

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

Grace of Giving



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Projects Update

Jimenez House Building

We're getting excited as November approaches, since that's when our house building mission trip to Jimenez, Coahuila, Mexico, is planned. As you're probably aware, we've been praying for the funds and people to build 4 houses this year, having been blessed with the resources to have built 2 houses in 2005 and 3 in 2006.

Having set what we thought was a particularly ambitious goal, God quickly reminded us that "... *nothing is impossible with God.*" (Luke 1:37) We needed \$24,000 for the materials for 4 houses; we currently have in hand and pledged a total of \$28,772—20% more than we asked for!!

What a blessing this is, because it enables us to purchase some construction equipment that is needed for the long-term success of our building projects, such as generators and scaffolding, and still have money left to bank toward future house building activities.

Not only do we have the funds we need for building materials, we also have the labor. We're just under 2 months from the start of our trip, and already we have commitments from almost 70 people to make the trip with us!

Please keep this trip and the participants in your prayers, especially for travel mercies and construction safety and that we would be a blessing to all those we encounter.

Monclova House Building

We're continuing to await God's guidance for how, whether, and when we should undertake a house building project for the Monclova, Coahuila, family we mentioned in our last newsletter. In the meantime, we're completing the planning phase of the project by "stretching" the house design we use in Jimenez to accommodate this large family (9 persons).

Once we get an updated cost estimate for this larger house, we'll know what resources we need to ask God to give us. When and if He does so, we'll proceed as He directs.

In the meantime, even what we see as an uncompleted project has its blessings. Through Grace of Giving's

house building ministry, I've been put back in touch with a close college friend, Les Skinner. Sadly, we've had very little contact with each other in the 34 years since Les was an usher at our wedding. Now it seems that God has placed us together again to do Kingdom work, and so we're discussing ways to pool our efforts and resources on this house project in Monclova.

A coincidence—hardly! I can't wait to see what God has in store for us to do together!

Food Deliveries

Your prayers continue to help in the battle against Satan in Del Rio! As we reported in our last newsletter, Charles Knaack with Voice of Mexico Ministries has been encountering formidable opposition to taking beans and rice into Mexico for distribution to those in need in Acuña and Jimenez. We were

placed in the position in early August of having to stop delivery of rice and beans to Charles temporarily while we waited for God's guidance and provision.

God has faithfully opened the door yet again, and we've found a person to help us get the beans and rice across the border safely. Please keep this situation in your prayers. Satan clearly doesn't like what we're doing, and I've no doubt he will continue to actively oppose Voice of Mexico Ministries' efforts to feed people and spread the gospel.

We've also recently been contacted by a ministry in Camargo, Chihuahua, Mexico, that, among other activities, helps to feed some 300 children on a regular basis. Camargo is about 2 hours south of Ojinaga, and the needs for food assistance in this area are significant.

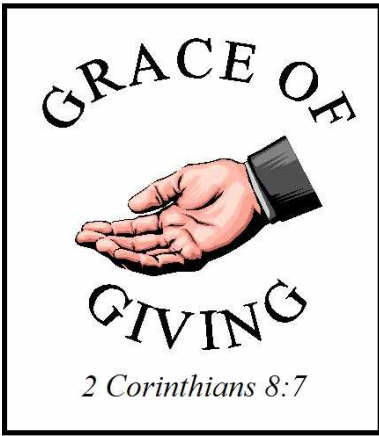
We're undertaking to take 500# of beans and 500# of flour to Presidio for this ministry (Centro Dirección Cristiano, pastored by Brother Jose Ruiz) on our next trip, even though Grace of Giving doesn't have the ready cash resources at hand to fund the food purchases. As our dear brother Rick Caywood would say, we'll simply "send the bill to Jesus!" We covet your prayers as to how and whether we should continue to try to help meet this need. God will pay for it if He wants it done!!

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat ...

I was a stranger and you invited me in ...

The King will reply, '... whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Matthew 25:35, 40



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 has been blessed recently with gifts from friends at First Baptist Church of Clifton:

- From Ron and Marilyn Weir to honor their parents, and
- From Paul and Ann Hollingsworth, in memory of Micah Love, grandson of our dear friends, Carolyn and Ronnie Cosper.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank these friends for honoring Grace of Giving with the privilege of serving others in God's name as well as in the name of these precious souls!

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31



Here are just a couple of the reasons why our trips along the border are so special to us!!



Water Filter Update

This photo may not look special to you, but it's a picture of something we treasure deeply and are most delighted to have!

This is the completed mold that will allow us to begin making concrete Biosand water filters, and it was a gift to Grace of Giving from Harold Henson of San Angelo, Texas. Harold not only provided the materials for the mold but also built it using his welding skills—a true labor of love in service to our Lord!



With this mold, we plan, God willing, to begin an expansion of Grace of Giving's ministry to include the gift of clean water, in addition to our current ministries that provide food and housing. Please join us in giving thanks for this wonderful gift!

Financial Update

This is the part of the newsletter I don't particularly like to write. For that matter, it's probably the part of the newsletter that you don't especially like to read.

The simple fact is, however, that we need your support, and the support of others who believe in carrying the good news of the gospel to those along our southern border by helping to meet their basic needs, to continue Grace of Giving's ministry activities.

You probably know the numbers almost as well as I do—it costs about \$5,200 to purchase the goods we deliver on each of the trips we make along the border every 3 weeks. On top of that are our operating expenses for fuel and lodging, which are on the order of \$600 per trip.

Year-to-date, public support has covered about 65% of the food costs, and we have funded the remainder of the food costs and all of the travel expenses personally.

Our approach to fund-raising is simple—we make the need known and let God move people to provide His resources to our efforts in His name. We simply ask that you pray about how you might help and respond faithfully to God's leading.