



Crossing Borders News

Our mission: to support, encourage, and release FAITH in the needy & less fortunate

23 Years and Counting



March 1, Elfi & Joan celebrated 23 years of God's faithfulness

Where have all those years gone? There's been much laughter, many tears, and countless miracles that have carried us this far. God is faithful!

And there are a few reading this newsletter who have walked alongside us for it all. Together we have touched thousands of lives with the Good News of Jesus Christ and His love for us.

Pastors, missionaries, & our volunteers praying over the many needs of our border region and CBM's rising costs during their Friday meeting May 10

God is Faithful

These last 5 months have been a roller coaster ride of uncertainty and seeking the Lord. The day after we mailed our December newsletter, Joan ended up in the hospital with congestive heart failure! Our minds could hardly comprehend what was happening, yet our GOD is faithful. A literal army of believers around the country went to prayer. Powerful prayer warriors we hadn't seen in years just "happened" to be visiting others in the hospital and were there to lay hands on her and pray as well.

January was a whirlwind of having to get all the year-end reporting finished and mailed on time while working around doctor appointments. We were grateful over and above for Luly's and the ladies of our church, who kept the food distributions to the pastors on track.

We can't stress strongly enough how vital our food distribution is through the pastors in Mexico. Our mission has always centered on aiding these pastors in their own ministries. We started by making packets of beans & rice for them to give to families in need, eventually expanding to also supply them with groceries each week for their own families. Those grocery sacks have been a lifeline for them. Through your giving we're able to purchase all the items we send them, from powdered milk to shampoo & more.

Now we're dealing with climbing food costs and supply shortages. We're able to still send beans & rice for 600 families a month (used to be 300/week) and make up grocery sacks for 14 pastors every two weeks (down from 18.)

In spite of the struggles, we thank GOD for the people who've walked faithfully beside us. It would be hard to name everyone, but Greg Beard & his Grace of Giving ministry has helped supply us (and other ministries along the border) for 21 years! He's always on the hunt for best prices on rice, masa, sugar and more. Once a month he sends an email or text asking for a grocery list. And though he never asks us to, we reimburse his ministry with whatever food donations we've received. It rarely covers his expenses, but he thanks us all the same. GOD is faithful & so are His servants!

Whether it's food, school kits, or Christmas boxes, the purpose behind it all is to follow the leading of the Lord Jesus. After all, He said in Matthew 25:35-36: "I was hungry, you fed me; thirsty you gave me to drink; a stranger, you invited me in; naked, you clothed me; sick, you cared for me; in prison, you visited me." Today, there are families with children that GOD'S provision through CBM is their main source of food, sometimes their only source. And basic school supplies open prison doors of poverty in ways we just can't fathom here in the United States. We ARE the hands and feet of Jesus to a lost, hurting world. Let us all strive to reflect His compassion so others will see GOD is faithful!



News & Prayer Requests

~ Please keep Pastor David Lopez in prayer.

He is gravely ill, requiring frequent blood transfusions. He pastored La Trinidad Baptist Church in Guadalupe for many years, raising generations of pastors in the Juarez valley (and beyond) who grew up under his long and fruitful ministry. Our Pastor Omar is one of them, and he visits him often, supporting and encouraging him.



Omar & Pastor Lopez
in 2021

~ **Pray for our financial crunch** affecting our beans, rice, and groceries purchases. We're spending more and getting less. It's likely the same at your own house, so you can understand our frustration. There's been some folks who've had to stop supporting, so all the more we're very grateful for you who continue to support this vital part of our ministry

~ **School Supply Kit** planning is already underway! The deadline is **Monday July 29** to have your kits in Fabens. The Keiths will be working with us again that week. You're welcome to call and schedule a day to come work with us as well. You'll find detailed instructions for making our school kits on our website. Under [School Supply Drive](#) click on [more information](#).



Kids in Durango receive school kits in 2023

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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.



An Update from Joan

First of all, thank you to everyone who has been praying for me, and I'm overwhelmed by your financial gifts to help with all the medical expenses. Thank you, thank you! I am regaining strength and feeling better week by week. I confess the long recovery process has been trying at times, yet when my doctors say they're "amazed" at how I'm doing, it stirs my faith that when all is said and done, this will only be a "bump in the road."

For those who didn't know, back in November I began having breathing problems that turned out to be congestive heart failure brought on by a DVT clot in my leg that had caused multiple clots in my lungs. I spent a total of 14 days in two back to back hospital stays. I was in the hospital on Dec. 17 when I was rushed to ICU. I went into cardiac arrest, but the Lord moved in so many miraculous ways that I suffered no permanent damage. Hospital staff kept saying I was a "Christmas miracle" and giving God the glory. Some asked if I "saw a light", and my answer was no - because I didn't die! When I woke up I was saturated in peace, with an inner certainty that the Lord had preserved my life.

Our God IS faithful! The impossible is possible if we will only take Him at His word to BELIEVE.

These photos may not seem glamorous to you, but to us they are things of beauty. (Clockwise) Christmas venison, range fed beef, 50# sacks of beans, groceries for the pastors & their families, 50# sacks of rice

