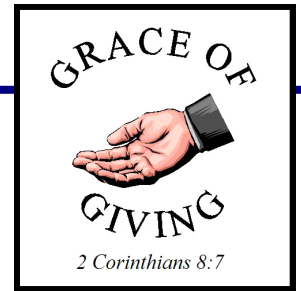


“... see that you also excel in this grace of giving.” 2 Corinthians 8:7

# Grace of Giving



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## It's Time to Build a Church!

by Chad Kroeker

On September 10<sup>th</sup> 2008, Greg Beard emailed me this simple drawing of a building. The subject of the e-mail said “Church Plan” and the body of the e-mail said “Comments?” I had to call him to find out what he was even talking about. He told me that he dreamed of developing a plan for a small church building that we could build for a church family in either the USA or Mexico. I thought he was crazy. At the time Grace of Giving had only built small (16' x 20') houses for families in Mexico. I personally had never built anything larger than those houses.

Since that humble beginning, we have reached where we are today. Grace of Giving now has fully developed the plans for a 1,980 square foot building that will seat close to 100 people in the sanctuary. The facility has two classrooms, 2 restrooms, a coat closet and a mechanical / storage room.

We have identified a small congregation, New Jerusalem Church, in Terlingua, Texas, that needs a building. Terlingua is 78 miles south of Alpine, Texas, on the western boundary of Big Bend National Park. Grace of Giving has been delivering food to this community through our faithful missionary friends in Terlingua, Lee and Margie Ball, since 2004. New Jerusalem Church now has property where they can build the building and have already raised most of the funds for the construction.

At this time, Grace of Giving would like to ask for workers to help construct this church building. We are looking for individuals that, first and foremost, have a heart for missions work. It would be incredibly helpful as well to find individuals with general construction skills or specific trade skills. Some of the trades that are needed are framing, drywall hanging, tape and bedding, electrical, plumbing and air conditioning. If you feel that you have the skills needed and are willing to help a congregation have a new church home, please contact us.

Here's the schedule we have set for this project:

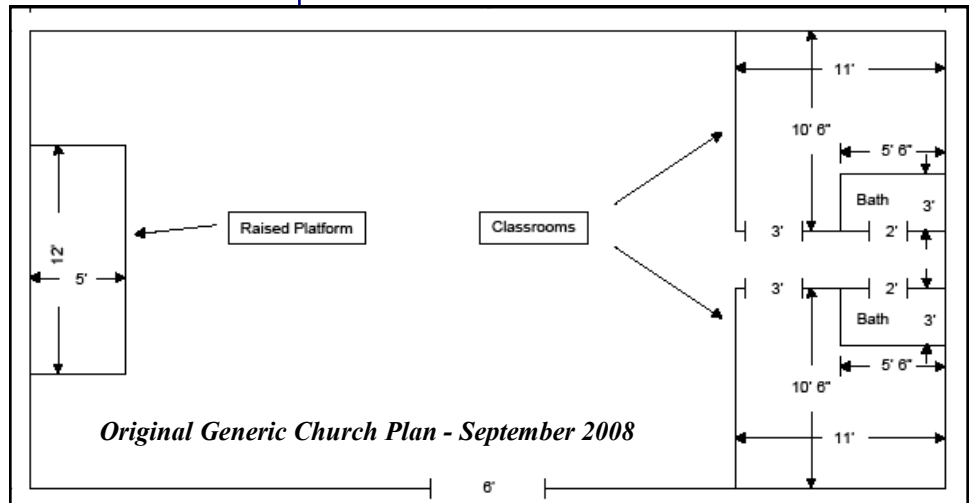
**Week 1 (March 8-12):** Frame the walls and roof trusses.

**Week 2 (March 15-19):** Install soffits and siding.

**Weeks 3 & 4 (April 12-23):** Drywall, tape and bed.

**Week 5 (May 3-7):** Install trim.

**Week 6 (May 17-21):** Final trim out.



*Original Generic Church Plan - September 2008*

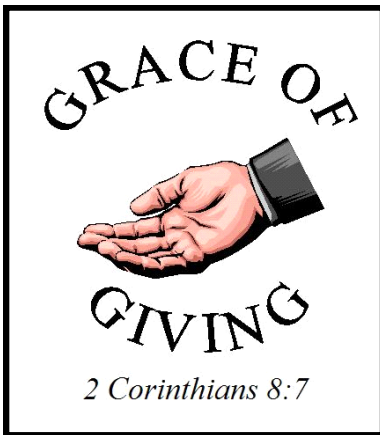
Our friends at New Jerusalem will be doing other tasks in between these work weeks, such as installing the roof and insulation, pulling electrical, etc.

There are a few hotels locally to stay at and the church members have offered their homes for us while we are working. Also, they have agreed to cook us a hot meal in the evenings. The exact cost for each volunteer would vary depending on when you work and who you work with.

If you would like to volunteer individually, we will set you up with others that are going. If you have a group that can handle one of the tasks in its entirety, that would be great also. The important thing is simply - we need your help to raise this church building to glorify God in this remote part of West Texas!!

By the way, if you're curious how this “crazy idea” has changed since September, 2008, please turn this newsletter over. It sure has changed in 1 ½ years!

**Contact Chad Kroeker ([ckroeker@centurymech.com](mailto:ckroeker@centurymech.com) or 817-781-0645) for more information.**



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Please visit our website!  
[www.graceofgiving.org](http://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

## Memorials & Acknowledgements

As you will no doubt have noticed, we frequently receive gifts from our supporters to celebrate the memory of loved ones or special friends. Less frequently, but by no means less important, we receive gifts to honor someone still living whose life and service is very special to someone.

During December and January, we received the following memorials:

- From Dee Anna Nichols (our friend and family dentist):
  - in memory of Mr. Paul Howard of Hewitt, Texas; and
  - in memory of Jeanette Jennings, mother of our FBC Clifton friend, Vicky Erickson; and
- From our FBC Clifton friends Terry & Debbie Spicer in memory of Mr. Charles Wilborn of McKinney.

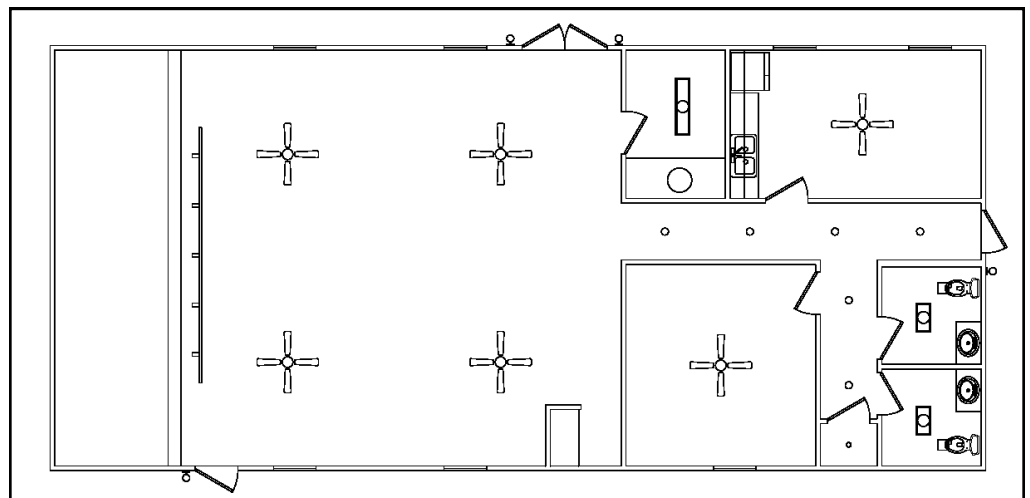
We also received two special honorariums in December. The first was also from Dee Anna Nichols to honor Dr. Mike Collins and his staff of Waco, Texas. Dr. Collins is an orthodontist to whom Dr. Nichols frequently refers her patients.

The other honorarium we received is very personal. Grace of Giving supporter Saranne (Punky) Penberthy sent a gift to us to honor Nelda Ramsey.

Full disclosure - I am blessed and honored that Nelda is my mother-in-law. Not only did she provide me with the blessing and wonderful gift of my bride of 36 years, Dara, but she also is a woman of extraordinary grace. I love her dearly.

*Nelda,*

*The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.  
1 Corinthians 16:23 (NIV)*



*Current Floor Plan for New Jerusalem Church, Terlingua, Texas - January, 2010*

## Financial Report

Grace of Giving finished 2009 in pretty good financial shape. For the year:

- Received: \$145,107
- Designations:
  - Undesignated: \$72,888
  - Terlingua church: \$43,129
  - House building: \$23,875
  - Mission trips: \$4,370
  - Other designations: \$845
- Cost of food delivered: \$75,386
- % coverage: 96.7

- 12 food delivery trips, averaging between 12,000 and 14,000 pounds of food and other items delivered.
- 4 houses built (1 in Monclova, Coahuila and 3 in Jimenez, Coahuila)
- Deliveries:
  - Rice: 51,850 lbs
  - Beans: 35,500 lbs

This was our best year yet as far as covering our food costs. Our goal for 2010 is to cover 100% of this costs. Please join us in pursuing that goal!