

Judy's Jottings

JUDY MORE



WORKING IN A CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF IN PUERTO RICO

FEBRUARY 2009

Dear family and Friends

Greetings.

The month of February has flown by. We have a busy month preparing for a concert which we performed at a local condominium. The school have been doing a concert there annually for some years now. This year the senior students gave reports on their bell tour of the States, did some signed singing, and played the bells. It was a fun afternoon and well received by those attending. It was another opportunity for students and staff to shine the love of Jesus into the community.

My class commitments have remained the same and continue to encourage me as I see the student's progress in their learning, and most importantly in their understanding of what it means to be a Christian. The senior students have been learning about the fruits of the Spirit. Our prayer is that the students will see fruit in the lives of fellow students and in staff.

On Friday staff and students drove to the other end of the island to visit the zoo. The kids enjoyed seeing a variety of animals. Mizael was disappointed there were no bears. They are his absolute favourite. He often carries a toy bear around with him and will sign his name as Mizael Bear. I was unable to go as I had been sick all week and really was not up to a long drive let alone walking around the zoo at the other end. I am thankful to say that I am feeling a lot better today.

It is 50 years since the school was started. We are celebrating by setting up a display of photos and other items related to the school and it's ministry to the deaf. During March there will be several visitors who have been connected with the school over the years and I am sure they will enjoy looking at the displays. A former principal is one of the expected visitors and he will attend a picnic along with members of the deaf church in San Juan. Should be a fun day!

In late January we had a ladies lunch at our church. The theme was teabags and our pastor's wife gave

a devotional. We had fun getting to know one another a bit more and fellowshiping together.

Praise Items:

Praise for:

- *Criss coming to school more regularly
- *A successful concert given for the supporters of the school
- *The many helpers we have around the school at the moment
- *Celebrations to be held over the month of March to celebrate 50 years of the school working with the deaf here in PR.

Pray for:

- *My health. That this cold would go and that I would get my voice back.
- *13 year old teenagers who are having mood swings and related problems.
- *Wisdom for the staff dealing with these students.
- *Understanding for the older students who are learning about the fruits of the Spirit.
- *The younger students to understand about God
- *The end of the school year that is fast approaching. That we would stay focused and achieve the results we desire.
- *Visa issues. That God would lead to the people with the answers as to which visa I should be applying for.

As always I need to end by saying thank you for all your support. It is wonderful to get your encouraging letters, emails etc and to know that you are praying for me and the ministry here.

MARCH

My February newsletter sat on my desk top for so long, because I was sick at the time I wrote it, and I forgot to send it. Now it is half way through March, so I thought I would add a bit on about the early part of March and make this cover both months. I will send out some prayer items at the end of March though.

We had a wonderful week with two young men who are deaf and are at university studying deaf ministries. They came and taught our little children the story of Joseph. The children had already cut and painted old t-shirts so they had a Joseph coat to

wear. It was such fun. All, but one, of the kids in this group are boys, so it was great for them to have male deaf Christian role models.

These two young men also worked with our older students, who slept in the dorm for three nights during the week, so they could enjoy fellowship together. God sent the two young men at a time when one of our students needed some extra support, so they were helpful with him as well. God knows our every need and is planning ahead to provide what we don't even know we are going to need.

Right now we have a team of 15 people from Canada here to do some work around the property. They had their first day of work yesterday, and already the grounds are looking so good. Another task they will do is renewing the tops on our student's desks. They are very even and really need replacing, so it will be wonderful to have them looking like new again.

Today we are having a picnic in the school grounds. A former principal, who later went on to pastor the deaf church in San Juan, is visiting the island, so this organized to allow them to meet with all the people they know. There will be around a hundred mainly deaf people here.



Recently Edgar had a day when he was very tired and nothing seemed to be stopping him from crying. Two staff tried to pacify him with no success, so I went to see if I could help. I sat on a bench

outside with him on my knee rubbing his back and rocking him and he fell asleep. I tried to move him a couple of times, but he started to wake up, so I sat and just enjoyed it, until the sun came around and it was very hot. Jen came to the rescue with an umbrella.

PRAISE ITEMS:

Praise God for:

- His faithful timing in sending the right people at the right time
- The short term workers who are such a help to the school
- Restoring my health

Pray for:

- Everyone's health. This is the season of coughs and colds. Chris has had time off with asthma. He ended up in hospital over night.
- Our older students as they cope with teenage issues and their deafness. They are also thinking about their future and wondering what they will do. Pray that God will reveal His plan for their lives and they would be faithful to follow it.
- My visa situation. I am still waiting for an immigration lawyer to get back to me with answers to my questions. Pray that I would have peace and just keep on doing what God wants me to do until he reveals what is next.
- Jilissa and Christina (our junior missionaries) as they make their plans for college and end their time on the island.

Thank you for being a part of the life of ESD. God loves faithful people.

Remember you can see photos and read more about the school on the school website. www.esdluquillo.com

Remember to do your internet searching using www.goodsearch.com and name Evangelical School for the Deaf Luquillo (PR) as your preferred charity. This will help raise some money for the school.

