



2000 School Supply Kits!

Thank you to everyone who made it possible for so many children and teenagers to attend school in such uncertain times!

In 20 years, we've had the privilege to watch many thousands of them go from kindergarten all the way through university! When we began our annual school drives, it was a miracle for those living in small villages to even make it through 6th grade. Praise the Lord, they're now doctors, nurses, teachers, pastors, and missionaries.

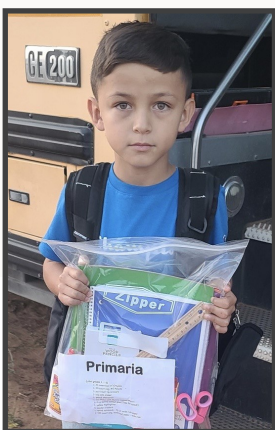
Border Remains Closed

Since March 21, 2020 the border with Mexico has been closed to everyone but those whose work is deemed essential. The closure has been extended once more, meaning our pastors haven't been allowed to come for supplies in over a year and a half!

Because the Tuesday distribution at FBC Fabens remains shut down, people keep asking if the ministry & church are closed! FBC Fabens has services starting at 10:30 Sunday mornings led by Pastor Omar Lara. He's also started new believer/new member classes, which is a welcome addition!

Luly's Lara continues to meet with our volunteers, sacking up beans & rice, meeting scheduled deliveries, and keeping things clean & organized.

Elfi & Joan keep pastors, supporters, suppliers, & volunteers connected. If you need to schedule a delivery, meet with us, ask for prayer, or need more information, please contact us by phone or email (on page 2). Leave a message & we'll get back to you.



School supplies were delivered to neighboring border communities and as far away as Durango, Delicias, and Chihuahua

Follow Where He Leads



How life has changed all over the world in the past 19 months! Most of us keep thinking and hoping "back to normal" is just around the corner, but the end still doesn't seem in sight. We are so very grateful for each and every one who has stayed with us; continuing to check on us, pray for us and with us, and remaining faithful in your donations for the different ministries of CBM. We've experienced more than a few changes in how we carry out God's calling. Still, He is ever faithful to show us the way to go, and we strive to always follow His leading.

We do apologize that there's been such a delay between our last newsletter and now. We had some computer crashes and various interruptions we needed to work around. In spite of all that, ministry has continued on the border and wherever we go. School supplies were miraculously crossed into Mexico yet again, and kids there have started another school year. Every two weeks, Omar and Luly's Lara cross over the border with beans, rice, and other groceries, along with medicines, Bibles, and whatever else CBM has received in donations. They meet with pastors in a central location to distribute what they've been able to cross. God has given them great wisdom and favor in how, where and when to drive across which international bridge. Please keep them covered in prayer!

It's hard to believe it's been over a year and a half since we've met face to face with our beloved pastors and missionaries. They're still deemed "nonessential" and are not able to cross into the United States. We do stay in touch through electronic means. The Tuesday distribution operation still remains closed since the pastors can't come, which is why we ask anyone bringing a delivery to the ministry to call ahead and arrange a day and time someone can meet them. Rest assured, CBM is still ACTIVE and doing the ministry God birthed it for!

"For a wide door for effective service has opened to me" 1 Corinthians 16:9 NAS

Meanwhile, the Lord directed us (Elfi & Joan) to help with worship at one of our supporting churches in the Cloudcroft area. God's Spirit is at work, touching lives in amazing ways. We drive back to Fabens at least once a month, meeting with our volunteers, with Omar and Luly's, and take care of the administrative things that can't be done virtually. As someone rightly said; we're still in ministry, it's just being done in a different way—with a lot more miles in between!

We thank God for you always and pray for you! May the Lord bless you and keep you in the shadow of His wings. (Psalm 91)



More News & Prayer Requests

- ◆ The **2021 School supply video** is available on our CBM website. You can show it directly from the site or download it to play for your group or church meeting. We will not be sending out DVDs as we have in previous years.
- ◆ **After nearly two years** of seeking a way for **Pastor Enrique** to return to the US, he's been told it will be 10 years before he can reapply for a visitor visa. This was disappointing news, but we continue to trust God has a plan for them—even though He's not revealed it as yet. He's preaching virtually and also in churches when he has opportunity. Please keep them in prayer as they wait for the Lord to open the next door for them. They send their "thank you" to those who send monthly support for them through CBM.
- ◆ **Fabens FBC called Omar Lara as Pastor.** He and Luly's have served as interim since Enrique was refused asylum in December 2019. Everyone agreed the Lord had called Omar for "such a time as this." For most of you this is 'old news' but we're thrilled to share it. It's a fresh beginning for the church & a new chapter in the Laras' ministry life.
- ◆ This past year has seen a lot of our friends and loved ones pass on to Glory in Heaven. We grieve with and pray for their extended families. We wish there was a way to honor them all. There are a few we must mention, as their passing has left a mark on Crossing Borders as well as in our hearts. Pray with us especially for their spouses.
- * **Jeri Boyles**, with husband Richard, loved us like family & promoted CBM wherever they went.
- * **Richard (Dick) Murtland**, with wife Pat, also with CBM early on, have always looked for ways to keep us encouraged & the ministry supplied.
- * **Ric Baccus**, with wife Stacey, both founders of Mission Agape, came alongside to especially support the School supply drive, and also supply the food pantry.

Crossing Borders Ministries
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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.



School supply drive time is a great time to reconnect with our friends, like Dave & Linda Novlan, delivering kits from their church mission group. We enjoyed spending a week with Fred & Nannette Keith as well, who always bring our little mascot, Bruiser.



Christmas Shoebox Drive

Deadline to be in Fabens is Monday, November 29th

This is our 21st Christmas Gift Drive!

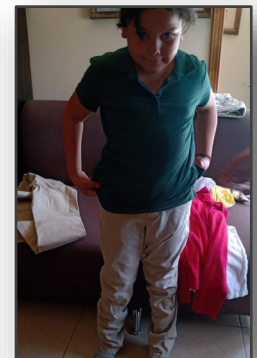
Our first CBM Christmas drive was gifts for pastors and their families. Our first supporters will remember shopping for everything from houseshoes to toolboxes. By the second year, it expanded to children in the churches. Now here we are, all these years later, and we shipped out 2500 shoebox gifts in 2020—in the midst of an epidemic no less! God is faithful and His people are generous!

Please note: we're setting the deadline to deliver on the Monday following Thanksgiving. Elfi, Joan, and some of our volunteers may be out of town Thanksgiving week, so we ask everyone to call ahead to schedule earlier deliveries to be sure someone can meet you. We will be working at the mission dorm the entire week of the 29th to process all the boxes.

Complete details on how to make a box & how to get it to us are on our website at: crossingbordersministries.com.

Have more questions? Give us a call at 915-491-7528.

Blessed beyond school supplies! Donated school uniforms being tried on by a group of kids in one pastor's church.



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