



Crossing Borders News

News & Updates on Crossing Borders Ministries - PO Box 35 - Fabens, Texas 79838

Vol. 9 Issue 3

Our mission: to Support, Encourage, and Release Faith in the needy and less fortunate

May/ June 2009

Gearing Up

by Elfi Register

Since May, we've been fielding phone calls from people already wanting to know how soon they can bring their completed school supply kits. Actually, we've been "dodging" having the kits come TOO early since January - even before we'd put away all the shoebox packing supplies! Truthfully, we just didn't know where we'd store them till we needed them! This is such a wonderful example of GOD's people responding to the moving of His Spirit without having to "beg" people to get involved. So if you're one of those we said "wait" to earlier this year, we now say "come on down"! Last year, 1632 kits were given out - wow! - so for the next few weeks we need people who'll come sort them all for the churches to come pick up!

Our single greatest need outside of prayer and provision are workers we can depend on to take some of the workload off our hands - like sorting the kits. For instance, this newsletter's now sent to over 400 people, and it's been a real load taken off us to have Barbie oversee the pastors and a few others as they fold, stuff, and stamp all that mail. What a blessing! Now, we're praying for the Lord to bring volunteers to help keep up with all the church properties. It's just too much for the two of us to handle by ourselves. And having to be "custodians" takes up time we need to be using to do the work of this ministry.

And the work of this ministry is what the Lord has called us to. For some time now, the Lord has impressed on our hearts that it's important for us to extend His invitation to join in what HE is doing through CBM. If we'll spend time with Him and accurately communicate His vision and purpose to everyone He brings us in contact with, HE will move people into action. Sometimes, this has meant people DON'T fully embrace or join in our efforts - which is kind of surprising and frustrating. I mean, who wouldn't want to work alongside GOD? So it's that much more exciting when we get phone calls "out of the blue" that result in tremendous blessings for the poor.

If you help the poor, you are lending to the Lord - and HE will repay you!
Proverbs 19:17

When you're walking and working alongside GOD, all of life becomes an "adventure". We always seem to be "gearing up" for one thing or another. Several Sundays back, Joan and I were getting ready for morning worship when we suddenly became the "entertainment" for a bunch of our younger kids who'd arrived WAY early. Although there were only 4 or 5 of them, they seemed three times that number as they climbed all over the pews, the equipment, and us. To settle them down, I let them start picking songs out and we began to sing together. Our small congregation began to arrive, and still I just kept singing with the kids. Finally, Joan quietly slid in behind the overhead projector and started putting up the words to the songs the kids were picking. Just like that, we moved into "worship". At one point, I looked over the kids' heads and said to the adults, "It's all church. Amen?" Now, not everyone can "bend" with this kind of seeming disorder. In fact, we've seen a few "church folks" walk right out the door since we started making children and youth our focus. But I know the Lord was very pleased that day. Remember, it was



Barbie Lopez (in orange) organizes the mailing process for the newsletter



Azeneth Guerrero giving kits in Choquita last year

These are the requests we have received (so far) from the pastors for school supply kits this year. Please pray enough kits will come in to meet all the requests. The ** indicates their list isn't in yet.

Church / Mission	Pastor	Kits Requested
Dios Con Nosotros, Praxedis	Perea	35
Mision de Caseta	Perea	10
La Trinidad, Guadalupe	Lopez	35
Mision de Col. Fco Villa	Lopez	35
El Penuel, Col. Esperanza	Garcia	18
Mision de Centenario	Garcia	18
Mision de Paredes	Garcia	23
Mision de Sarabia	Garcia	21
Mision Cihuahuro/Juarana- Sierra T.	Garcia	40
Mision Barreales	Ornelas	23
Mt. Sinai, San Isidro	Pinales	35
Mision Getsemani, Loma Blanca	Pinales	35
Mision Fe, Esperanza, y Amor, Col Riveras	Pinales	35
Mision Cristo El Camino Verdadero, Col Riveras	Pinales	34
Mision El Caborachi, Sierra Tarahumara	Pinales	47
El Shaddai	Patrocinio	54
Mision Sion (El Shaddai)	Patrocinio	33
Dios es Amor, Sauzal	Rodriguez	**
Cristo El Redentor, Sauzal	Guzman	35
Mision de Sauzal Viejo	Guzman	35
Mision de Manuel Valdez	Guzman	30
Esmirna, San Agustin	Rodriguez	35
Maranatha, Porvenir	Lovera	35
Mision de El Faro	Lovera	6
Templo Bethel #2, Col. Esperanza	Serrano	35
Centro Familiar Cristiano, Reforma	Lara	**
Monte de los Olivos	Mijares	44
El Buen Pastor, Praxedis	Rivas	30
Templo Cristo Adonai, Col. La Perla	Figueroa	**
Tierra Prometida, Sparks	Lopez	19
Nueva Vida, Tornillo	Lira	**
Mision Gerizim, El Mimbres	Guerrero	**
Mision de Choquita, Sierra Tarahumara	Guerrero	**
Mision Emanuel - Cd Juarez	Escandon	35
Mision Padre Eterna - Cd Juarez	Escandon	28
Rancho 3M Orphanage, Gpe.	Ornelas	**
Voice of Mexico - Del Rio/Acuna	Knaack	120
Terlingua Missions	Ball	**
CBM workers & community, Fabens	CBM	30

Total Requests: 1048 Kits and counting!!

Jesus who said, "Let the children come to Me. Don't stop them!" (The King James version says, "SUFFER little children, and forbid them not to come unto Me" Matt. 19:14)

One day in mid-June, I confess even I said, "These kids are taking an awful lot of our time". We worked with folks from Oklahoma (and Texas) who conducted VBS here June 15-18 and taught us the phrase "Semper Gumby" (always flexible!). At the same time, we were scrambling to get several kids registered and ready for camp. For months we'd been praying for the money to send 20 to 25 Fabens kids to summer camps. GOD honored the obedience of a few people's giving and multiplied it to pay for them all! Like I've said before, He always makes a way! I really wanted all of my middle school girls to go, and so for Pre-teen Camp (June 22-26) seven of the girls and one guy went to Aspendale Baptist Encampment outside of my hometown of Cloudfcroft, NM. Then, 3 more girls went to Teen Camp July 6-10, with another 6-8 boys and girls going to Opportunity Camp July 11-15.

For Pre-teen camp, Joan and I visited the kids for a day to encourage them for their last night's worship time - and ended up being encouraged ourselves. We walked out of the chapel and ran into Jay, the camp administrator, who'd just been talking about us. He wanted the camp mission offering to be designated for CBM - and he didn't even know we were on site! Right then, he made a split-second decision to have us stay a little longer to share about the ministry to the kids. Talk about having to "gear up"! The Lord impressed on me to always "be ready" and so I found myself standing in front of some 200 campers telling them about beans, rice, school kits, and shoebox gifts. I couldn't believe how nervous I was! There we were, sharing the Lord's vision of caring for the needy and less fortunate through Crossing Borders. *Semper Gumby!*

Making Time

By Joan Wilson

*He makes me to lie down in green pastures,
He leads me beside still waters Psalm 23:2*

There's no denying it - we need to make time to be still and allow the Lord to refresh us body, mind, and spirit. Like Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38-42), we really want to sit at the feet of Jesus, but keep being too busy working for Him instead. For months we've had many friends and advisors tell us "take some time off!" We believe it's the Lord's desire, too - but when? So much of what goes on week in and week out depends on us being here. But one pastor, Keith Blanton, recently asked us, "What happens to all that if you two burn out? Get sick? Drop dead?" I don't even want to think about that answer! So, we're penciling in some time off August 17 - 30. (Please keep this in mind as we'll be hard to get in touch with right away) Barbie can keep the Tuesday distribution going, Pastor Hugo can cover a few Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights, and "unscheduled" deliveries will just have to wait till we get back. And Sunday nights

David and Barbie Lopez have expanded the Spanish Adult Bible Study from Wednesdays to include worship services on Sunday nights. They invited us to be part of this new service, and we've enjoyed being "connected" once again with our Spanish speaking friends. Many who attend these services are CBM volunteers we see every Tuesday. It's still taxing to our brains to "catch" everything being said, but David gives us a quick translation if we seem to be completely lost. Though he pastors a mission in Sparks, he also wants to see a committed group of adults help our church stay viable in the community, even as we work to build a future generation of leaders from among our youth group. It's a lot for the few of us to carry, but getting to be with the whole Lopez family again makes it a blessing not a burden!

Making ourselves take time off also means we aren't around to "fix" things that break down or go wrong on any of these old buildings (they take up any "spare" time we can give them). We really need other churches or groups to take on some of the bigger projects around here. This place may be old, but it's still got a lot of ministry happening out of it!

We would greatly appreciate your prayers for our many ministries, our network of pastors - who still live under the shadow of terrible violence all around them, our wonderful friends and sponsoring churches who supply all the necessities we distribute, and for our very full schedule - that we'll actually be able to take the time off we need. Finally, pray for the Lord to send laborers to our "field" - we really need God-focused people we can count on to serve whether or not the task at hand is "glamorous" or "dull". Caring for the poor usually means doing the things others can't or won't do. Yet Jesus so identified with the poor that He said when we meet their needs, it's as if we've done those things to Him. (Matthew 25:31-46) And HE's worth giving our "all" for - even when that also includes making time for Him to lead us beside "still waters".

WORKERS NEEDED! Please call us if you can come work for a day! All these kits must be staged for the pastors to pick up!

There's more to it than simply making the kits. We need help preparing them for shipping out. 1632 kits went out last year! Together, all of us ARE making a difference in more lives than we can imagine!

Subject: 2009 School Supply Drive

Due Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2008

Kits Need: same items as last year

For a copy of items list and other kit details, you can go to our website at

www.crossingbordersministries.com

or call us at 915-764-5343



Our July & August Schedule ... so far!

Every Month:

Sundays: worship in English 10:30 am
worship in Spanish 6:00 pm

Mondays: set up for Tuesday distribution
receive scheduled deliveries

Tuesdays: Package beans & rice 9 - 10 am
Worship in Spanish 10 - 11 am
Distribution to pastors 11 am - 1 pm
receive scheduled deliveries

Wednesdays: Youth Night 6:30-8:30 pm

Special Events:

July 7-August 11 Shipping out Kits

July 26 - 29 VBS 6:00-8:30 pm

July 28 School Kits Due Date

August 1-2 Kit work team (Double Mtn)

August 7-8 Kit work team (Glen Meadows)

August 15-16 CBM Presentation at

Glen Meadows Bapt. Church, San Angelo, TX

August 17-30 Elfi & Joan - Time Off?

Crossing Borders is a ministry of First Baptist Church of Fabens, developed and operated by Elfi Register and Joan Wilson. Your financial support is vital to this ministry. When sending your check, please make it payable to:

Fabens First Baptist Church

and attach a note to specify if it is for support of

Elfi and/or Joan or for Crossing Borders general fund.

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Thank you for your continued prayers & support!

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.



Print additional copies of this & other CBM newsletters from our website at crossingbordersministries.com. The site also provides details of this ministry, including "Ways You Can Help", and how to participate in our annual School Supply Drive and Christmas Shoebox Drive.