

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

# Grace of Giving



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## What's New!

We're never surprised when we speak with our good friend and brother in Del Rio, Charles Knaack (Voice of Mexico Ministries), to find that he has taken on the task of serving someone new. Recently that has led us to meet Reverend Don Stephens, pastor of Lighthouse Baptist Church in Eagle Pass, and Pastor Isaias Silos, of Iglesia Bautista Nueva Esperanza (New Hope Baptist Church) in Piedras Negras, Coahuila.

Pastor Isaias has started a program to feed children at his church, and working through Brother Don, Charles has been providing some of the food required to meet this need.

So that Pastor Isaias can avoid the 120+ mile round trip between Piedras Negras and Del Rio, we have arranged to start making a regular delivery stop in Eagle Pass at Brother Don's church. Not only does this help Pastor Isaias, it also helps the ladies from Casa Hogar Galilea in Monclova, Coahuila, who have also been driving all the way to Del Rio to get food from Voice of Mexico for children's homes in Monclova and Vera Cruz.

Charles also shares the food he receives with a new effort to reach children in Acuña, which is headed by Irma and Delfino Juarez.

All of this means we are increasing the food we deliver to Eagle Pass and Del Rio so that the various children's ministries get similar amounts from Grace of Giving.

Simply put, this increases the drain on already inadequate resources. Please pray that God will provide the finances

required to meet these important needs.

We've also recently taken a step to increase the efficiency of our delivery process by lengthening the time between delivery trips from two to three weeks, while at the same time maintaining the overall quantity of food delivered at each location. As we're limited by equipment to hauling 6000# at any one time, and we now need to deliver in excess of 12,000# each trip, this change has necessitated adding one day to our trips and retracing our steps to make a second delivery each time at Big Bend Baptist Church in Terlingua.

The good news about this approach is that it reduces our annual fuel consumption significantly and gives us more time between trips for organizational and fundraising efforts. However, it means that we're now able to visit face-to-face with

our friends along the border less frequently.

Thus arises our second prayer request. Please pray that we will be very sensitive to God's direction as to how we should conduct this aspect of our ministry. There's a tug at my heart that says every two weeks is right, but it also seems to make perfect sense to conserve personal financial resources by traveling less often.

We exist to serve God—period. Please pray that we will *always* take every step in our service in a way that brings Him glory!

*We continually try to look for new ways to be more efficient in our food acquisition efforts. Please join us in praying for even lower cost (free??!) food sources.*

*The greatest among you  
will be your servant.  
Matthew 23:11*

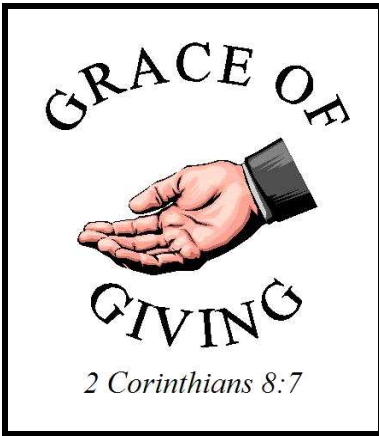
## More Prayer Requests

My good friends in Fabens, Joan and Kenny Wilson, Elfi Register and Barbie Lopez (Crossing Borders Ministries at First Baptist Church in Fabens) have been on my heart a lot lately. FBC Fabens has been without a full time pastor since June of 2005. The Director of Missions from their local Baptist Association has been leading their flock wonderfully on an interim basis, but it's just not the same as having your own, full-time pastor. Please pray urgently

that God would send them their new pastor.

FBC Fabens is also just beginning to work with Cornerstone Church from El Paso (a church attended largely by youth and young adults), who plan to use Fabens as an outpost to reach youth in the area.

Please join me in praying for the success of this joint effort!!



Grace of Giving  
P.O. Box 481  
Clifton, TX 76634



Visit our new website at:  
[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

## In Honor of Others

Grace of Giving was blessed in January with a gift from Steven, Lisa and Seth Payne in memory of Paul Smith, brother of our pastor, Jerry Smith. Steven is FBC Clifton's Minister of Youth and Education.

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

*Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.  
Galatians 6:9*

*Did we mention that it was hot last September in Jimenez???*



*Special thanks to (l to r) Mike Finney, Ben Williams, Pastor Keith Blanton and Paul Hollingsworth*

## 2006 Building Activities

You may recall that last September, Grace of Giving volunteers traveled to Jimenez, Coahuila, Mexico, to build houses for two single mothers and their families. It seemed to be a common reaction among the group members that we were blessed more by the activity than those for whom we were working.

Since the trip was enjoyed so much by so many, we decided to make sure there were even more blessings to spread among our friends and supporters in 2006!

We have set it before the Lord to build three houses this year instead of just two! That means we need more construction volunteers and, based on last September's costs for building materials, we will need to raise \$13,800 (\$4,600 per house) to fund the building activity.

One of the significant lessons we learned last year was — *don't plan outdoor con-*

*struction activity in northern Mexico in September!!* 105 degree afternoon temperatures were almost more than we could bear, so we're targeting the week of October 22-28, inclusive, for this year's effort.

Please pray for these projects as we plan for October, specifically for:

- Enough volunteers;
- Sufficient funds; and
- Discernment as we prayerfully seek families who would benefit most from new housing.

If you would like to participate in these projects, either as a worker or a supporter, please contact us. We will segregate any contributions we receive that are designated for house building, and be assured that we will use them strictly for that purpose.

*Join us in October!!*

## Grace of Giving Website

We have, this week, launched our ministry website, [www.graceofgiving.org](http://www.graceofgiving.org)! We encourage you to visit the site, where you can read more about the work we do, see photos of some of our activities and peruse back issues of our newsletters.

While you're at the website, please also take a moment to e-mail the site's link to some of your friends. It's a great way to

spread the word about Grace of Giving and encourage others to become involved in supporting our work.

Many thanks to our good friend and Sunday School classmate, Jeff Woosley, for putting the site together! God bless you abundantly, Jeff, for your service in His name!!