



July 26, 2006

Hello Friends and Families,

We are happy to report some of the highlights of July. As you know, it is difficult to put experiences into words, and even pictures prove to be inadequate. Nevertheless, we are thankful for this opportunity to communicate as best we can with you and would love to help arrange a visit to Burgos for anyone interested.



Early in the month, the cement was poured to complete the second half of the roof on our church. The project had been delayed by many events, but is now finished. The first half of the roof was done in steel and tin. Due to overhead power lines, this latest half had to be lower and called for cement. Most houses and buildings in the area are completed with cement roofs when it can be afforded. Much of the work was done by volunteer hours and all the money was donated by churches and individuals from Texas and the local congregation.



Our church hosted a children's Vacation Bible School program for area children. The week long activity included games, Bible lessons, crafts and songs. The children presented an overview of the week at the following Sunday service. Through the week's programs we were able to begin new relationships with area families. Some family members of the children came to some of the programs, and one mother even stayed to help us several days. The Mancias family from Lockhart came for a visit and to help us for the first half of the week. We are planning a second week of activities before school begins again in mid-August. An area pastor has asked that we work with her in hosting a similar program in her community in early August.



Julie Kirkpatrick joined our team this month. She is making friends, progressing quickly with the language, and is a tremendous help. She is pictured with Peto as he received a new guitar. The guitar was donated by Gospel Lighthouse in Lockhart, specifically for Peto who is leading the music at church. Peto helps with many of our programs and plans to begin Bible College classes via video in August.



Trinity and Micah are doing well. Trinity has many friends and her language is increasing rapidly. She explained the overall theme of the VBS to her grandparents in Spanish. Trinity resumes classes at the kindergarten August 21. Micah is now rolling over and learning to speak her mind, at least in baby-talk.

Upcoming plans include the previously mentioned VBS programs, a Back-to-School carnival and supply giveaway, continued work on the church floor and windows, language classes and Child Sponsorship Program. Thank you for your prayers regarding these things and for our family. We also ask for prayer for the relationships we are building in these communities and for our church, Cristo es la Roca.

God bless you, and thank you for your prayers and support,

Matt, PJ, Trinity & Micah Burton & Julie Kirkpatrick