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September 2021:

with: an epic road trip, a week of training, growth of the team and health work and the birth of a baby!



While in South Africa, we saw our friends the Dugmores (Daniel, Suzy, Ben-11 and Beth-9). They have a role of itinerant elder and are a great encouragement to our mission organization Youth With A Mission (YWAM). The spontaneous question arose: why don't we **visit the YWAM bases in South Africa and Mozambique together?**

They have many connections in SA and we can help in Mozambique! After praying, planning and deliberating we decided: road-trip!



We planned the following route: Muizenberg, Jeffreys Bay, Port Elisabeth, East London, Durban, Pretoria, Middelburg, White River, Maputo, Chimoio, Dondo, Beira, Marromeu, Quelimane and then home to Lichinga (see map). A good 6,000

km in almost four weeks, a great adventure and at the same time serious work. Many teams are far away from other teams and feel isolated while working in very challenging conditions. Corona, of course, makes everything even more difficult. In addition to many practical challenges, there is also a need for good conversation, encouragement and a time of prayer and praise.



So there we went: us in the old car of the Dugmores and the Dugmores in their new car with a beautiful folding trailer on the tow bar. The trailer has a little kitchen plus refrigerator, **so we could stop in the middle of the bush for lunch and/or a cup of coffee.** In SA we didn't know any YWAMers yet so every base and everyone was new to us. Long hours in the car with reading books and games for the kids, interspersed with intense times of getting to know new people and praying for teams, teaching at a DTS, visiting new areas and all kinds of ministries in as many cities. Occasionally a day of rest to swim in the ocean and then on again. So many cool impressions!

What have we learned during this time?

That Youth with a Mission has great teams that really make a difference in places where it is needed most: what a group of courageous people! We have seen that we can work very well together with the Dugmore family and that, as far as we are concerned, this is not the last trip we will do together. In addition, the whole trip was a confirmation of a new phase of eldership in which we are functioning within YWAM Mozambique: more outreach and distribution to other bases, more frequent visits and more teaching, also outside our province.



Returning home we had to hit the ground running because we had put a training week for new staff on the agenda. Things came together beautifully: staff members who had been 'in the pipeline' for a while arrived and at the same time we invited a group of aspiring YWAM-ers. We had **a great DNA week** where all of us were at the training center discovering how we could grow as a team in numbers, cooperation and in wisdom.

"Work for the cause,
not the applause."



Some of these newcomers we asked to stay on as staff for the Discipleship Course that came right after.



And so **our team has grown** with a new family from Brazil and a young Mozambican couple from Nampula. Also a Yao family with 6 children are with us for a few months with the goal to send them out to the district of Sanga together with another one of our couples, to start a new work in the bush of Niassa. All in all, **a pleasant atmosphere and a good dynamic**. Now to the whole team the task to integrate all these people well and help them grow.



The first 3 days of the Discipleship Course I (Frank) taught on 'biblical worldview' - one of my favorite subjects. Then I got ready for a trip to Quelimane to bring the same topic, but more extensively at the 'School of Frontier Missions'. It was inspiring to think with a small club of students about **how to reach**

unreached people groups with God's Word.

Sandra and Judah stayed home homeschooling and taking care of the people at the center who were suddenly all getting infected with Corona in large numbers.... On my way back, I had an "old-fashioned" car break-down and found myself on the side of the road in-the-middle-of-nowhere. It's always a hassle to find new parts and a mechanic so far away from civilization. But hey, 5 hours later everything was working again and I made it home safely to Sandra and Judah before curfew with.... homemade pizza!



"For dessert" we have some news we could write a whole newsletter about:

- Another **baby has been born in our house**: Joel Silva, son of Silva and Ancha (our colleague in the clinic). I assisted the (exciting! - God still works miracles!) delivery together with Eugénia!
- We started a training in health care; every Thursday we meet with a club of 13 ladies and 1 gentleman to **learn together about sickness, health and a God who wants to heal!**



- The container full of building materials for the training clinic is unfortunately still in NL. We need finances for unexpectedly higher transport costs and then also for the rest of the construction.
- Our **'porridge-project'** is growing: more malnourished children get the care they need and grow up to be healthy toddlers!

Love from Frank, Sandra and Judah Obdam!



Colophon

Frank, Sandra en Judah Obdam

Jovens com uma Missão

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