

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

Grace of Giving

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4 OCTOBER 14, 2005



Mexico Mission Trip

by Jo Atkinson

Editor's note: Jo Atkinson, a retired schoolteacher from Clifton, TX (seen below, at left, demonstrating her considerable talents with a paintbrush) joined our mission trip to Mexico and kindly agreed to share her thoughts on the trip in this article.

Our recent trip to Jimenez, Coahuila, Mexico was such a joy! I feel so blessed to have been given the opportunity to be a part of it.

It was a joy to spend the week with members of our "church family". What dedicated, hardworking, committed people they are. Each found his own area of work, whether it was cooking wonderful breakfasts at 5:15 in the morning or great evening meals complete with dessert, or video-taping, or measuring, cutting, hammering, painting, or

chasing down absent electricians. The warmth and joy of cooperative efforts was felt by everyone.

We were hosted with unsurpassed graciousness for our noon meal each



Gabriella and two of her children with Brother Charles Knaack (Voice of Mexico Ministries) and Pastor Keith Blanton (Cedar Shores Baptist Church) at the new house dedication

day at Casa Hogar Nuevo Fuente de Vida, a children's home in Jimenez, by Dr. Chavez, the home's administrator, and his wife and helpers. This was an opportunity to see first-hand the need that exists in children's homes such as these. How humble it made one feel when Dr. Chavez said he prayed for God to send angels to help them and we

showed up. Surely Dr. Chavez and his wife are the angels in the lives of so many children that they touch with love and care. We saw so many smiles on so many sweet, little faces!

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Stewardship

Grace of Giving is dedicated to being good and faithful stewards of the resources entrusted to us. It is important to us that you understand how we use the funds we receive.

Cash contributions to Grace of Giving for the period August 12 through October 11, 2005, excluding contributions designated for building houses in Mexico, totaled \$5,030.00.

The total cost of goods delivered during the same period was \$10,842.35, resulting in a cash flow deficit for the period of \$5,812.35. This deficit, together with all administrative and travel expenses, has been funded by the officers of Grace of Giving. All donated funds were used to purchase food items.

Please continue to pray that God will grant us wisdom in using the resources you have so generously provided. Thank you for your ongoing support.

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

Matthew 25:40



Jo Atkinson, painter extraordinaire!

Trip Details

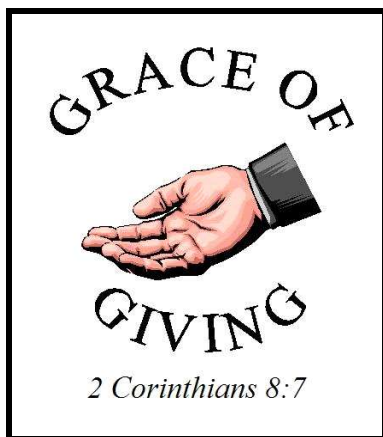
Two houses were built in Jimenez, Coah., Mexico, by two crews totaling 22 people during the week of September 19, 2005.

The total cost of the materials for the two houses was \$9,226.00. Each house measured 16' x 20', with the interior split into a 10' x 16' living/cooking area and two 8' x 10' bedrooms. The area above the bedroom was decked for additional loft sleeping

space.

The recipients of these houses were two new believers (Gabriella and Dora) who were saved at Templo Bautista San Juan in Jimenez, a Baptist church re-opened about 9 months ago by Charles Knaack and Voice of Mexico Ministries. These ladies are single

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Grace of Giving

Clifton, TX 76634

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 August with gifts from:

- Ruby and Janice Collins of FBC Clifton as a memorial to honor Dollye McFadden, a long-time FBC Clifton member.
- Bruce and Janie Greene of FBC Clifton, in honor of their twin grandchildren, Tate Adams and Emily Drake Greene, who were born on July 7.

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



The crew from Harris Creek Baptist Church (McGregor, TX) poses with Dora and her family

Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Psalm 127:1

Mexico Mission Trip

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The house we built for Gabriella and her children can only be described as a labor of love! Everyone was so determined not only to finish Gabriella's house but also to do the very best job we could each possibly do. I think we were almost as happy to see it completed as Gabriella, her daughters, and little son were. What a feeling in your heart to know you helped make life a little better for such a sweet, loving, appreciative family.

We were all touched during the dedication

of the house as we gave Gabriella the key to her new home. We would have been even more deeply touched if we could have understood her when she said she wasn't worthy. Who among us is truly worthy?

It was very hot and tiring work, but I feel I was even more truly blessed than Gabriella and her family. Don't we each pray to be useful, for the Lord to send opportunities to us? This trip and its labor was an answer to that prayer. And what a joy it brings to your heart!

Trip Details

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mothers with several children each, and they were living with family or friends or in hand-made shacks before their new homes were finished.

Special thanks to the building crews from the bottom of my heart!!

Dora's House: Built by men from Harris Creek Baptist Church (McGregor, TX)

Roy Karr, Josh Wadsworth, Rob Baker, Kevin Diserens, Stefan LeRow, Joe Fry, Dean Mitchell, Brad Conrat, and Cory Priest.

Gabriella's House: Built by men and women from FBC Clifton and Cedar Shores Baptist Church (Morgan, TX)

Dara Beard, Pastor Keith Blanton, Jo Atkinson, Brandi Lenox, Paul and Ann Hollingsworth, Harold Leigh, Ben Williams, Mike Finney and Miriam, Jake and

Morgan Wallace.

Special thanks also to those churches and individuals whose generous contributions made the building of these houses possible:

- First Baptist Church of Clifton
- Cedar Shores Baptist Church
- Harris Creek Baptist Church
- Morgan Branch Freewill Baptist Church, Roan Mountain, TN
- Blevin Chapel Baptist Church, Roan Mountain, TN
- Clifton, TX: Teresa Scott, Richard & Sharon Bergman, Mike & Jean Finney, Ronnie & Carolyn Cosper, and Sam & Lisa Wingate
- Hampton, TN: Gary Perkins.

God bless you all for your service in Jesus' name!