

SVIKI - November - 2009

Hello Boys and Girls,

Well its not Christmas yet, and thankfully in Latvija there are no signs of Christmas as everyone enjoys a beautiful autumn with falling leaves, gentle winds, blue sky and sunshine!



Mind you it has not been like that every day!

We came home from church on Sunday and we had invited some young people to come and eat food with us. We prepared the vegetables ready fro cooking and the meat just needed to be reheated. The table was laid and we expected our guests at 6:00 p.m.

At 5:00 p.m. all the electricity in the house went off which meant no power, no heating, no light—nothing!

We hoped that shortly everything would be switched back on again but no. So when our guests did arrive we ate cold meat, raw vegetables, bread and water!

1 hour, 2 hours, 3 hour 4 past and still no power. Eventually, after the youth had left us, we went to bed having first of all rung the electric company who told us there had been storms in Latvija and many homes were also without electricity.

We woke up on Monday morning and still no power. Margaret had to go to the hospital so for breakfast we ate some cereal and headed off to the city. When we came home in the afternoon, guess what! Still no electricity! So it was into the cupboard and out with the candles and a little gas stove to try and give us some light and heat a little water for tea.

In all we went 30 hours without electricity, but we had some fun! The candles made the house look really nice, the sound of the gas burner reminded us of our caravan days as children, and in it all we could thank God for the privilege of things that we take for granted.

Many of our Latvijan friends quite often go without electricity and water without any notice and have to manage sometimes for 2-3 days until the power returns and the taps flow again. When we talk to them about it they say, “This is Latvija”, “This is normal”.

As we have just said, when winter comes these types of happenings are frequently experienced by the children here and they have coped with it for many years, and quite probably will have to for many more years to come!

They don't just thank God for hot water. They thank Him for water whether hot or cold!

They don't just thank God for electricity. They thank Him for life and somewhere to live!

They don't just thank God for a hot meal. They thank Him for any kind of food whether hot or cold!

Now! Isn't that good?

In all situations, all the time no matter whether good things or bad things are happening - give thanks to God. If only we were like that all the time eh?