

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

Grace of Giving



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Projects Update

Crossing Borders Ministries

In March, 2004, when I first met Elfi Register and Joan Wilson of Crossing Borders Ministries at First Baptist Church in Fabens, TX, it took about 10 minutes for our conversation to turn to their need for a storage building. We've been praying together for that ever since.

God faithfully fulfilled that request last week, when a team from Glen Meadows Baptist Church in San Angelo delivered and erected

a metal building for Crossing Borders' use! This building has been a wonderful example of God's bringing together just the right people at just the right time to accom-



plish His purpose. In addition to the Glen Meadows team, special thanks goes to Frank and Georgeann Foster from Amarillo, who secured the funding for the slab and made two trips to Fabens to get the slab prepared and poured.

Later this month, we plan, God willing, to do the interior electrical and plumbing work, so that Crossing Borders will have a functional facility by July 1st.

Voice of Mexico Ministries

Satan simply refuses to give up! A new Mexican Customs administrator is in place in Acuña, and Voice of Mexico (VOM) Ministries in Del Rio is again being refused permission to take rice and beans into Mexico.

God will take care of this problem, as He always does. Our job is simply to lift it up to Him in prayer. Please continue to do so.

A possible solution is already in the works. Casa Hogar Galilea, located in Monclova, Coahuila, has secured an import license to allow them to bring goods into Mexico. Discussions are underway between Voice of Mexico Ministries and Casa Hogar Galilea to determine whether this license can be used to facilitate VOM food distribution as well.

Food Deliveries

Special thanks are in order for our friends Gary Waller and Fred Low of First Baptist Church in Clifton. This intrepid duo set off two weeks ago with a trailer full of food and several sheets of my (probably inadequate) typewritten instructions to do the entire week of food deliveries as we outlined in the last newsletter.

Thanks you, gentlemen, from the bottom of my heart. Your selfless act of service to the Kingdom is greatly appreciated!

Building Houses

Grace of Giving's special thanks is also in order for the dedication of a team led by Brother Terry Smith from First Baptist North Mobile of Saraland, Alabama. This team was in Acuña/Jimenez during Memorial Day week, with one group building a house in Jimenez while other groups evangelized areas in Acuña.

Grace of Giving's connection with this group came simply because one reader of our November, 2006, newsletter (which reported on last year's house building mission trip) sent a copy to Alabama. Brother Terry telephoned me to discuss house building, and God worked out the details.

The special part for me was an invitation to join the group building the house. Brother Terry kindly sent me this



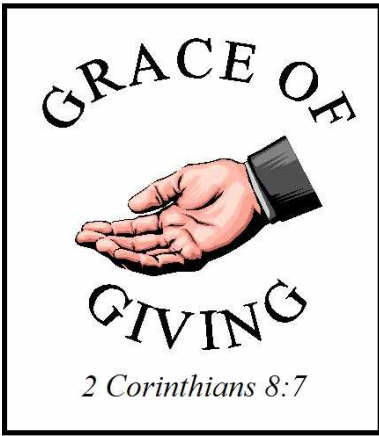
photo, and we debated whether there should be a caption on the order of "How many Alabama Baptists does it take to build an outhouse?"

It was a terrific week of fellowship and service to the

Kingdom, and I've now got a new group of brothers and sisters to work with along the border. Praise God!

Finances

We spend about \$5,250 to purchase food and other items for each delivery trip (once every 3 weeks; over 13,000 pounds per trip). Please keep this need in your prayers!



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



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*

Biosand Water Filter Project

Imagine, if you will, jeopardizing your health and well-being every time you take a drink of water. This is the plight that many people throughout the world face, and those we serve in Mexico are no exception.

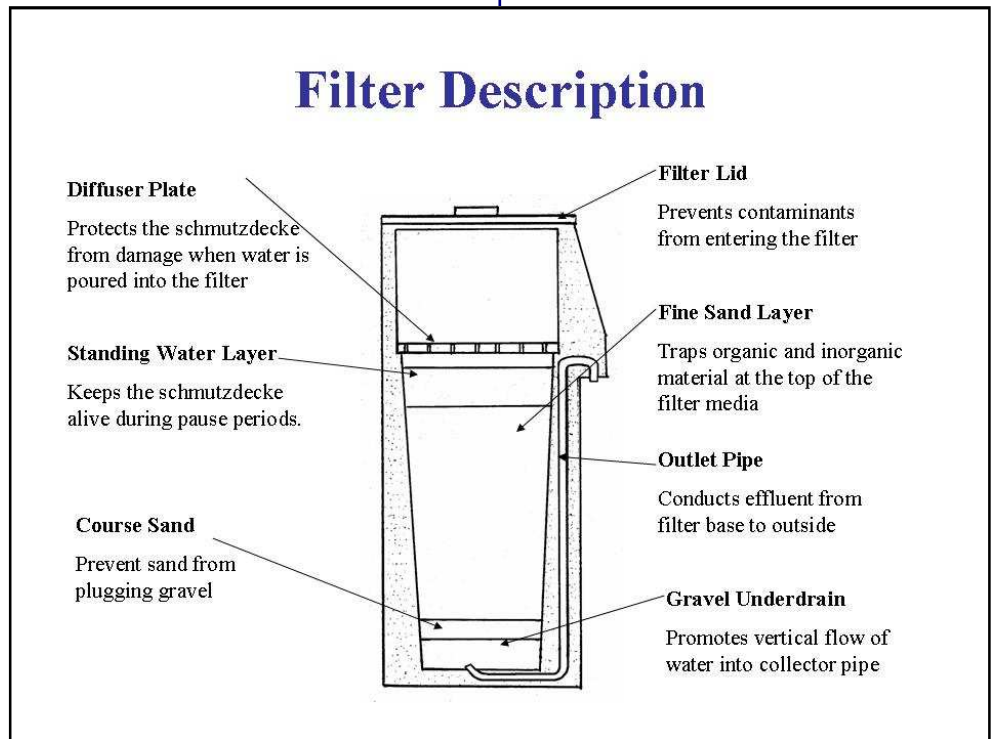
It's been on my heart for some time to try to do something about water purification in conjunction with building houses in Mexico. Just think of the possibilities—a new house, clean water to drink, and living water from God! What a combination!

With this in mind, I traveled to Calgary in May to attend a seminar at the Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology (CAWST) on implementing a program

over the first few weeks of filter operation. The 'schmutzdecke' then attacks and consumes a very high percentage of the harmful bacteria, e.g., fecal coliforms, present in the untreated water. It is these harmful bacteria that can cause diarrhea and other waterborne illnesses, particularly in the young (under 5 years) and elderly.

As a final step, disinfectant (e.g., a dilute Clorox solution) is added to a water collection container placed below the outlet pipe to ensure that any remaining harmful bacteria are destroyed.

Not only is the Biosand filter easy to operate, it is also simple to maintain. When



to use Biosand filter technology for providing individual households with potable water.

A cut-away view of the Biosand filter, which is basically a 3 foot tall, 170 pound concrete box filled with filter media, is shown above (many thanks to CAWST for this terrific visual). The unit is easy to use - water is simply poured into the top, forcing clean water out the bottom and through the outlet pipe into a collection container. In addition to filtering the water to remove particulate matter, the Biosand filter develops a 'schmutzdecke' (a layer of 'good' bacteria) at the top of the fine sand layer

filter flow rates drop, the user simply stirs the top few inches of the fine filter layer, removes the dirty water (which now has suspended in it the material that was plugging the filter), and pours untreated water in again to keep the standing water layer in place.

These filters can be built locally at low cost, once a steel filter mold has been constructed. We're getting estimates for that fabrication process and will report our results and further plans in the next newsletter. Please keep praying for this project!

Visit www.cawst.org for further information on the Biosand filter.



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 \$9,445, 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!