

October
November
2016

Lichinga, Niassa
Moçambique

Deutschland



Dear friends and family,

Here it finally comes: the urgent newsletter with many news. While fall with cold temperatures has begun where you live, we are having spring, which is dry and dusty and comes with temperatures around 32°C.



I had wonderful meetings and trips throughout Germany and Switzerland



with family, here with my dear parents in Seeheim – saying goodbye is always difficult. WhatsApp and calls as well as Skype help!

In addition meetings with friends and church in Mühlthal, 4 days Globe Mission in Hamminkeln, visiting the House of Prayer in Augsburg together with a dear friend. Visiting good friends and family in and around Freiburg – it was beautiful there... as well as additional appointments, like at the dentist, special examinations, because I am living in the tropics ("G35", necessary every two years for the insurance). Everything went well and same procedure again next year :-)

Here my dear Todd family – who knows me very well and has been supporting me for many years.



After 2 months I returned to Chimoio via Johannesburg and Maputo on September 3rd. On the day of my departure I had unfortunately received a turndown from a mission organization in Lichinga – yet I knew that this would be my new place.

Visit in Switzerland:

With my brother and his family, my sister came as well – many good times, laughter and more...!



Thankful for the time of refreshing, exchange, prayer, summer in Germany – and especially seeing dear people. What a gift!



Two of the faithful Sisters of Mary who are praying for me in Appenzell, Switzerland.

Moving

with Sarah, what a blessing. She is a very precious friend! Who would travel 2.5 days through hot Africa, 1400km by car, with a dog, luggage, boxes, a 25l canister of gasoline etc.

On the evening prior to my departure we had a special goodbye dinner at Africa 180 – the place I used to live and work for a long time. Thank you Anna, Sarah, Natalie! I felt very appreciated.

With a long military convoy, including several hundred trucks and a few small cars, we travelled the long roads through Tete Province to the city of Tete at the Zambezi river. The next day lead us through the southern parts of Malawi.

Photo: [Lake Malawi](#)



We crossed the borders between Mozambique and Malawi twice – with Ziva, the dog until we arrived in Lichinga in September 16th. We experienced a safe trip and protection on many bad roads, with deep holes or on sandy dirt roads.



[Baobab trees](#), often thousands of years old.



Arrival in Lichinga, Niassa Province.

I may be here, I am thankful for that!

The local immigration office said “Bem Vindo”, which means “Welcome”, after they had read my documents and the letter from Africa 180, where I had worked for the last 9 years!

There was an opportunity to pray for the secretary after she had voluntarily told me about her personal problems. Other long term missionaries had spoken about great problems with this office especially.

If they had refused me in this province, I would have had to pack my bags! THANK YOU for every prayer – I was deeply impressed by the way God opened doors.

Another two important official appointments went without problems as well – thank God.

Farm, calves needing to be fed with a bottle, we are working a lot on the farm of friends that are on vacation, we met them 10km outside Lichinga when we arrived.



Paul and Engela from Southafrica, good friends – both have been travelling as missionaries in the country’s northern bush to preach and to teach. I am so glad to have had them here as good and trusted friends during the first 4 weeks!

Move into the city of Lichanga on October 18th:

House, three guards – rent about €220

Other owners in town rent for no less than €400 for only two rooms.

That is why I am very thankful for God opening doors for me through an Australian mission agency. There is a living room with a kitchen, in addition two big rooms, each with a shower and toilet. Nobody has lived here for seven months, and before that different Australian missionaries.



You can hear the Imam calling from the mosque close by, even at 4am, in addition “music” from a disco close by on the weekends... I sometimes even hear a catholic church not far from my house. I am always looking forward to my trips to the countryside, about 40 minutes away, where I just feel better and free!



Bed from the market
for €30



God watches over me and in addition there are three hired guards on 24 hour shifts and my dog Ziva helps as well.

Refrigerator and a small gas stove with two burners and a gas bottle were at this time the last items to be bought for the new living situation. Built in cabinets, curtains and kitchen come with the place! Prices are nearly double compared to Chimoio.

The land is experiencing a financial crisis and is politically unstable. The metical has lost half of its value within one year.

Furniture, manpower are cheap compared to canned food, even other prepared food is expensive, starting at €2-3, the local market is much cheaper and you can buy many different kinds of vegetables. Basic food for the locals is getting more and more expensive, so far salaries have not been adapted to the prices. All are hoping for rain and a good harvest for this year, because “El Nino” has brought much destruction through droughts in the south of the country.



Bakery with good
selection!



Future and plans:

- Part time work as a nurse, working with an existing project, getting to know children and mothers / grandmothers
- Searching for a suitable location for a farm, for having a horse and other animals
- Learning language and culture
- Finding a prayer partner as well as real good friends – local support
- Further meetings and getting to know other missionaries, many families from the US, Australia and South Africa
- Bible study with other missionary ladies on Fridays at 2-4pm



Physical therapy, local provincial hospital

First visit to take a look, what is being done for children with special needs, went very well, I was also introduced to the clinic director.

Some mothers already told me about many desperate situations, difficulties during or extended deliveries, leading to a lack of oxygen – “cerebral palsy” is the general diagnosis. That stands for physical and mental handicaps. I will visit the department again next week,

building relationships is important here as well. That means, getting to know the women and their toddlers. Meeting the staff, spending time, seeing what they do. Often the passive movements are executed too fast, they rather increase spasticity – the children cry, most of them are in pain during the exercises. I have seen that so often, it is nearly unbearable. I believe that one reason is outdated or missing knowledge. It doesn't have to stay that way, which is why I desire another approach. Over the last years I have seen and learnt a lot in the baby program, also from Brenda, our physical therapist, on how it can work DIFFERENTLY.



Meeting the mothers and children quietly, with time and love, offering a safe place with animals, like horses, also music, balls, colors, toys etc., letting the children play, encourage, train coordination, reading from the bible, praying together, exchange, spending time with the mothers etc.



This girl is about 2 years old, she only has a mild form of a clubfoot. She has profited from physical therapy and won't need an operation.



Psalm 138:8

The almighty Father prepares His works with me, this vision – the works of His hands. I am waiting for and listening to God, taking every step with Him.



Thank you for your faithful support in prayer or financially, through encouragement via WhatsApp. THANK YOU! Special thanks to Ulrike for friendship and administrative assistance, very practically, f.e. transfers of funds and sorting through documents and mail!

And to Helena and Elvira who have for years been by my side in ministry as well as personally in friendship and with much prayer. Also thank you to my church and church leaders, who are praying for me and supporting me financially.

Thank you to so many of you, who have been investing into me being here over the years. I am sorry for not mentioning every one of you. Also my friends in the US and England, Holland and Switzerland, thank you. You are a huge and essential part of my ministry as well as my personal life here in Mozambique. You are a blessing for many!

Heide



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