

Judy's Jottings

JUDY MORE



WORKING IN A CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF IN PUERTO RICO

April 2010

Dear Family and Friends

Sorry this a little late. I had hoped to get it out for the last week of April, but time got away on me.

This has been an exciting month in so many ways. We have had record amounts of rain. One day the road to the school flooded in both directions and when the water did go down we loaded the children in the van and took them out to the highway where we met their parents.

Another day our road was again blocked, but this time it was not by flooding. In one direction a tree had come down across the road and in the other direction the power lines had come down onto the road. The power line down was right outside our school. We heard this very loud bang, which had us all running out to see what had happened and then a few minutes later the power went off. There was a strong smell of burning rubber in the air and the power lines caught fire. We were thankful that this event happened after school and all the kids were safely home. The power was off for several hours. The road blocked for about an hour.

Excitement of another kind was had as well. This time with eternal significance. Selena, the new girl I talked about in my last newsletter, asked Jesus into her heart. She seems to have a good understanding of Jesus in her heart and as her friend, but we are not certain how much she understands about forgiveness of sin. Praise God. Three of the older students have been baptized. Kevin and Kristian were baptized on a Sunday, when the nearby church with a deaf ministry, were celebrating their 25th anniversary. We were unaware that their baptism was happening, so we were not present for it. The following week Johanely was baptized and Jen, Stephanie and myself were able to attend. What an exciting day that was. We took Kioney, one of our younger students, with us as she really wanted to see a baptism. She got to go and see Johanely get changed and then watched from the very front as the baptism happened. I am sure the day is not too far away when this young girl will be baptized as well. She is so hungry to know about God, and already asked Jesus into her heart.

I am thankful for all of you who support financially and prayerfully. God is at work amongst us.

Every couple of weeks I receive a letter with tea bags in it from a friend in NZ. You can't buy much tea here, and so my friend kindly wraps teabags in gladwrap and posts them to me. Saul one of younger students collects the mail each day and together they read who it is for and deliver it. When the tea bags arrive he comes into my classroom and signs 'smell' to me, because you can smell the teabags. He opens my letter and the gladwrap and smells a teabag and then puts it in his pocket. Once he got two stickers and put one on each side of the teabag and put it carefully in his pocket. The other day Saul and Stefanie made tea and he drank a little.

A new boy has enrolled to start school with us. His family have moved here from the States. His name is

Edwin and he is 14 and will be joining my class. He was to have started last week, but didn't show up. We have heard he is coming this week. There are two weeks and then Monday and Tuesday of the following week and we are finished school until August.

I think all the staff are ready for a break. It has been a busy year and we are all starting to feel quite tired.

I am pleased I had not sent this letter earlier today when I finished it, because we had more excitement today. Betsy, Stefanie, Sonia and I were heading into San Juan this afternoon to go to a church to receive a cheque of support money for the school. As we started out it started to rain. We went through several large pools of water as the rain poured down. Then the window wipers started to go a little funny and the music stopped playing and the air conditioner stopped and Betsy said she thought maybe we should head back to school and change vehicles. Just then the car stopped altogether. We were thankful to be right at a marginal and Betsy managed to pull off the motorway and into a tyre business. She phoned our mechanic but he was the only one at work today, so couldn't help. After ringing several tow truck companies finally she managed to get one. Stefanie and Sonia stood on the side of the marginal under umbrellas, so the tow truck would see us. We called Jen, who had stayed back at the school, and she came in another vehicle to bring us back to the school. Betsy rang the church and put in our apologies. We came to the school and Stefanie changed her wet clothes and Betsy and I changed into more casual clothes and we set out for San Juan again to meet Betsy's uncle for dinner and to pick up a lady who is going to be staying at the school for a few days. We got to the traffic lights closest to the school and they were working, but police were their directing traffic and we wondered what was happening. We soon discovered there was a running race happening. I watched in amazement as several runners ran down the highway amongst the traffic going 50 miles an hour. Thankfully we were not waiting too long before we were able to continue on our way. The rest of the journey was uneventful. We are heading back to San Juan tomorrow afternoon to meet some people who are coming in on a cruise ship, so hopefully tomorrow will be a little more straight forward.

Thanks for praying. We need it so much.

Love and blessings
Judy

PRAISE FOR:

- Those who have been baptized
- Selena accepting Jesus and learning much
- Safety in amongst all our interesting events

PRAY FOR:

- **Our last few days of school to go well**
- **Our students to retain what they have learnt this year over the long summer break.**
- **That they will read their Bibles and pray**
- **For restful times for staff**
- **For times of refreshment in God's Word**
- **Safety for my friend Jenn and I as we travel around the island**
- **For new staff who are preparing to come and join us for the new school year. There will be one new teacher and possibly a junior missionary**
- **For Stephanie as she has her farewells here and as she settles into the States again and looks for a job**

Below are photos of Saul, our tea bag boy. He has the most amazing facial expressions and is picking up language so quickly. He is just delightful, if somewhat strongwilled.

