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Mozambique Mail

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About building and sad news, travels, teaching, Judah in Kenia and tickets to Holland!

'How is Frank's health?' – This is a frequently asked question, so let's start with that. Health is the sum of many things; here are a few. The swelling in my legs is practically gone. It turns out I function just fine without a thyroid, and I hardly ever get headaches anymore. My CPAP machine helps me sleep better, though getting enough sleep remains a daily challenge. My back pain comes and goes and is something I have to deal with on a daily base. My energy level is slowly improving. At the same time, I count my blessings and am grateful for the recovery that is gradually taking place.



Our building project at the center is finished! In April, I handed over the two-apartment building, and less than a week later, the first DTS students were already living there. It just needs to be painted, but we're already very blessed with the result.

So you are done building? No, of course not!

We finalized the title deeds for the 1-hectare plot of land in Matucuta, and our local leader, Jacinto, got started right away. He cleared the site, put up posts at the corners, and built a block with 4 spacious bedrooms, a veranda, and an outdoor toilet.



We've also neatly built the well, which the community is already making eager use of, and Jacinto is planning his first seminar. It's amazing what you can do with a few thousand euros.

Let's continue with "project Abrigo" (Shelter) next to our house. The architect has delivered the construction plans, and we will soon start building the first two simple houses to shelter persecuted Christians from the province.



The mortality rate in Mozambique is much higher than in the Netherlands. If you live here for a while, you'll inevitably attend a few funerals. Last month it all hit very close to home.



Lídia, the wife of our DTS leader Teodósio, wasn't doing well. After a lot of back-and-forth, they discovered she had severe diabetes. She was admitted to the internal medicine ward, where her blood sugar wasn't monitored and she wasn't given any medication. Naturally, her condition only worsened, and she had to be transferred to the Intensive Care Unit, where she received plenty of medication—but it was far too late. Lídia passed away the day before her 23rd birthday. She leaves behind her husband and two young children. Staff and students from the DTS traveled to the funeral in a rented truck. We transported her body in our car to the Majune district, where she was buried.....



' Never tire of doing what is GOOD!'

2 Thessalonians 3:13







Two weeks later, our guard João asks for an advance on his salary so he can pick up his harvest from his field 35 km away. He sets off in high spirits, but isn't feeling well when he arrives. The next morning, he heads back home very early (along with the harvest). He dies in the truck. João has served us faithfully for 13 years.... and then suddenly he is gone.

Another funeral and another family withouth a main breadwinner...



High time for some happier news. Sandra and I went on **an adventure in Mozambique.** I was invited to speak about worldview during the first week of the DTS in **Nampula**, and Sandra was invited to teach at the Discipleship Bible School. Sandra led an advanced Bible study and worked through six books of the Bible in one week with an enthusiastic group of 16, including Mael from our own team. I taught on worldview and didn't get past Genesis 1–3 (!) with 38 students. Our Muslim student from last year (Mariamo), who came to faith during her DTS, was now in Sandra's class! Hallelujah! It was nice to connect with base leaders Victor and Lori, whose children



Plus **a real family feel** with lots of fun new connections as well as long term friendships. After a week of going full throttle we drove **the car for 7 hours towards Pemba** with the last 3 hours combating terrible roads.The car started acting up, but we arrived safely. We conducted three days of staff training and taught about finances, parenting, and child safety. It's a great team of 14 people, four of whom will be moving to a nearby village to share the gospel with the Ngoni tribe. Then we made the 12-hour drive home.



Judah is in Kenya busy with getting good grades, playing rugby, hanging out with friends, playing guitar, building muscles, and growing like a weed. In other words, he's doing great and growing physically, academically, and spiritually. Just under three weeks to go, and then his second year at Rift Valley Academy will already be over (two more years to go). We can't wait to have him back home with us! We're picking him up from Malawi on July 11th so he can spend three weeks at home first, and then....

We booked our plane tickets and the three of us will be arriving at Schiphol in early August! Judah will be going back to school at the end of August; Sandra and I will stay in Holland until early October, partly for hospital checkups. We've managed to book a place again at Middenweg 77 in Andijk (at Sandra's parents' house), and we're really looking forward to it. So as far as we're concerned: see you soon in the Netherlands.

Love from, Frank, Sandra en Judah!



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