

Frank Sandra Judah Obdam



September 2019:

about: good times, dangerous roofs, 193 consults, mini DTS, hurricanes and leadership in theory and in practice!



Hello dear people! Good times all around at our house in dusty Lichinga!

My (Sandra's) parents, (uncle) Age Gorter and his friend Nico Brouwer – 'the brick layer' en Stephan van Schie – a young friend from Almere, are with us. They work really hard on building the house for our Dutch colleagues Daniel and Leoni Wierstra. The roof is being build with very heavy logs. It is going to be absolutely beautiful but they have to do quite some stunts to get there.



My father has welded together a **water tower** for them. We are thankful for having enough water for all: our family, the community tap (that flows the whole day in dry season) AND for the new build. All thanks to our wonderful bore-hole!

It has been a challenge to keep doing our 'normal jobs' throughout this craziness but thankfully Mom is helping out with cooking, doing the catering for the team and even homeschooling Judah!

The 17th of August (Judah's 9th birthday!) was **the opening day of a believers conference of 750 local believers!** It was quite exceptional to see so many families who are still young in the faith and receiving good teaching. On the Sunday I (Sandra) taught about health and Frank gave the opening sermon about grace and discipleship in the big temporary, bamboo build meeting hall.



Half way the conference we had a baptism service with 76 people being baptized – in the lake right behind our house; we had quite some public!



Our health clinic was open daily and with only 2 people we did 193 consultations.

Often there was no running water in the clinic, which is quite a challenge as you can imagine- sometimes my mother would drop by with some bottles of drinking water and more water in a bucket for cleaning. We have treated many people with coughs, malaria, children with fever and diarrhea etc. 4 mothers have

removed the amulets from their children's necks and will start to trust God for their family's health instead of the spirits. I checked pregnant ladies, gave quite some vitamins but above all: we prayed for all patients. Most people have to walk many miles in order to gain access to health care and now they could just knock on our door and be attended! Also, there is a high level of corruption in the governments hospitals: where care and medicine should be offered for free, often bribes are being asked instead; taking money from people that are usually poor to begin with. In our clinic we treat our patients with respect and they didn't have to pay a thing. There was one guy with so much gunk in his ear that he went completely deaf on one side. My colleague Geraldo managed to flush his ears and now he can hear again. Incredible for a local guy who thought he went deaf!



Two hurricanes have brought great devastation to our country:

first Idai (in Beira area) where 1,85 million people were hurt. And one month later hurricane Kenneth came to the northern provinces of Mozambique. We ourselves were spared, thankfully, but other YWAM (Youth with a Mission) bases were hit severely and many colleagues have families with significant losses.

God desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Tim. 2:4) But who will go and tell them? (Rom. 10:14)



Through our foundation: Building people, bringing LIFE we have channeled over 28.500 euro's of aid money after the hurricanes;

incredible – we are impressed by the generosity of so many people and churches! We have been able to convert this money into food aid, medicine, seeds, restoration of homes and rebuilding of damaged YWAM bases! On our website we put the detailed stories, pictures and videos. An official end report will go out soon to all who contributed. We would like to thank all people who gave and got involved.



For the second time we staffed a Leadership Development Course.

The end of March we went to Tanzania for 7 weeks. Twenty participants were looking for answers to questions they encountered in their daily lives and in their role as a leader. The 6 Mozambican participants all did their DTS (Discipleship Training School) at our Lichinga base in the past. It was our task to translate every word at

this course, into Portuguese! At the same time we mentored those 6 students in our 1-on-1's. It was very worthwhile to discuss topics with the whole group that dealt specifically with our African context like: poverty and lack of resources, God's wisdom on marriage and family. We had the privilege of building up a beautiful group of dedicated African leaders that were giving their all to be transformed themselves and to transform Africa.



Throughout the last years Dinis and Balbina (our team leaders for more than 10 years) have shared their vision to **start a new YWAM base in Pemba, Cabo Delgado.** Time to go with the flow of changes on the Lichinga side as well. We are rising up as a team to take over their responsibilities. At the same time there must be somebody who signs all the government documents and carries the name 'director'. With a healthy reluctance we have taken on this role (the Mozambican leaders were unfortunately not in a position to accept this job). **Hence we are officially responsible for Youth with a Mission in Niassa province.** It is quite a big job but also a wonderful opportunity to serve, to structure things more and to help our team grow further!

It is always good for some training to happen on our Training Center. A full DTS wasn't possible this year but a **mini-DTS in the month of July** was! Leoni has got lots of experience with DTS and together we quickly found some more enthusiastic local members ready to join as staff. Also we had inspiring teachers for subjects such as 'Father Heart of God', 'Discipleship' and 'Evangelism amongst Muslims'. With 19 students we even managed to put in a 6-day outreach at 3 different locations and the results were overwhelming. We have trained new staff members, students were inspired by God's plans for their lives AND we reached people with the Gospel that had never heard the name of Jesus before! Praise God for what he does through you and through me!

Love, Frank, Sandra en Judah Obdam!



Colophon

Frank, Sandra en Judah Obdam

Jovens com uma Missão

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