

Grace of Giving



VOLUME 3, ISSUE 5 SEPTEMBER 8, 2006

Projects Update

We mentioned three projects in July's newsletter (hymnals for three churches in Northern Chihuahua, Mexico, school supplies for 50 children in/near Acuña, Coahuila, and building three houses near Acuña in October). Our prayers on these projects have been answered in mighty ways. Here's an update on each:

Hymnals

We mailed our last newsletter on Tuesday, July 18. Just two days later, after barely enough time had passed for the newsletters to be delivered locally, I received a call asking whether I had received any donations to help pay for the hymnals. When I replied that we hadn't received anything yet toward the hymnals, we were pledged the entire amount needed to secure them.

Wow, I thought! This is a wonderful, immediate answer to prayer!

It gets better!

School Supplies

On the same day that I received the pledge covering the cost of hymnals, I returned home to check the afternoon mail and found a check covering the entire amount needed to purchase 50 sets of school supplies! This check had actually been written and mailed the day before!

In two days, God had taken care of two very special needs for our friends in Mexico by moving in the hearts of two of our wonderful supporters here in Clifton, TX.

It gets even better!

Building Projects

As you may recall, we had three prayer requests in respect of our building projects: (1) sufficient funds, (2) enough workers, and (3) God's direction on recipients.

First, an update on what has turned out to be the easy part. We now have 39 people tentatively signed up for the trip (12 ladies and 27 men). We're almost at capacity, as the part of the men's dormitory allocated to us (at Camp Get-

semani, just outside Acuña) has only 30 beds. Please let us know if you'd still like to come. The camp cost is \$8 per person per night, and we will share the food costs among the group (estimated to be around \$50 per person for the entire trip).

We have, with your prayer support, been praying for clear guidance on both the number of houses (as dictated by the funds received) and the persons for whom we are to build. We now believe that God has provided His directions on these issues, and again He did it as a wonderfully clear answer to prayer.

I had a telephone conversation last week with our brother Charles Knaack in Del Rio about the people for whom we ought to build. We discussed one lady in particular at some length, as Charles described to me how God had laid it on his heart to help her.



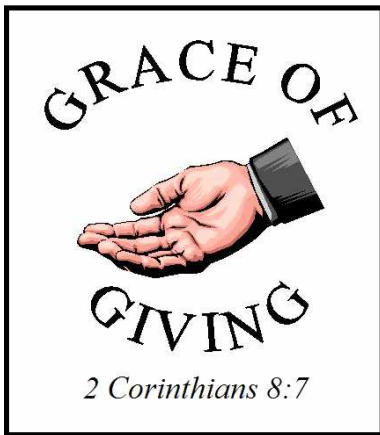
Leticia and her two small sons — this family will, God willing, receive one of the three houses to be built by Grace of Giving in October

After our conversation, I asked God to make it really clear to me (I'm a bit thick at times) whether we were to help this lady. Specifically, I asked for enough money for the house to be pledged to us quickly, since at the time we had collected/pledged enough for just over 1 1/2 houses. About an hour later I got an e-mail pledging an additional \$5,000 to the process! Since a single house is estimated to cost \$5,200, it seemed to me that God's directions were

more than clear. "Get moving, my son, and build this lady one of the three houses I want Grace of Giving to build this year."

Specifically, we now have in hand or pledged to us \$13,083 of the \$15,200 we need to build three houses. Our deadline for receiving all of the funds is October 1, so that we can get the money to our coordinators in Mexico in time to ensure that the necessary materials are all purchased before we begin building on October 23rd. Please continue to pray with us that the rest of the funds will be forthcoming in a timely fashion.

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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

In Honor of Others

Grace of Giving was blessed recently with the following gifts:

- From Dee Anna Nichols in honor of her mother, Joann Poston, to purchase hymnals for the churches pastored by Bernie Segura (our brother in Van Horn, Texas).
- From Kevon and Lori Kleibrink to honor the memories of James Corpier, father of our Sunday School classmate, David Corpier, and of Rhea Woosley Westmoreland, grandmother of our Sunday School classmate, Jeff Woosley.
- From Mike and Jean Finney (2 gifts) to honor the memories of James Corpier and of Frances Gooch, who devoted 16 years of her life to teaching children at

FBC, Clifton.

- From Tom and Dana Henderson in memory of Marie Campbell, with whom Dana taught in the Meridian, TX school district for many years. In Dana's note to us, she fondly remembered Marie's devotion to teaching, even after her retirement, and especially her love for teaching and nurturing children.
- From Brent and Lori Powers as a memorial to Reverend Kyle Lake, the late pastor of University Baptist Church in Waco, TX.

We are honored to be able to serve others in God's name as well as in the name of these precious loved ones.

Practical Stuff

Receipts

Several of you have asked about contribution receipts for personal income tax purposes. We keep careful records of all contributions that are received and will issue receipts for 2006 contributions in January 2007. Please let us know if you have any questions about this issue.

Contributions

I hate to mention it, because I know you've all received solicitation letters from other charitable organizations, but facts are facts. Grace of Giving, like nearly every other non-profit organization, has experienced a summer slump in contributions. Here are

our year-to-date numbers:

- Receipts (excluding those designated for house building): \$33,429.91
- Project Costs (excluding travel and admin costs): \$52,562.19
- Deficit (funded by Directors): \$19,132.28

Our fund-raising approach is simple. We make the need known. God takes care of working on people's hearts.

We would appreciate your prayers that Grace of Giving's financial needs would be met by God's providence, in whatever manner He chooses!

Projects Update

(Continued from page 1)

We now have identified the three families that we believe God has directed us to build for this year:

1. Leticia — a single mother with two young sons. Leticia currently lives in a small house with other extended family members (*see photo on page 1*).
2. Maria — a grandmother acting as the primary care-giver to several of her grandchildren.

3. Francisco Limon — pastor of Iglesia El Jordan in Acuña. Pastor Francisco and his family now live in a small house constructed from cardboard and wooden pallets.

We are looking forward to our October trip with great anticipation! If you can't join in person, please join us in spirit. Specifically, we covet your prayers, starting now, that our trip would be safe and successful and that we would glorify God in all we do as we serve in His name in Mexico!