



# Crossing Borders News

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

## 24 Years of God's Faithfulness



Elfi & Joan, Luly's & Pastor Omar,  
with Omar's Mom Esperanza  
our Church matriarch



Burnett family, Pastor Andy & Ella Olsen,  
John & Judy Dalton (who couldn't stay)  
all from New Mexico joined us in  
celebrating 24 years of ministry

## *And He sent them out Two by Two (Luke 10:1)*

When Jesus sent His disciples out in pairs, He knew "two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion". (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10.) This has certainly proven true for us in the past year and a half! I (Joan) wouldn't have recovered so quickly without Elfi's help, and praise God, I've been able to help Elfi as she continues to heal from her own medical ordeal. And neither of us could have walked through this trying season without your prayers and support, cards, letters, and phone calls. What a blessing to be part of the family of God!

While we have had to divide our time between CBM operations and doctor appointments, our volunteers have kept the food distribution going with Luly's overseeing the process of packaging beans, rice, and groceries to distribute to the pastors when they come. None of us have lost sight of the purpose the Lord called us to so many years ago. Our partnership with the pastors and missionaries we minister to and through is not just about meeting physical necessities. It is bringing the light and love of Jesus Christ to a people in spiritual poverty.

Pastor Pablo Gonzalez preached this year's anniversary message. The scripture he used was **1 Samuel 7:12, "Thus far the Lord has helped us."** Because of our long partnership, they were able to start BAN ministry to feed the school children in their community a number of years ago. Most of those kids are fortunate if they get one good meal a day. In his message he shared how "many may think a little beans and rice in a plastic grocery bag isn't much. But when we knock on a door and people peek through the window, that small sack is a gift that opens their door and also their hearts to the Lord. *Cruzando Fronteras* (Crossing Borders) has empowered pastors and churches to fulfill their God-called purpose, along the border and beyond."

So here we are, starting our 25th year as Crossing Borders Ministries. Some of you have been with us from the beginning and we have the pictures to prove it! Together we have blessed the heart of God by caring for those in need. Life remains difficult for the people living just across the Rio Grande in Mexico. In their villages they are constantly caught in the "crossfire" of the fluctuating migration situation, the ebb & flow of cartel violence, and their own levels of poverty. We help our pastor friends minister to the working poor, the widows, and the orphans.

Right now, financial gifts are down at CBM. Please pray with us for the Lord to "open the windows of Heaven." It may come through you, through lower food prices, or someone new to us. Our part is to ask, seek, and knock, and stand on 1 Samuel 7:12.



Pastor Omar & Luly's - Elfi & Joan surrounded by pastors, missionaries, & volunteers - plus CBM supporters the Daltons, Olsens, & Burnetts

## A Boy Called "Spoon"

Pastor Perea tells the story of a boy that used to come to church whenever they had a fellowship meal or at VBS. The ladies that cooked nicknamed him "Cuchara," spoon in Spanish. It was because he always ate with his hands, until they taught him to eat with utensils. As happens, time passed and people fled their village because of the border violence. They lost track of their little Cuchara.

One day last year, a young man came up to Pastor Perea and asked, "Pastor, do you remember me? It's me, Cuchara!" He got a US dollar bill out (about 20 pesos worth) and said he wanted to give back for the beans and rice he was always fed. He is a Christian and working part time, and thanked the Lord for their meeting.

Cuchara is just one of the many people who have been impacted by our commitment to minister in partnership with these dedicated pastors. Your prayers and support continue to help extend the love of Jesus to all the other "Cucharas" our pastors and missionaries come in contact with.

## News & Prayer Requests

- Summer is almost upon us, and before you know it the school supply kit drive will be in full swing. We've already heard from some dedicated folks they've started shopping! **The due date for kits to be in Fabens is July 28.** Instructions for how to shop for and put together a kit is on our website. Check with your church coordinator for an earlier date if this is a community project, as they will need to get them to us by our date. Last year we sent out 1800 kits and hope to do that again.
- And keep praying for us! Your prayers have been effective, so please keep it up. Pray for our health to be fully restored. And please share your prayer requests so we can pray for you too.



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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.



**Beans and Rice Packets**  
pastors give out to as many as  
300 families in need  
every week.  
50# beans cost \$26.29  
50# rice cost \$19.40  
as of last month



## Pray for Pastors & Missionaries in Mexico

**Omar & Luly's Lara**, First Baptist in Fabens, missions in Anapra, Etapa 9, Delicias, Juan Alvarez school Ministry

**Dr. Hugo Mendez**, La Paz Church

**Patrocinio Ambrocio**, Vida Nueva Church

**Isidoro Villela**, Templo Elim

**Nieves Mares**, Mte. Sinai Church, Getsemany Mission

**Luis Garcia**, El Penuel Church, Sarabia & Centenario Missions

**Patty Mendoza**, La Trinidad Church

**Antonio Perea**, Dios Con Nosotros Church

**Tomas Mijares**, Sol de Justicia Church, Casa de Dios

**Luis Piste**, Oasis de Amor Church

**Pablo Gonzalez**, Antioquia Church, Torre Fuerte Mission, BAN Children's Ministry

**Ruth M. Cruz**, Cruz and Corona Ministries

**Eduardo Guzman**, Cristo Redentor Church, 6 missions

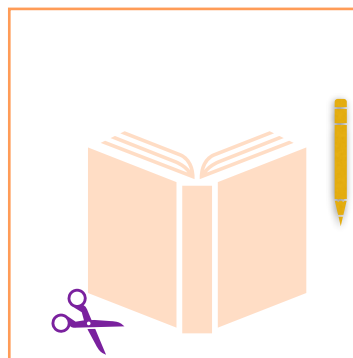
**Alfredo Lira**, Rancho Nuevo Mission

**Lucio & Rosa Ontiveros**, Agua Viva Church

**Enrique Ornelas**, Neighborhood Ministry

**Ruben Sandoval**, La Hermosa, Bethel, & Dios con Nosotros missions

**Gabriela Tarango**, Christian Family Center Church



**December 1**  
**Christmas Shoebox**  
**Gifts due**  
**in Fabens**

