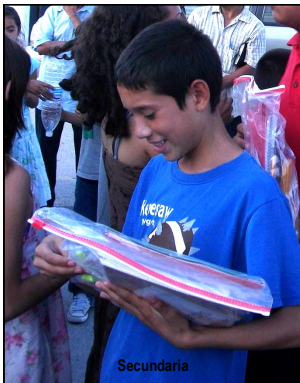


# Crossing Borders News

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



From loving hands who assemble kits—  
to precious hands who need them!



*¡Muchas Gracias!*  
**1800**  
**School Kits**  
*distributed in*  
**45**  
**Locations**

*Having school supplies in hand means the difference between being able to attend classes or being sent home without an education*

## His Amazing Provision

by Elfi Register

In the past 12 years of Crossing Borders, Joan and I continue to stand amazed at the awesome provisions of the Lord. Once again we were able to meet all the requests of the pastors for the school supply drive. 1800 school supply kits were sent to the children in Mexico as well as our area here in Fabens! We are in awe of the faithfulness of our partners in helping us to make this happen year after year.

We always start by giving the pastors a blank list to write each child's name and grade on, with little or no stock on our end. So we ask you, our supporters, to help fill these requests. What happens next is such a God thing, because what you send us is almost always what the pastors need! We've also been so blessed on this end, because of the faithful few who came to help us count and stage the supplies for distribution, and do the SHOPPING for us as well.

As soon as the school supply project was completed, we were off to New Mexico once again. We were asked to lead worship and share our hearts with a group of wonderful people at the Penasco RV Park in Mayhill. We were there for two nights and enjoyed the sweet presence of the Lord as we all worshipped together. On the second night, I shared my testimony after the worship time. Being in the mountains where I grew up as I spoke brought a flood of emotions to my heart. I struggled to hold back tears as I remembered the people that shared Jesus with me, many who are with Him right now, and how much I will always be indebted to them. And I thought of one special friend "Janey" who I'm still in contact with, who loved me even though I wasn't lovable, but impacted my life more than she'll ever know.

We also had the opportunity to visit our new friends at Mountain of the Lord Fellowship again. We were blessed to be able to lead them in several songs of worship and share more about Crossing Borders. They were especially interested in the Christmas Shoebox drive and want to come help us in December. In fact, we received a note from them today and see that they are setting a goal of 100 Christmas Shoebox gifts this year!

We'll be travelling to Lamesa, TX in October to lead worship and speak at Friendship Baptist Church in the

morning and then speak and sing at the annual meeting of the Lamesa Baptist Association in the afternoon. This will be our third year to visit these precious people and we are looking forward to the fellowship and worship times together. This group has taken on the job of replacing the ceilings at the dormitory here in Fabens. They've put in lots of man hours and should be finished sometime in October. It's a huge blessing and we can't thank them enough!

This past week many in our surrounding area were affected by severe flooding. Our brothers and sisters in Mexico have sent us pictures and videos of the streets that were turned into rivers in the small towns along the border. Some of the schools have been damaged beyond repair and the children are meeting outside until they have a building where they can meet. People have lost homes and businesses because of the severe water damage. We've sent extra beans and rice, buckets, Clorox and other items to the people through the Pastors. The Texas Baptist Disaster Relief team is here on the premises using our dorm and warehouse as their base of operations, helping people on this side of the border as well. They've donated items to us for the people in Mexico that we'll be sending out through our network of Pastors.

This and so much more is why we continue to stand in awe of our Lord and the provisions He sends day after day, week after week, year after year. We are so thankful for the people He uses to help us provide for the people who are less fortunate. When we began this ministry, our prayer was: "Lord, if we start this ministry, help us to do this long term, not for a few months and then have to tell the people we have nothing for them." Indeed, He has answered that prayer and continues sending blessings beyond measure. He uses us all to be His hands and feet to minister to the least of these. Thank you dear friends for coming alongside us on this journey. We are crossing the borders of despair as we serve Him together giving a hope and a future to those less fortunate.

*Jeremiah 29:11 says, "For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not disaster, to give you future and a hope." (NIV)*





## Hearts of Compassion

by Joan Wilson

I've heard it said the difference between sympathy and compassion is action. In the life of Jesus, we see time and again where He was "moved with compassion." It's one thing to hear how kids in Mexico can't go to school if they don't have supplies; it's another to do something about it.

What started in 2001 with basic supplies for 120 kids has grown to 1800 supply kits and beyond! God is faithful to move His people to compassion! How we care for the poor matters to the Lord.

*If you help the poor, you are lending to the Lord—and He will repay you!* Proverbs 19:17

For a number of years Elfi has prepared a Thank You DVD for the many wonderful folks who make the school kit drive possible. She includes as many of the pastors' photos as possible in a 5 minute video. But the boy on the front page really caught my eye. When is the last time you saw a kid look at school supplies like that? The love of Jesus is in that kit, put together by hands that He filled with compassion.

Compassion is love in action. Every time we are able to distribute beans and rice, cartons of eggs, coats and blankets, or an infinite number of other items—we are extending God's love to others in tangible ways. The same compassion that moved Jesus moves through His people today. It causes many of our ministry partners to log thousands of miles each year hauling food and other supplies to us. It moves us beyond our comfort zones and has us act on what moves God's heart.

Believe it or not, November plans are

already in the works for the Christmas Shoebox Drive! Again, those Christmas boxes are gifts FILLED with compassion. And even the drive itself stirs compassion in the hearts of others. I was talking with one team leader who shared that her cousin's church is going to make boxes to send for the first time. She was so thrilled that I got excited! You all really don't realize how much you encourage us in even the simplest conversations.

If we didn't keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the burden of trying to meet such massive need in our own strength would overwhelm and crush us. But time and again, He reminds us HIS burden is light! The Lord has woven so many wonderful people into this ministry of compassion, that together we accomplish amazing things! Your encouragements and partnership with us passes through us to all the pastors we supply. And through their ministries, we impact literally thousands of lives in the name of the Lord—week in and week out, 52 weeks a year! In 12 years, that's a LOT of Tuesdays! And we will be "at it" again very soon!

So I want to thank each and every one of you who have responded time and again to God's call to join Him in this ministry. Your hearts of compassion keep our own hearts filled! And if you're looking for something to do in early December, remember we have plenty of shoeboxes to process!

### In October

*Pray for your missionaries on their birthdays. "Open Windows" doesn't list MSC missionaries anymore.*

**Oct. 7 ... Elfi's Birthday**

**Oct. 18 ... Joan's Birthday**

**Oct. 20 ... in Lamesa, Texas**

Friendship Baptist in the AM  
Lamesa Association Annual  
Meeting in the PM

### More News in a Nutshell

- ◆ 2013 School Supply DVD is finished & mailed to the participating churches. Thank you to everyone for your hard work!
- ◆ Little Abril & her mom Elisa continue to do well. Thank you for all your prayers!
- ◆ Violence exploded again in Mexico when a drug lord was gunned down in August. Others are at war for control of his territory. But the poor are always caught in the middle. Keep our pastors & their churches in prayer.
- ◆ Keep those egg cartons coming! Good job!
- ◆ FBC Fabens turns 90 on Nov. 23, and we thank God for this church remaining our steadfast partner in ministry, despite its own struggles.

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**We're on the WEB at**  
**[crossingbordersministries.com](http://crossingbordersministries.com)**

*a ministry operating out of First Baptist Church of Fabens developed and operated by Elfi Register and Joan Wilson*

*Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support of this ministry! Donations made through FBC Fabens are tax deductible. Please make your check payable to:*

Fabens First Baptist Church

*attach a note to specify if it is 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, whose members must provide their own finances.*



### And in November & December

**Deadline for Gifts to be here: November 30th**

*Christmas Shoeboxes will be arriving Thanksgiving week, but anytime you can get boxes to us in November will be welcomed! We plan to begin shipping to the pastors on Tuesday, Dec. 3rd.*

*Full instructions for making shoebox gifts & shipping them to us are on our website. But the basics are:*

#### FIRST:

- Wrap the bottom and lid of a shoebox SEPARATELY in Christmas paper –or– Line a plastic shoebox with colored tissue paper so that the contents are hidden. If you can see through the lid, put more paper on top. Bandanas also work great for this!

#### NEXT:

- Decide who you want to make the gift for, whether a Boy or Girl. Then choose one of the following age groups - Toddlers aged 1-2, Children aged 3-5 OR 6-8, Youth aged 9-12 OR 13-16

#### FINALLY:

- Fill the shoebox with NEW toys and other items the child you've chosen might need and enjoy! Then deliver or ship it to CBM here.

**As always, give us a call if you have any questions.**