

“... see that you also excel in this grace of giving.” 2 Corinthians 8:7

Grace of Giving



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More Opportunity to Serve!

This newsletter is being written under somewhat unusual circumstances, that is, in a hotel in Kuwait near the end of a 4 country, 10 day business trip.

You probably recall that those of us involved in Grace of Giving do so as volunteers, that is, we are not compensated from Grace of Giving's funding. Thus, it will come as no surprise to you that we do other things to support ourselves and to enable us to participate in this ministry endeavor we love so much.

You may not know that I (Greg, that is) worked for 25+ years for a major international oil company, and since taking early retirement in 2000, I have worked from time to time as an independent consultant providing advice to clients (for example, multi-national and state-owned oil companies) on commercial matters relating to international energy projects.

My geographic areas of experience include southeast Asia and the Middle East, so a trip to the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Qatar, and Bahrain to visit previous clients and also meet new prospective clients is a key way to increase my industry business activity.

This is probably the point in the narrative where you ask yourself, "Why is he giving me all of this information? How does this relate to delivering food to churches and missionaries along the Texas/Mexico border?"

The simplest part of the answer is this - I've intentionally limited my consulting activities in recent years so that I could devote as much time as was needed to get Grace of Giving running in good order.

That has meant drawing on my savings to meet personal expenses. After much prayer seeking God's wisdom as to how much and when to work outside of Grace of Giving's ministry, I am seeking to increase my consulting activities substantially in 2008 to assist in meeting our personal needs.

If I work more overseas this year, Grace of Giving will need more volunteers to continue our food delivery activities along the border. This is where you come in! We need volunteers to make the food delivery trips, whether it's the full 4-5 day, 2000 mile trip covering all 6 of our currently established stops, or something less to fit your available time.

We ask for your prayers in two respects - first that I would pay close attention and do only the jobs and the exact amount of outside work God has in store for me. Second, pray for just the right number and frequency of volunteers to allow Grace of Giving to run smoothly.

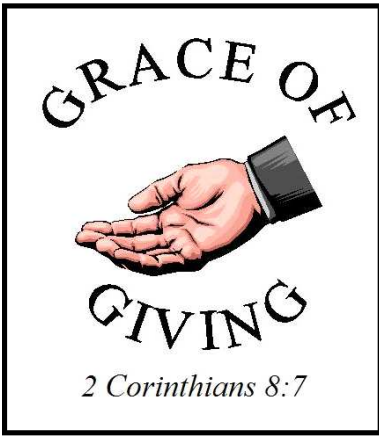
God knows my heart - especially that I absolutely love making the food delivery trips and have no desire to make them less frequently. However,

I am convinced that these circumstances are God's way of getting others intimately involved in His work, and as a result, I wouldn't have it any other way!



The Baptist churches in Lomas de Arena (top) and Porvenir (bottom), Chihuahua. Food provided by Grace of Giving is delivered here by Pastor Bernie Segura.





Grace of Giving
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Please visit our website!
www.graceofgiving.org

Grace of Giving

Grace of Giving is a non-profit, charitable organization that is exempt from federal income tax as a 501(c)(3) organization. Accordingly, the Internal Revenue Service has advised that all contributions to Grace of Giving may be deducted for federal income tax purposes as specified in section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our priorities for using your gifts are to purchase food and to purchase fuel to deliver the food. The officers of Grace of Giving accept no compensation for their services and currently cover all of their travel expenses.

Officers

Greg Beard — President & Treasurer
 Dara Beard — Vice President
 Pastor Keith Blanton — Secretary



Bernie Segura and I were delivering food together on this trip. Top - that's the Rio Grande in the background. Bottom - sampling the results of a Grace of Giving food delivery.



A REMINDER

If you would like to receive your Grace of Giving newsletter every 6 weeks electronically instead of by surface mail, just drop me a note at: gregbeard@graceofgiving.org

*But if anyone obeys his word, God's love is truly made complete in him. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did.
 1 John 2:5-6 (NIV)*

The side of Rick Caywood's Chihuahuan Connection trailer says, "Jesus desires compassion!" Now ask yourself, "What have I done for Jesus today?"

Housing Projects Update

Our building plans for 2008 include, God willing:

- one house in Monclova, Coahuila for the Benito Amaya family:
 - estimated cost: \$12,000
 - received to date: \$1,400
- four houses in Jimenez, Coahuila:
 - estimated cost: \$26,000 - 27,000
 - received to date: \$0

The Monclova house will be undertaken only when God provides the funds.

The Jimenez houses are planned for the period October 19th - 28th. We need the money in hand by September 1st to send it ahead for materials procurement, and we also need 50+ intrepid souls to volunteer to be building crews and to handle trip logistics (feeding the building crews is definitely a priority!).

Please, won't you consider joining us on the trip and/or supporting these mission efforts financially? Your help will be a wonderful blessing to these families in need!



From the cemetery in Terlingua, Texas - a brilliant yet poignant reminder of why we serve our Risen Savior!