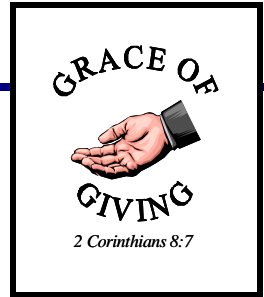


“... see that you also excel in this grace of giving.” 2 Corinthians 8:7

Grace of Giving

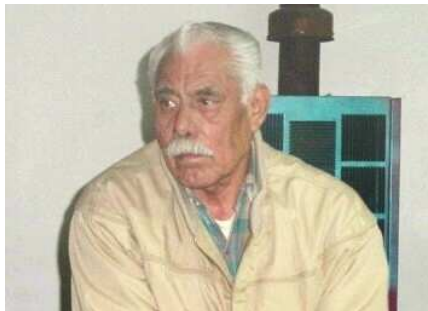


VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1 FEBRUARY 7, 2004

Crossing Borders Ministries ...

It's very special to us at Grace of Giving when we're privileged to meet and fellowship with some of the people who receive food from our bi-weekly deliveries. We had such an opportunity in late January, when we accompanied Elfi Register, Joan Wilson and Barbie Lopez of Crossing Borders Ministries on a visit to several of the churches they serve in northern Chihuahua, Mexico.

Crossing Borders Ministries, which operates from First Baptist Church in Fabens, TX (near El Paso), provides food packets to some 16 pastors and their families on a weekly basis. In addition, they also provide each pas-



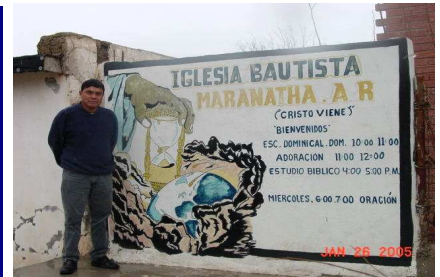
Pastor David Lopez Sr. of Iglesia Bautista La Trinidad in Guadalupe, Chihuahua, Mexico

tor with a number of rice and beans packs (each pack contains about 1# of rice and 1# of beans), which the pastor then uses to help meet the needs of those in his church and community.

“Faithful servants” is what entered my mind when I met David Lopez Sr., pastor of Iglesia Bautista La Trinidad in Guadalupe, Chihuahua, Mexico, and his wife, Maggie. Brother David has been a pastor for 29 years, and his church celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. Crossing Borders provides Brother David with 15 bean and rice packs. Ten packs help to meet the needs of his congregation, and the remaining 5 go to a nearby “mission” church.

A similar story ensued when we traveled on to Porvenir to meet Pastor Adriel Lovera of Iglesia Bautista Maranatha, who has 19 years of pastoral service. As with La Trinidad, Maranatha gets 15 rice and bean packs—10 for their flock and 5 for a mission church at nearby El Faro.

Please pray for these faithful servants of our Lord, both the pastors in Mexico and the workers of Crossing Borders. Stop and think for a moment—



Pastor Adriel Lovera at Iglesia Bautista Maranatha in Porvenir, Chihuahua, Mexico

when was the last time that you had to devote a substantial portion of a day just to make sure that you, your family and some of your friends simply were fed? With your help through Grace of Giving, Crossing Borders *is* making a difference, in God's name, in the lives of many people.

Grace of Giving currently delivers 1500# of rice, together with various canned food items, to Crossing Borders every two weeks. For more information on how you can assist Crossing Borders Ministries, please contact: Elfi Register or Joan Wilson, P.O. Box 35, Fabens, TX 79838

Financial Stewardship ...

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

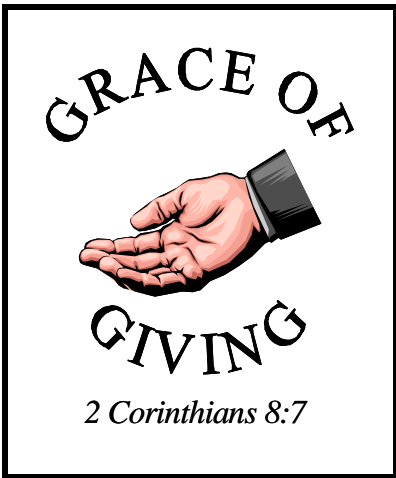
Cash contributions to Grace of Giving for the period December 1, 2004, through January 31, 2005, totaled \$5,278.00.

Expenditures from Grace of Giving funds during the same period (used solely to purchase beans, rice, canned goods and other food items) totaled \$5,083.72.

Grace of Giving's cash balance at February 1, 2005 is:

Beginning balance	6.56
Contributions	5,278.00
Expenditures	<u>(5,083.72)</u>
Ending balance	\$200.84

All other project costs and all administrative and travel expenses have been borne by the officers of Grace of Giving.



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

Keith Blanton — Secretary

December/January Activities ...

Four deliveries (totaling 26,547 pounds) were made in December and January, two each to Bernie Segura in Van Horn, Crossing Borders Ministries in Fabens, Big Bend Baptist Church Food Pantry in Terlingua and Voice of Mexico Ministries in Del Rio.

Delivery details include the following

Bernie Segura (3,766#)

- Rice & beans — 1,000# each
- Sugar, flour & masa — 576#
- Canned goods, other food & personal items — 1,190#

Crossing Borders Ministries (6,668#)

- Rice — 6,000#
- Canned goods, other food & personal items — 668 pounds

Big Bend BC Food Pantry (9,205#)

- Rice — 2,000#
- Beans — 6,500#
- Sugar & flour — 250 pounds each
- Canned goods, other food & personal items — 205#

Voice of Mexico Ministries (6,908#)

- Rice — 800#
- Beans — 3,200#
- Sugar, flour & masa — 856#
- Canned goods, other food & personal items — 2,052#

In addition, one case each of 24 Spanish language Bibles was delivered to Bernie Segura, Crossing Borders and Voice of Mexico.

In Memory ...

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

- From the Adult II Sunday School Class at First Baptist Church, Clifton, in memory of Werner Shrank, brother of FBC member Ann Hollingsworth.

- From Carl & Bettye Dunlop, in memory of Richard Corley, brother-in-law of their late friend, Betty Plemons.

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

Needs ...

Thank you for your prayerful support of Grace of Giving. Please continue to pray that we will glorify God in all of our activities.

The total cost of the food and other items purchased for delivery in December and January was \$10,139.37. This *exceeded* the cash contributions for the same period (\$5,278.00 — see page 1) by \$4,861.37. Please prayerfully consider whether you can financially support Grace of Giving's ministry on a monthly basis and help us to eliminate this deficit.

Crossing Borders

Please pray for healing for David Ornelas, 8 year old son of Pastor Enrique Ornelas of Barreales, Chihuahua, Mexico, whose church is assisted by Crossing Borders.

David had surgery in December for a malignant brain tumor and is now undergoing chemotherapy. Please contact Crossing Borders (see address on page 1) if you would like to contribute toward the cost of David's treatment.

Crossing Borders also has very limited storage space, which makes expanding its current services virtually impossible. Please pray for wisdom and resources as consideration is given as to how/when/if Crossing Borders will/should expand their facilities and increases their services.

Voice of Mexico

Please pray for Brother Charles Knaack and his family as they have been battling both family illness and other stressful events over the past several months.