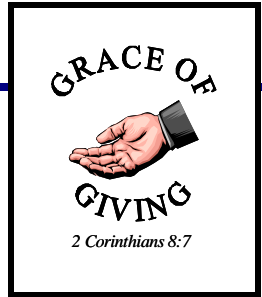


“... see that you also excel in this grace of giving.” 2 Corinthians 8:7

Grace of Giving



VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2 APRIL 28, 2005

What's On My Heart ...

Charles Knaack of Voice of Mexico Ministries in Del Rio has, in the last year or so, helped to reopen a Baptist church in Jimenez, Coah., Mexico, which is about 20 miles southeast of Ciudad Acuna as you travel along the Texas/Mexico border. What a joy it is to listen to his reports of new souls won for God's Kingdom!

It is particularly touching to hear him speak of inviting some children to church, seeing them saved, and then seeing their single mother follow them later by making her own decision to accept Jesus as her Savior.

With her husband no longer present to lead this family, she and her children have been living in a very small tar paper, cardboard and wood shack near her mother's house. The government has recently given her a small piece of property that she can call her own, and she has proudly built a new house on that property.



The "new" house

Charles and I visited her there two weeks ago and took this photo.

I'll be blunt — God has put it on my heart to get this family a new house built, with a proper roof and windows, before the weather turns cold and damp in the fall!

I recently joined the youth of First Baptist here in Clifton on a mission trip to Acuña, where we built a 16' x 20' house for a family in need. The gentleman who guided us on that project, John Mosiman from Austin, has these projects down to a science, and he advises me that

we can get the house built for \$4,300 in materials — with the labor to be provided by God's enthusiastic volunteers!

Please prayerfully consider whether you can make a special gift to Grace of Giving to help fund this building project.

Stewardship ...

Grace of Giving is dedicated to being good and faithful stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

Cash contributions to Grace of Giving for the period February 1 through March 31, 2005, totaled \$4,569.00.

The total cost of goods delivered during February and March was \$7,825.16, resulting in a cash flow deficit for the period of \$3,306.16. This deficit, together with all administrative and travel expenses, has been funded by the officers of Grace of Giving.

We wish to confirm to you that 100% of the expenditures from Grace of Giving funds during this time period went to purchase bulk food items (beans, rice, masa, etc.), canned goods and cooking oil.



The "guys" from Casa Hogar Galilea in Monclova on their way to camp!



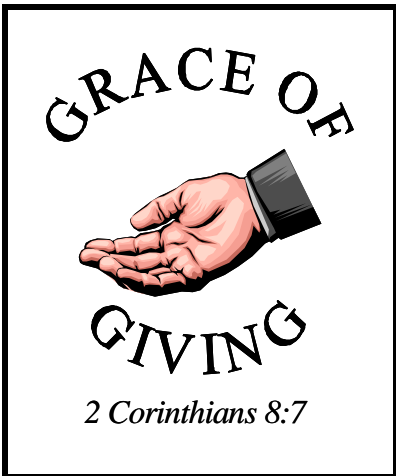
John Mosiman of Austin, with a family in Acuña who is receiving a new house.

Speaking of Building ...

Meet John Mosiman from Austin, TX. John serves God by building as many houses as he can for the poor in Ciudad Acuña, Coah., Mexico.

At last count, John has built 67 frame houses and completed another 43 cinder block houses. His methodology is simple — volunteer groups provide funds

for materials and construction crews, while John finds appropriate recipients for the houses, provides detailed house plans for the volunteer "contractors" to follow and oversees the construction.



Grace of Giving

Clifton, TX 76634

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
Rev. Keith Blanton — Secretary*

In Honor of Others ...

Grace of Giving was blessed with the following gifts in February:

- From Janice Collins of FBC Clifton, in honor of her mother, Ruby Collins, who has been a pillar of Women on Mission for over 60 years!
- From Mr. & Mrs. Mike Finney of FBC Clifton, in memory of:
 - Kay Davis, sister of our FBC Clifton friend, Ronnie Cosper;
 - Lola Greene, mother of FBC member Bruce Greene; and
 - Agnes Bryant, mother of FBC member Jim Bryant.

- From Julie Conley of FBC Clifton, also in memory of Kay Davis.

- From Mr. & Mrs. Herman Barrs of FBC Clifton, in memory of:

- Reverend Robert Campbell, their next door neighbor and pastor for many years in Kermit, TX — “a gentle soul who loved the Lord”; and
- Charles Stodghill, Mrs. Barrs’ co-worker for many years in the Kermit ISD.

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

Coincidence? Hardly ...

Romans 8:28 tells us, “*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.*”

I wasn’t so sure of that when I got out of bed last Friday morning with what turned out to be strep throat. I got through the weekend, including two performances of our church’s Spring musical on Sunday, and finally, reluctantly, called to make a doctor’s appointment on Monday morning.

My regular doctor was out of the office that day, and the staff very kindly re-worked an

associate’s schedule to allow me to come in that afternoon. Then I found out why I was sick!

The new doctor I met loves the Lord and has a heart for mission work — home construction as well as medical — in Mexico. We discussed Grace of Giving’s work and particularly his enthusiasm for helping to gather a crew to build the house I mentioned on the front page.

And just think, I wouldn’t even have met him if I hadn’t been sick when I was ...

Wow! Isn’t God good!!!!

Prayer Needs ...

The urgency of the need for prayer and the importance of prayer have been seared on my heart of late, particularly by 1 Samuel 12:23, in which Samuel says, “*As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by failing to pray for you.*”

I beg of you to feel this same urgency to lift up these needs:

- For sufficient financial resources for Grace of Giving to meet the established needs of those we serve (on average, \$5,000 per month for food and \$600 per month for gasoline).
- For continued travel mercies as we deliver the food (three flat trailer tires and two collisions with deer over the last year — all of little consequence, praise God).

- Everywhere we stop to deliver, there have been and are needs for God’s healing of illness, either in those we serve directly or in those they serve.

- For humbleness and gentleness of spirit as we serve.

Those Grace of Giving helps to feed, through your generosity, are very grateful for your expression of God’s love. The simple fact that we, being so far removed from their circumstances, love God enough to help them seems sometimes to be almost beyond their comprehension.

Thank you for your continued support of Grace of Giving and for allowing us to be the “face” of God’s love on your behalf.