

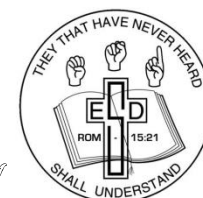


With These Hands



The Evangelical School for the Deaf HC-01 Buzón 7111 Luquillo, PR 00773

Summer 2013



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appreciates your

prayers.

assisting God's smugglers

This year during Monday-morning chapel time, we have been learning about the persecuted church around the world using resources from the Voice of the Martyrs (<http://www.persecution.com/>). What began as a weekly 15-minute segment became so much more. Our eyes were opened to the troubles that many Christians around the world face every day and we are beginning to realize that we often take our freedom to worship for granted.

For chapel each week, Elizabeth, our Monday chapel leader, chose to share about different countries where Christians are persecuted. She taught the country's name, its equivalent in sign language, location on the map, and flag. She then presented the story of a "Kid of Courage" from that country. Often the focus of the mini-lesson mentioned the need for Bibles in these persecuted nations.

The new information that the students were learning did not stay confined to the walls of the chapel. It penetrated their hearts and prayers. About a month into the year, the countries about which the students had been learning began showing up in the little boys' prayers during devotion time at the end of each day. By December, a typical prayer from one of our little prayer warriors went

something like this:

Dear God,

You are strong and the best. Thank you for my cat. Please send Bibles to Nigeria, Somalia, Pakistan, India, Mexico, and China.

In Jesus' name,
Amen.

In fact, the little boys would interrupt each other's prayers to remind them of countries for which they had forgotten to ask God to send Bibles. The best part is, these prayers were completely unprompted by teachers. They came directly from each child's heart. God is good!

God is clearly working in all of our hearts this year. We are so blessed to each own multiple copies of the Bible and we often take this luxury for granted. Let us remember to pray for the many believers throughout the world who risk their lives even to own a few precious pages.

This **passion for Bibles** inspired the staff and students to action. In January, we began collecting change in a five-gallon water jug so that we could be a part of sending God's Word to those who do not have it available to them. We became more than just hearers of the Word. We are now doers of God's command to bring the Gospel to all nations.

The students fully embraced the challenge to raise money for those who do not share our

The word of the Lord remains forever. And this word is the Good News that was preached to you.

1 Peter 1:25

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freedom to have a copy of God's Word. They scrambled to get their change together; they were quick to inform visitors of their money-raising endeavor and caused many to leave with their pockets somewhat lighter!

Whenever a student or staff member would see a forgotten coin on the ground, they would immediately exclaim, **"Money for Bibles!"** and bend down to pick it up. One teacher was even heard to say, "I used to walk by the dropped penny, but now I see it as MONEY FOR BIBLES!" It was not uncommon for a child to enter the classroom in the morning with a grin and reach into his pocket for the shiny treasures he brought to deposit into the ever-filling jug. Kioney and Mizael even agreed to donate the change they had been saving up to buy remote-controlled planes and helicopters. God has been glorified through their dedication to this cause.

What began in the chapel and spread to devotion class made its way to Betsy's after-lunch read aloud with the older students. She has been sharing the story of God's Smuggler, Brother Andrew, a man called by God to smuggle Bibles into closed countries. In a small way, we now assist some smugglers for God.

And the Winner is...

At the end of the semester, the time came to decide the country to which we would send the money for Bibles. All those present in chapel on the appointed morning voted for their favorite country by secret ballot. We tallied the results and found the winner to be Iran. The results were graphed and discussed.

Finally, the time came to see how much money we had raised. Since the little boy's devotion class inspired this semester-long venture, they were the chosen ones to take the money jug to Coinstar. **The final total raised by the students was \$246.46.** That was matched by a generous donor. Then we added in a few more outside donations. The grand total was \$567.23!

We are in contact with missionaries who are working with refugees from Iran in the country of Turkey. It is our hope that our donation will put Bibles into the hands of Iranian people and that those Bibles will safely make it into this restricted nation so that God's Word of hope and truth will spread to the ends of the earth.



Waving the cash for Bibles! * the receipt from CoinStar * Dropping the coins into the machine * driving to CoinStar with our savings

World Mission to the Deaf

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CSCD Inc. is a non-profit ministry seeking to evangelize the Deaf for Christ. CSCD Inc. does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion or economic status. Students attending ESD receive academic, social, vocational and Biblical instruction at a minimal cost to the families. All gifts and donations enter into the ministry general fund unless otherwise designated. Gifts in Canadian dollars should be sent to the Canadian office. Gifts made in US dollars should be sent to the CSCD Inc / ESD office. All donations will be acknowledged by letter and receipt. E.S.D. is a member of IFCA International. W.M.D. is a member of C.C.C.C.



Christian School and Chapel for the Deaf, Inc.

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Some of the events of our recent semester included: "octopus" for lunch! If you would like to serve us lunch, send your edible idea and a donation to cover the costs. We would love to have lunch with you.



Various rocket launches and a trip to the Arecibo Radio Telescope Observatory took place as part of our astronomy studies.



We hosted UPR-Ponce's sign language students as they shared their newly learned skills and told us about other countries.



Several computers broke and ☺ someone sent us some new ones already! God is so good. ☺



We celebrated One Day Without Shoes and gained an awareness of how valuable shoes are.



A group of Deaf and Hearing people from Camuy PR came to learn about our handbell choir. We had a good time sharing with them and have plans to see them again in the summer. Some of them were old friends but many were new to ESD. Our students enjoyed meeting them and hearing their testimonies.



We continue to visit the Santos family in Orocovis – celebrating birthdays and helping with homework, reminding them that God is faithful and encouraging their lives.



May 18 we all donned blue ESD shirts and went to Deaf Nation Expo! What a fun time as we presented the school ministry and met many new and old friends.



We enjoyed a trip to the new Children's Museum of Carolina. It was a wonderful day filled with hands on discoveries and learning. The students thought it to be a super indoor playground. The staff was delighted to see the students enjoying and learning as they interacted with the exhibits.



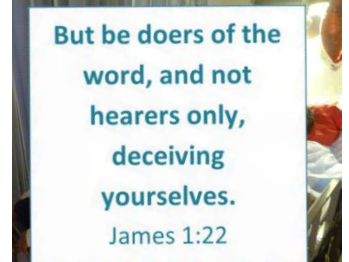
We celebrate our students' learning with VICTORY LAPS! This brings joy to their faces as they are cheered on for their efforts. At the end of April, we took all of our students to visit the grandmother of these three students in the hospital. The visit was hardest for the youngest of the three and we spent lots of class time talking about hospitals and how to hold a hand and give a hug to someone in a hospital bed.

That Saturday, their mother called from the hospital to ask us to go to the home and tell the children that their grandmother had died. While this brought tears to all involved, we count it a privilege to be here to share God's comfort with the students and their families.

In the midst of the tears and talks, we carried on with school work and had fun with visitors as they played games and taught Bible lessons.

In early May, we accompanied our three students to the graveside ceremony. It was tough and teary but there was joy in reminding them that grandma had said she knew that she would be in Heaven when she breathed her last breath on Earth.

More tough and teary times came with the end of the school year and farewells to Judy More (7 years), Elizabeth Emma (3 years), Stef Beals (2 years) and Alyssa Freitag (1 semester).



If you are online, please visit www.esdluquillo.com for photo updates, prayer updates, staff blog links and other information.

Praise God for:

- ✓ Student successes in the classrooms this year!
- ✓ The passion with which the students saved for Bibles!
- ✓ Several people on the "fund raising trail" in preparation for a year (or more?) of service!
- ✓ Needs met – one for example was that as we contemplated several large expense bills (vehicle insurance was one) and the balance of our checking account... God had already answered ☺
- ✓ Never a school day without lunch ready!
- ✓ People who send letters to the students and who pray for them.

Pray about these things:

- Long term teachers and helpers for the school
- Students during the summer to continue to attend church and have Christian fellowship
- Some students moving in the summer and their inability as children to locate a church and our ability to help to connect the dots to find Christians in the area to assist
- New students and creative ways to meet Deaf students in the public school system and their spiritual needs
- Continued ministry in Orocovis and neighboring areas

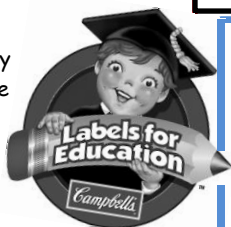
1) GoodSearch

Remember to use GOODSEARCH so that your online searches benefit the Evangelical School for the Deaf!

2) CHECK YOUR CAMPBELLS PRODUCTS! WE NEED YOUR HELP!

ONLY Campbell's products purchased in the USA have an eligible UPC number. If you buy your Campbell's products in the States, their UPC number should begin with 51000. Please send **ONLY** UPCs beginning with 51000.

REMEMBER, Clip and mail us ONLY the UPCs. This saves your money on postage and our time in clipping the labels.



4 WAYS YOU CAN HELP US!

3) We received a check for **\$1,625.70** in March 2013 from Boxtops for Education. Send us your BOXTOPS to support our ministry!



4) Pray for workers

to replace ALYSSA, STEF, JUDY and ELIZABETH. Pray also for their transitions home and God's provision for their needs on the way.



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under the administration of
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