and more to CBM throughout the year

*Feliz Cumpleaños!*

Esperanza Lara, our church matriarch, & Pastor Omar's Mom, turned 83 on May 15

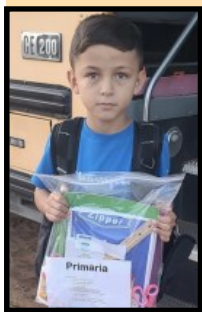


Pastors, missionaries, and ministry suppliers being prayed over as we all thanked God for His faithfulness

## Behind the Scenes



We have an amazing group of volunteers! There's always laughter and often food around whenever they get together. This was one of their outings to El Paso. We are so blessed to call them our "sisters!"



In just two months we will be gathering in School Supply Kits! We've already heard from Pastor Scott in Rule, TX—just checking in before he placed a supply order. Their church and association have been supporting this outreach for many, many years! They're just one of dozens of churches & individuals who make this massive distribution

possible. Last year we sent packets of school supplies to over 2000 kids! We aim to do at least that many this year!

**Deadline for kits to be in Fabens is Saturday, July 30**

Visit our website below for Instructions & labels



## Another Saint goes Home

A precious friend passed into the Lord's presence May 5. We met John Fambrough & his wife Betty while speaking at a missions banquet in 2015. But they'd already been supplying new children's clothes & shoes to the ministry without our knowing who they were. Such a faith-filled couple! Please join us in surrounding Betty in a blanket of prayer.



Left to right: Elfi, Wendy, Betty, Nanette, Joan, Fred, Roy, John

appreciation gifts were presented.

Perhaps the biggest surprise was a beautiful video that had been put together, showing many of the people whose lives have been impacted throughout the years. Years of school kits being handed out, Christmas boxes being opened, feeding programs in operation, clothing and food distributions, crowds of people eager to hear the good news of Jesus Christ. We were overwhelmed! We're hoping we can get it put on the website, it's so good.

School supply time is just around the corner and many of you are already at work behind the scenes. Some are even now working on Christmas shoebox gifts! Praise the Lord! We may be the "glue" that keeps everything organized and on track, but it is the LORD working through all of us together to accomplish miraculous and mighty deeds! May HE who called you to this work bless and keep you through every circumstance for being the answer to so many prayers!

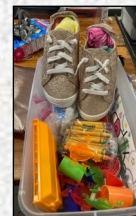
***For He who promised is faithful .... Hebrews 10:23***

*Remember, CBM now operates on Fridays. We would appreciate a call ahead whenever you're planning a visit or a delivery. We want to make sure someone will be there to greet you!*

Talking about Christmas boxes in May?!

We have a church in Lubbock that starts in January! Last year we blessed 2500 kids. For nearly all of them, it's their ONLY Christmas present! There are several important requirements for filling these small boxes of blessing, so check out all our instructions on our website below.

**Gifts need to be in Fabens by Monday, Nov. 28**



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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.*



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