

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

Grace of Giving



VOLUME 4, ISSUE 9 DECEMBER 8, 2007

2007 House Building Mission Trip — A Wonderful Success!

Please join us in giving praise and thanks to God for another successful house building mission trip to Mexico during the week of November 4-11. A total of 57 volunteers participated in this year's trip, and 4 houses were completed for God's glory!

We're delighted to report that our volunteer group is growing in diversity each year. We added a full building crew (and very generous financial support) from First Baptist Church in Burleson this year, and 3 brothers also drove all the way from First Baptist North Mobile in Saraland, Alabama, to pitch in and help.

While we're always grateful to make new friends and have new folks support our ministry, I cannot begin to express our gratitude for our friends from First Baptist Church of Clifton, Texas, and Harris Creek Baptist Church in McGregor, Texas, who have so faithfully participated in Grace of Giving's house building ministry since its incep-

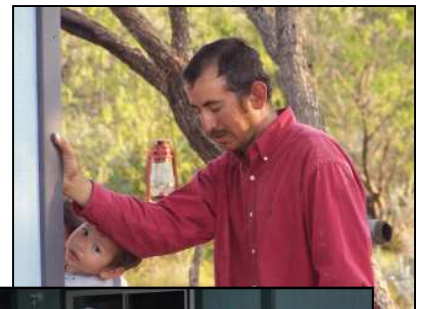
tion in 2005. Thank you, dear friends, for all you do for the Kingdom! I pray that God will shower you with blessings for your service in His name!

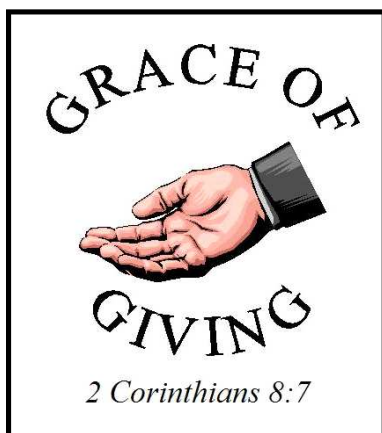
Finally, when giving thanks for things, I must also mention the wonderful financial support for our building program that regularly comes from the church where Keith, Dara, and I are members, Cedar Shores Baptist Church (Keith also serves as pastor at Cedar Shores). Thank you dear brothers and sisters! Your generosity knows no bounds!

I have, no doubt, neglected to mention some-

one vital to this effort. Please forgive me and accept my apologies for my oversights.

Next year's fall building trip is scheduled for October 19-26 (we have some crews that start on Monday and some that start later in the week). Won't you consider joining and/or supporting us in 2008?





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

In Honor of Others

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

- From Mike and Jean Finney in memory of:
 - the father of FBC Clifton friend Ray Bekken; and
 - Claudia Garmon, mother of Jimmy Evans, their daughter-in-law's father;
- From Betty and Herman Barrs, as a memorial for Edith McCrary, mother of Clifton resident Don McCrary; and
- From Kathy Carpenter, in memory of FBC Clifton member Marsha Humphries.

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

Help Wanted!

Has God put it on your heart to serve Him in a new way in 2008? Please consider whether He would have you drive for Grace of Giving!

Here's what's involved:

- 5 days on the road getting a scenic view of God's wonders along the Texas/Mexico border;
- 7 deliveries in the Texas cities of Eagle Pass, Del Rio, Fabens, Van Horn, Presidio, and Terlingua;
- Unloading and loading a trailer several times (deliveries for a trip typically total between 13,000 and 14,000 pounds);
- Meeting and enjoying fellowship with devoted pastors and missionaries who serve in these areas of Texas.

Can't do it all? How about part of the route? Please contact Greg if you're interested in more information!

Financial and Delivery Update

Through November, 2007, Grace of Giving has made 15 trips along the Texas/Mexico border to deliver food and personal items to our ministry partners. Here's a summary of what we've been privileged to do so far this year to honor our Lord and Savior:

- Total deliveries have exceeded 206,000 pounds, consisting of:
 - 153,400 pounds of bulk beans, rice, sugar, flour, and masa;
 - more than 20,000 cans of various food items;
 - 120 school supply kits;
 - 270+ cases of paper goods (primarily toilet paper); and
 - nearly 6,000 personal items (shampoo, toothpaste, etc.).
- The total cost of the delivered items is just over \$86,500.
- Contributions received in 2007 that were not designated for other purposes have been \$50,600.
- Thus, 59% of the cost of delivered items has been covered by outside con-

tributions. The remaining cost of delivered items and all other expenses have been funded from our personal savings.

Please join us in praying for God's wisdom and guidance as to how we should continue this ministry from a financial standpoint. There are several options that could be combined to decrease this personal financial burden as we move forward. We can (1) receive additional outside support, (2) find ways to cut our food purchase costs significantly, or (3) reduce our food purchases by decreasing the frequency of delivery trips (currently every 3 weeks).

We don't particularly want to consider option 3, but we must do so if options 1 and/or 2 don't come to fruition.

If you can help us meet the rising cost of acquiring food, we would be very grateful for your assistance. If you think of a way to help us cut the cost of acquiring high quality food, please let us know. Regardless, please join us in praying for God's guidance for Grace of Giving's ministry and share our needs with others in your church.