



With These Hands



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



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*appreciates your
prayers.*

Transitions...

Each May brings about transitions as we think about endings and beginnings.

The End... We praise God for another good year! We also thank God for our local volunteers. This spring we've been blessed with presence of the Yoder family, Brendan, Rebekah, and baby Joella. They have recently moved to the island and volunteer with us a few times a week working with the students and on the school grounds. Their eagerness to work and learn motivates all who are around them.

We ended the school year with ten students, and since no one graduated, we intend to have them all back in August. We will kick off the new school year with a Bible School program led by Stephen and Jane Hokanson from Bucklin, Kansas.

Summer Fun! The two-month gap between the end of one school year and the beginning of the next always presents a challenge for deaf students. They don't get to see their friends and often don't have a real conversation with anyone who understands them until school starts again in August.

This year we are hoping to change that. We are planning to have a week of Vacation Bible School presented by a team of interpreters from Dillsburg, PA, led by Dave and Kathy Zimmerman (former ESD girls' dorm counselors 1994-95).

We are also planning field trips through the summer to some of the children's favorite places, like the zoo, the beach, and the pool. We are looking forward to visiting a new children's museum that has opened this year near San Juan as well as checking out some of the water parks and other points of interest around the island.

Goodbyes... In Puerto Rico, no one ever says *adiós* (goodbye). Instead, they end each conversation *nos vemos* (we'll see each other).

This year we are saying *nos vemos* to Jennifer Johnson. Jen has been teaching at ESD for six years, and has taught every age from preschool to high school. During her last year with us Jen has taught our pre-school class. Jen and her beloved golden retriever, Delaney, will be moving to Mississippi with her new husband, Peter Blatz. Peter is a long-time friend of ESD, and we couldn't be happier to see them together. Their wedding is planned for July 17.

Jen has embraced this island in her time spent here, and she truly is Puerto Rican at heart. Jen will be greatly missed by staff and students alike, but we are already planning to visit her from the classrooms by SKYPE and she is looking forward to the letters that will be written.

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Labels for Education Program

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ESD has earned \$7,094 since joining the Box Tops for Education fundraising program. We have earned \$1614.20 during this school year.



the difference
1 can make.

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so keep those
box tops coming!

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Let your Internet searches earn \$ for ESD

Your 2012 searches have earned ESD \$138.26 as of this printing. Almost a dollar a day in search money! ESD has received \$ \$1,956.27 from GOODSEARCH.com over the past 6 years. Continue to help by GOODSEARCHing for ESD.



Update... Orocovis: A Community in Need

Many of you have been praying and asking about the Deaf family from Orocovis with whom we have been forming a relationship. We have taken a several trips during the year to visit their home, bring some essentials and continue to develop friendships and understanding. Our last two visits (March and April) included the father showing us some specific projects he wants to do – including door repairs and painting. Each visit we also have a special activity – January saw us all at Burger King where the father and three daughters all climbed into the playland equipment while the mother watched and laughed; last month we baked cookies together. It has been a challenge to gain their trust, and now we are beginning to build on that trust.

We are planning to bring a work team from Calvary Bible Church in Hanover, Pennsylvania to their house for some much needed home-improvement projects. In addition, we are making arrangements to have the family come to the summer Vacation Bible School week – how exciting to have them along with the interpreters who can help us to decipher the family's signs and communication styles!

Additionally, the family has agreed that the girls can attend ESD. However, since the family is wrapped up in the paperwork of Social Services, we have not yet been able achieve that outcome. Please continue in prayer that we might be able to have some of the girls attend our school in the near future.

World Mission to the Deaf

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E.S.D. is a non-profit ministry seeking to evangelize the Deaf for Christ. ESD 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 ESD office. All donations will be acknowledged by letter and tax deductible receipt. E.S.D. is a member of IFCA International.

Coming from Ontario Canada... We were delighted to have a work team in March. The team of 19 (predominantly teens) came for their Spring Break and scraped our security bars, painted them and also did a fair amount of work on our grass and fences and gardens. **Coming from South Dakota...** In April we welcomed a long time friend of ESD who is retired and looking for the NEXT THING God may have for herself and her husband in their slightly less busy years.

Coming from Arizona and Pennsylvania and Minnesota... We were excited to receive applications for three new support workers for the 2012-2013 school year. They are all girls in their early twenties with various levels of sign language experience. Two have applied for the full year, and one intends to join us for the spring semester beginning in January 2013. Please pray for these ladies as they raise prayer and financial support this summer. Pray also for the spiritual and emotional preparation necessary for the coming year. We are excited to see what God has planned for us with all these extra hands!



Going back to Manitoba... We said good-bye to Leo Salgado on April 25. As a young deaf man, Leo was a good role model for our older boys as he worked with them and challenged their English and reading skills. His passion for history was an asset to Elizabeth's classroom. His passion for knowledge, specifically a hunger to know

God, was an impetus for many of us to study and read so that we could answer his many questions. Pray for Leo as he begins university in the fall and seeks God's will for his life.

They refreshed my spirit... such visitors deserve recognition. - 1 Corinthians 16:18 (NIV)

Christian School and Chapel for the Deaf, Inc.

is now the name of the overseeing board of the

Evangelical School for the Deaf

For many years, our school has done more than just educate deaf children. On December 22, 2011 our new incorporation as

Christian School and Chapel for the Deaf, Inc.

was registered with and approved by the State Department. This change serves to clarify the relationship of the ministry with other denominations in the area as the word "evangelical" has proven to be misleading in recent years. It is our desire for the declaration of **CHRISTIAN** to be a clear statement of our doctrinal position.

The addition of the word "**CHAPEL**" to the name and to the mission statement encompasses many of our extra-curricular activities. God is using the school chapel and grounds as well as the students, visitors and full-time workers/missionaries as His servants to the families of our students as well as to the hearing and Deaf communities around us. In addition to a school, we are truly a chapel which God uses to minister to those around us.

For now, the school will continue to do business as the **Evangelical School for the Deaf** and checks can continue to be made payable to ESD.

Jesus told the servants, "Fill the jars with water." So they filled them up to the brim. – John 2:7

The morning devotional challenge: Are you allowing God to fill you?

Are you allowing Him to change you from water to wine?

Pray for our home churches, and the churches we attend in PR for God's leading of the pastors and missions committees.	Pray for our board members and advisors - for wisdom, direction and clarity of thought as they deal with issues surrounding the ministry.	Pray for new workers. We need teachers, after-school workers, and maintenance help and someone to begin in a work Orocovis. God is calling – who will respond?	Pray for the oldest students and their witness at home. Pray for them to hold on to the spiritual truths they have learned in school and to grow in grace.	Pray for the teachers as they work in the classrooms. Pray for strength and creativity to meet each student's needs and discernment to do it well.	Pray for our young students and their families as they learn good habits to communicate. Pray also for their spiritual awareness.	Pray for the Deaf of Puerto Rico, and around the world - for workers who are prepared to learn other sign languages and other cultures to go forth to minister.
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

Praise the LORD who crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. Psalm 103: 2a, 4b, 5

We praise God for faithful workers – both fulltime and part time and His provision for each classroom and student.



We praise God also for YOU who pray for and encourage the ministry among the Deaf. Your faithfulness before God blesses us.

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www.esdluquillo.com