

**Mary Craig**

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**From:** Mary Craig**Sent:** Friday, December 07, 2012 4:53 PM**Subject:** Mary Craig Ministries Dec 2012 Barnabas Project Report

Mary Craig Ministries, Inc.

### The Barnabas Project December 2012

When we began The Barnabas Project in 2003 as an outreach of MCM, we were experiencing those “small beginnings” of which the Bible speaks. David Patten, Director of The Barnabas Project, investigated “the lay of the land” to ensure the most effective means of helping families while achieving the goals God had given us. Much thought and prayer went into how, where, when, and to whom distributions would go. Our purpose was to bless communities in South Florida, especially those which might be classified as “forgotten peoples.”

There’s a lot of giving around Thanksgiving, at least a good meal for many folks, and around Christmas, mostly toys. There are many food pantries and social services available. We wanted a broader scope, reaching the whole family, freely given—no red tape.

God’s purpose in all this has been and still is to demonstrate His free grace and His goodness to all as an expression of His love.

Today we load a 15-foot Budget Rental Truck with household items, non-perishable foods, toys, and clothing for all age groups, school supplies, and much more. We receive donations from individuals, stores, and estates. Everything is gone through beforehand to keep things honorable before the LORD.



December 1<sup>st</sup> The Barnabas Project held its distribution at St. Luke AME Church under the pastoral leadership of Rev. Jackie Clanton in West Palm Beach. Fifteen people from Craighouse® A Christian Fellowship participated along with many helpers from St. Luke. We have one rule: the truck is emptied and nothing comes back on that truck when we leave!



At St. Luke a great many families were blessed. John Valinski, Ken Les Carbeau, and Dale Steinmetz helped unload the truck and get things organized. Rev. Jim Craig, Steve Craig, and Marcy Murray along with some spontaneous worshippers led worship while Dr. Mary Craig and Kroy Ellis prayed for those seeking the LORD. David and Gladys Steinmetz, Ana Beauchamp, and Betty Patten helped families in the discovery process and kept things rolling. "Back at the ranch," Wanda Barlow maintained the prayer which undergirds everything we do at MCM.



Lydia and Gina of Child Evangelism Fellowship Lighthouse Chapter participated with gospel presentations and fun activities for the children.



Ani Beauchamp presented the “Barnabas Box” to a woman from Guatemala seeking prayer for work and for her family. This box contains symbolic symbols: olive oil to represent the anointing of the Holy Spirit; a Bible, the Word of God; a loaf of bread to represent Jesus as the Living Bread; a bottle of water to represent the Living Water of the Word and the Holy Spirit; a small stuffed animal to represent God’s creation and mankind’s duty to tend and care for it, not dominate and exploit it; a Constitution of the United States to represent our duty to obey governing authorities and live lawfully; and the gospel of Jesus Christ, the only acceptable Mediator by which one must be saved.



It was a great day overall, one that blessed families, those who donated items and time, those who prayed, MCM, St. Luke AME, and God, the Source and Supplier of all Life and Blessing and the One to whom we give all the glory.

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