

# Grace of Giving



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## Here's What's New!

Our activity calendar was very full from early April through early July. God graciously has provided some downtime over the last few weeks to recharge our 'batteries' and refresh us so that we may continue to serve Him enthusiastically and effectively.

Here's an update on our recent project activities:

### Crossing Borders Ministries

The interior construction and plumbing on the Crossing Borders Ministries storage building at FBC Fabens was completed in early July. Please join me in giving special thanks to my son-in-law, Chad Kroeker, for his time and effort in completing this phase of the project. Special thanks goes also to Brian Hill, whom we assisted in installing the building's electrical systems.

### Mexico House Building

We're progressing in good order toward securing the funding for our goal of building four houses in Jimenez this fall (please see details on the enclosed house building trip flyer). We simply ask that you join us in praying for God's blessing on our house building effort and His provision of exactly the amount of money and the number of workers that are needed!

We've another housing need on our hearts that we want to share with you. This photo shows part of a family (the mother and two older daughters were away



when this photo was taken) near Monclova, Coahuila, Mexico, who desperately need new housing. The house they're in is borrowed and, among other issues, has an incredibly leaky roof (see photo in next column). The father also has no means, at this time, of earning a living.

We've been made aware of this need by our dear sisters at Casa Hogar Galilea in Monclova, to whom we deliver food every three weeks; some of this family's children have stayed at Galilea during their more difficult times.

The house we typically build in Jimenez (320 square feet, plus a small sleeping loft) would be inadequate for a family of this size, so we're working on an enlarged, 560 square foot, plan to better meet their needs. We're also in the process of refining a cost estimate for this house plan, but on the basis of simply scaling the cost for the 320 square foot house in Jimenez, we estimate that this larger house will cost on the order of \$10,500.

Please pray with us about how we should respond to this opportunity. If building this house is what God wants us to do, He'll provide the resources we need. We simply want to do whatever He wants us to do! If God lays it on your heart to do so, we would be very grateful for your help. Please share this need with others and solicit their prayer support as well.

### Voice of Mexico Ministries

Please keep Brother Charles Knaack, his family, and Voice of Mexico Ministries in your prayers on a regular basis. God has allowed them to encounter a number of trials recently, and we can all strengthen them by lifting them up in prayer frequently.

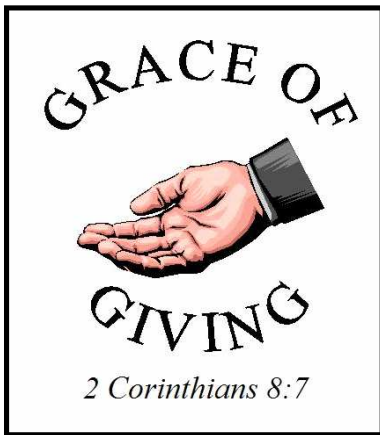
In particular, Charles' difficulty in taking beans and rice into Mexico, which we have reported to you from time to time, has again become very acute. In fact, we have agreed that I will not take Charles sacks of beans and rice on the next food delivery trip; I will take canned beans and other packaged items instead.

James 1:2-3 tells us:

*Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.*



Please pray for all of us who are affected by this difficulty, especially that we would be joyful in the face of trials and always respond in ways that brings glory to God!!



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



Please visit our website!  
[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 has been blessed recently with several gifts from friends at First Baptist Church of Clifton:

- From Jean Ann Smith to honor our very special friends, Paul and Ann Hollingsworth, on the wonderful occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.
- From Ruby and Janice Collins in memory of Frank Wood, who served as General Secretary of the Sunday School at First Baptist Clifton for many years.
- From Pastor Jerry Smith of First Baptist Clifton, in memory of his brother, Paul Smith.

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!

## Water Filter Update

Thank you very much for the positive response we received to the Biosand Water Filter Project report in our last newsletter. We were especially blessed to receive a telephone call from Harold Henson in San Angelo, TX (who was part of the team that erected the metal building for Crossing Borders Ministries in Fabens) offering to donate the materials and skill to fabricate the steel mold needed to construct the concrete filters.

Our goal for 2007 is to include a filter with each of the houses we build in November and also to deliver a filter to each of the five house recipients from previous years. This means, God willing, that we will construct, install, and commission nine filters before year-end.

Please pray with us for success in this effort to improve the health and living standard of those we serve in Mexico, in Jesus' precious name!!

## Operations and Financial Update

We want all of Grace of Giving's activities to be transparent to our supporters. With that goal in mind, here's an update on what has been done to honor our Lord through July this year:

- 10 delivery trips, plus three other mission trips, covering over 27,000 miles
- 132,000 pounds of food and other items delivered—18,000 pounds per month—consisting of:
  - 98,000 pounds of bulk foods (beans, rice, sugar, flour, and masa)
  - 12,800 cans of vegetables and other goods
  - 172 cases of paper goods (mostly toilet paper)
  - over 3,600 personal hygiene items (toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, soap, shampoo, etc.)
- Cost of items delivered: \$51,193.89
- The average cost of items delivered per trip is just less than \$5,200; this average is essentially unchanged since the beginning of 2007.

- Contributions received (excluding contributions designated for special projects, e.g., house building): \$33,420.81
  - 65% of the cost of items delivered has been covered by contributions.
  - Over the last 4 months, this percentage has dropped from 70% to 65%, and we have covered this increased deficit personally.

Thank you for your faithful support of Grace of Giving's activities. We respectfully ask that you share the activities of our ministry and our needs with others, so that we have the opportunity to increase outside funding of our operations. Especially, we ask that you join us in praying:

- For travel mercies
- For contributions sufficient to cover the entire cost of items being delivered
- For new contributions to cover fuel and travel costs
- For wisdom as we use the resources God has entrusted to us
- That we would always honor God in all we do and say!!

# HOW YOU CAN HELP!

**Think you can't make a difference?**

**Here's your chance!**

There are any number of ways to make an impact for Christ by helping to fund Grace of Giving's activities. Here are some specific needs (among many) for you to prayerfully consider:

- \$6,000 builds a small, single-family house
- \$5,200 covers the cost of food and supplies for a single delivery trip
- \$550 buys a portable generator for use on house construction trips
- \$400 buys 120 school supply kits
- \$25 buys a case of 24 Spanish language Bibles
- \$12 buys a 50# bag of rice, which feeds 24 people one meal/day for a month!

***No donation is too small! Individual canned food items cost as little as 50¢ per can!!***

## **Grace of Giving**

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P.O. Box 481  
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GRACE OF



GIVING

*2 Corinthians 8:7*

*\* Total as of July 28th, 2007 ... isn't God good?!!*



**JOIN US FOR:**

**GRACE OF GIVING'S  
2007 MISSION TRIP TO  
JIMENEZ, COAHUILA,  
MEXICO!!**



**Dates:**

**Sunday, November 4 —  
Saturday, November 10**

**Cost: \$100 per person covers lodging fees at Camp Getsemani and meals for the week!**

**Please contact Greg and reserve your spot as soon as you can!**

We've set it before the Lord to build **four** houses this year! Unfortunately, costs continue to rise, so that means we need to raise \$24,000 (\$6,000 per house) for the necessary building materials by **September 1st**. Currently, we have on hand and pledged \$17,430\*, so join us in praying for just the amount God wants us to have!

*Travel with us from Clifton, TX, or meet us in Del Rio. However, you do it, you're in for a life-changing experience!*

# Here's Just Some of What We Do ...



... and Who We Serve!

