

# School Days in Costa Rica

Fall 2010



*Ellen & Matt at Language School*

## PTL! We're Going Back to School!

Thank you for **your faithfulness** in prayer and finances that have sent us on this first step to Costa Rica for Spanish language school!

We are headed to Honduras to work with the Lenca Indians. Going to language school is preparation for that work. Not only is Spanish the national language for Honduras, it is also the language of the Lenca, as their own language has been lost.

The language school we are attending is for missionaries and has an excellent reputation. It was also the most cost effective (read: "cheapest"). Before coming here, we met several missionaries who attended and who highly recommended the school! Their endorsements of the school were a great confirmation as we took this initial step out of the US into fulltime missions.

The area the school is in is similar to many places we have been in Honduras, but we are also finding many subtle differences.

Our initial impression of the school is that it is very well managed and **very Christ focused!!** PTL! The staff are lovely and are really trying to help people adjust. We are pretty happy that we are actually not the oldest members of the class and that probably about 30% of the 75 new students have 'grown kids'.

Classes started 8/31 and we are crying out to God for the ability to learn quickly and do well. Thank you for praying for us!!!!

### **Tax Deductible Donations made payable to:**

Equip International  
PO Box 1126  
Marion, NC 28752

Memo line: Matt and Ellen Zell  
[www.EquipInternational.com](http://www.EquipInternational.com)



## God Prepared a Place for Us!

We didn't have much choice in our Costa Rican home, but the Lord definitely went before us and provided according to His goodness. Our **Tica** (affectionate term for a Costa Rican person) mom's mother died a month ago and she had decided not to host any more students. But, she said that the Lord spoke to her when she was reading the Bible and told her that this is **her mission**. So we are thrilled to be in her home!

She has been a real blessing as she truly invests time with us and provides us with lots of **conversation practice**. She's also a very good cook and has invited Ellen to join her or to cook whatever she wants.

The house is a good **15 minute walk** from the school, and sometimes we walk it four times a day which is great exercise. We have a bedroom with a bathroom and a little study with two desks! We are praising the Lord for His incredible provision in our temporary home!

## Language Laughs: translate from Spanish

Daisy: "What do you want for dinner? Eggs?"

Ellen: "Yes, Thursdays would be fine!"

Matt: (meant to say) "People are the same in all the world."

Matt: (actual) "People are the same in all the balloon."

## K & B Update

**Kelly** is working part-time and going to school part-time while holding down the fort at the house with two girlfriends renting rooms. She is also assisting with the senior high group at church and enjoying that very much.

**Brandon** is back at school with one new change to his status. He proposed to Desirae Beach at the beach this summer! Wedding plans are already in the works to follow graduation next May!

## Pen Pals Wanted!

Tired of the world of 'virtual correspondence' (email)? Looking for that old time adventure of international communications?  
**So are we!!**

We would love to receive letters, notes and cards from **YOU!**

If you are interested, then please send a quick note about yourself, how things are going, and any little tidbit to:

Matt & Ellen Zell  
Instituto de Lengua Española  
Apartado 100 - 2350  
San José, Costa Rica  
Américan Central



## Email Updates

If you would like to receive our **monthly** email updates, please let us know by emailing us at the address to the right. →

**Matt & Ellen Zell**  
16720 Longdraft Rd.  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
[Zelly4@verizon.net](mailto:Zelly4@verizon.net)