

Afrika Wa Yesu

Mozambique
www.afrikawayesu.org



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Dear Friends,

Living on the mission field is new experience every day. One would naturally think that of a big city that never sleeps and where people and traffic rush day and night. One would not think an undeveloped little place like Inhaminga where many of the buildings are still in ruins since the war, and where most of the people are still uneducated and poorer than the poor, would have so much life. 'Life' is the key word. There is time to live, as in time to know, time to connect with and enjoy one another here. In a place of so called nothingness, each day is full of the unexpected and full of riches and we are fully occupied. Miracles abound in villages like these and everywhere the Team goes to minister Jesus. There are many needs, every need is an opportunity for a miracle and we are surrounded by needs and therefore encircled by miracles.

The first rains have fallen turning the dry bush into lush greenery. With so many people moving into Inhaminga, the trees are rapidly being cut down and turned into fields. We mourn the loss of these beautiful trees but keep our focus on the fact that more and more souls are moving in. Souls to be reached for Christ.

The forest behind our house is the only piece of untouched natural growth around. More and more animals are finding refuge in it. It is a great delight to have a resident bush-buck, duiker, red duiker and tsvani gazelles leap out the bush when we walk through the paths. Porcupines, hyrax; kangaroo rats and other rodents are plentiful. Monkeys abound, especially as the mangoes are getting ripe. Night apes, owls and at least 150 species of birdlife can be seen. Myriads of butterflies! We have snakes in abundance. Many harmless snakes plus dangerous ones like the Mozambique spitting cobra; other types of cobra; puff adders; green mamba and the dreaded black mamba; all of which we have encountered up close and personal.



Python Hanging Around!

The other day Douglas called me to come and see the python killing a guinea fowl. He had seen the python curl itself around the hapless bird while the other guinea fowl screeched and jumped and flapped trying to scare it off. He heard the screeching from our back door, so it was not far down the path. When we got there we could see nothing but one little feather and the scuffed up ground. We began

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Luke 4:18

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, [To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

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to search carefully amongst the dead leaves knowing it would not go far after a meal. We could find nothing. Eventually Douglas saw it up a small tree on a low, spindly branch. It was so camouflaged we could scarcely see it. It was three metres long, and flickered its tongue at us while we took photos.

Sadly, people are coming in to hunt and to chop our trees which does not make us happy so we have employed a forest guard. Now we chase after poachers during the week and then visit them in their huts to win them for Jesus. It is getting a little complicated but for sure we don't want to lose the only bit of forest around.

Oh, and another event was when the builders uncovered a skeleton buried just over 8 inches in the ground when digging the foundation for Marino and Graca's family house down the road. The evidence of war is still all around and we remembered the reason this is called the 'place of bones'. Still, it comes as a bit of a surprise when innocently digging a foundation and the workers being full of superstition were not happy. Even Graca showed a bit of concern, especially as the skeleton was where the kitchen will be so we tease her about having an extra helper in the kitchen. So this is life on the mission field. We do spiritual stuff as well ;o) and have many reports of miracles and souls being saved.

Thank you for being part of our lives. Thank you for supporting this ministry and thank you for being our friends!

With love and blessings,

Rod & Ellie and all at AWYesu

MIRACLES: ONLY BELIEVE

We believe in miracles. We teach our students and Team to believe in miracles. They go home to their village areas, and do greater miracles even than we have seen. We give them the Truth, they put truth into action.

A baby is born with horrible sores on the inside and outside of his little mouth. Because of this, he is unable to nurse and after three days is barely alive. The hospital cannot help. The parents take him to their church but the pastor says, "We cannot do such a big miracle here, you had better take him to Afrika wa Yesu Church." They bring him to one of our churches in Quelimane and the Christians pray for him. He is healed. He is able to nurse and is growing strong. All it takes for a miracle is that we believe and Jesus meets the need. Only believe.

The key to miracles is 'only believe' and 'do not be afraid'

Luke 8:50: *But when Jesus heard it, He answered him saying, "Do not be afraid; only believe, and she will be made well."*

DIOGO & LEDIANE

We are well and happy, excited to come back in the New Year, and ready for whatever is ahead.

The first time that I returned to Brazil, I noticed that my church needed a lot to impact the area of missions and in sharing the gifts of the Spirit. As soon as I arrived at the church, I had the opportunity to share the gifts and I re-emphasized something that all of them knew, but they had not practiced. Many members of the church were closed to the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, many didn't agree and had mental resistances. God gave me grace; I preached with a lot of authority against the prejudice of moving the Spirit and shared a lot of experiences that I had in Mozambique. When I had finished, I felt the Holy Spirit speaking to me to call those that received faith to be baptized in the Holy Spirit up to the front. I saw the faithfulness of God, I saw people that have spent more than twenty years in the church without really being there start to cry; and 90% of the ones that came up were filled and spoke in new languages. God is wonderful! Hallelujah!

During the missions encounter I also saw the faithfulness of God. Me, Diogo, Su, Jansen and Dora, Jeosefa and Catossi, were very encouraged and full of expectation. The people were touched by God. We saw people being touched and awakened to missions and many others decide to do something real for the kingdom of God. People who had been totally captivated by materialism were touched in their hearts. We taught music and African dances and we can already say that the church here learned how to love the heart of Moçambicans.

Ed. We praise God for the way He has greatly used our foreign Team during their break home. What they are learning here on the mission field they are teaching in their home churches. They are anointed and full of the power of God and making a difference in the places they came from. Between them all they visited USA, Romania, Spain, Ukraine, Brazil and Zimbabwe.

Afrika wa Yesu is reaching the nations!

REPORT FROM PASTOR ARMANDO JO

I have the privilege to share with you my precious family, what the life Giver has allowed me to live for Him in November.

Nampula Wa Yesu

The Local church is growing and strongly moving forward in the areas of soul winning, where in our services new people are accepting Jesus as their Lord and savior. Our Discipleship program is going very well. We have an attendance of 20 students from the local church in discipleship and it's very encouraging to see the desire in the believers to learn and grow in The Lord. It's my desire to expand it to all our local churches. We are also teaching the church to grow more into God lovers and the kingdom of worshippers. I am also focusing on raising up more matured harvesters who will lead others to do the same and we are exploding.

National Church

It's necessary to periodically have a retrospective look, to help us see where we are and provoke us to resolutely apply our efforts in the right direction. The Afrika Wa Yesu churches are indeed growing nationwide.

Salvation: People are coming to the kingdom of God everywhere and are being raised up as sons and daughters under our churches. Through the evangelistic efforts of our local churches and several new churches were planted. We have seen some significant church growth in the past five months.

Mighty deeds of faith: The Holy Ghost is using our team in our ministry and great exploits are happening in the name of Jesus. God is manifesting His power resulting in healings, restorations, deliverances, signs and wonders among the people. These acts of faith, are just the beginning of what the eye has never seen, the ear has never heard and nor has entered into the heart of men. The Lord is faithful to release Himself as we stand in the gap for His people and humbly seek Him with all our hearts.

Church Construction Projects

Cuamba Wa Yesu, is almost finished. The work had stopped because of the supply shortage there such as cement and the bricks. Presently, the steel pillars are all on and next week, we will lift up the rafters (which are already made just waiting to be put on) and tin sheets. I spent a week at Cuamba to push everyone and left Joaquim there to supervise the work. It's exciting news!

Nampula Wa Yesu building: We are still waiting for the release of the license. I feel like the king of Persia is trying something in the heavenlies and the church is engaged in Daniel quest for a break-through. Actually, the whole process is on the right path just this "one person" to endorse it. This is where things get delayed and I pray The Lord will lead us the right way for our breakthrough.

Since God has so generously let us in on what he is doing, we're not about to throw up our hands and walk off the job just because we run into occasional hard times. We refuse to wear masks and play games.

We don't maneuver and manipulate behind the scenes. And we don't twist God's Word to suit ourselves. Rather, we keep everything we do and say out in the open, the whole truth on display, so that those who want to can see and judge for themselves in the presence of God. If our Message is obscure to anyone, it's not because we're holding back in any way. No, it's because these other people are looking or going the wrong way and refuse to give it serious attention. **2 Cor 4:1-3.**

Serving The Lord, is an adventure. It's a joy and the privilege to be in partnership with The Master.

LUISA DIQUE GOES HOME

Inhaminga is a place full of stories. During the time of Portuguese Colonial Rule it was a beautiful town with tree lined avenues, parks and pretty homes. It was like a little part of Portugal in the midst of African bush. Then came the war against colonialism. Some of them were killed and the remainder fled for their lives. Amongst those who were killed was a man of mixed Portuguese/Mozambican blood.

He was married to Luisa Dique, a Mozambican woman who had been a prostitute and had 'closed up her womb' so she would never be pregnant. They were not legally married but she lived with him as his wife. They had a house behind what is now Lino's bakery. They had a car and lived a good life.

However, when the fighting started, Senhor Dique was accused of being on the side of the Portuguese and was killed. His house was destroyed, his car taken and Luisa Dique received a 'promise' that she would also be killed because she was proud and thought herself a cut above everyone else because of being the woman of this light skinned man. Because of this 'promise' she was secretly helped to flee and got a plane out of Inhaminga to Beira.

Portuguese colonialism was replaced by communism and the state party Frelimo (still in power though no longer officially communist) ruled. A resistance movement rose against communism and a second war started, ending in the early 90's. Luisa Dique returned to Inhaminga to find her house destroyed and nothing remaining, just like everything else in Inhaminga.

She lived with relatives for a while but they did not want her and she was homeless until she heard Afrika wa Yesu helped old people. Inhaminga wa Yesu members built her a mud and thatch hut on her original property. In due course she received Jesus as her personal Saviour. Hallelujah!

Nobody knows when she was born, but today she died and today we buried her. I wonder where Senhor Dique was buried? Perhaps his bones are in the mass graves at the 'Massacre' site down the road or perhaps he was thrown in a shallow grave like the bones found on Mariano's property (see photo).

Luisa could easily have been 100 years old. It took her a long time to walk to church every Sunday, but she came and began to be transformed in her old age through the Word of God. The Afrika wa Yesu church family always took care of her; now at her exit from this world they bathed her, made a wooden box for a coffin and dug her grave six feet deep. On the cross is the date of her demise but no birth date as nobody knows when she was born. There are no undertakers here, everything is personal care. I was touched to see how they gently placed her feather-light body in the box, placing her few personal items beside her. We gathered around, the people sang songs like:

"Father, look here is your child. She belongs to you, she is yours, take care of her, take care of her."

"Jesus, she walked with you and she talked with you. Receive her now, receive her now."

"Mary, Martha, do not weep for Jesus has come. Lazarus shall rise again."

The songs are one-liners, repeated over and over by the song leader while the rest echo the lines. There was no loud wailing and mourning as the unbelievers do but simply a few quiet tears for someone who will be missed. As in some other cultures in the world, Africans normally wail loud and even roll in the dust when they mourn. Some are even paid to do this to show how 'loved' the deceased was. In Christ we are free from hopelessness and not bound by religious and traditional expectations. The peace of a Christian burial is a powerful testimony in a culture where people are immediately afraid of the 'spirit' activity that accompanies a death. They have to perform many rituals and offer sacrifices to keep the ancestors happy so they don't suffer wrath or fall under curses.



Luisa Dique - A multitude of Stories buried in a simple bush grave



Inhaminga - The Place of Bones. Found when digging foundation.



New dorms at Inhaminga



The precious elderly ladies of Inhaminga wa Yesu

David's Fountain: Baptisms with a difference!



1 Thessalonians 4:13: *But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.*

The strength and support of the family of God is beautiful. 60 people stood around the grave. A few of the aged who were able to hobble along the road were there. Several women from the church and a group of young people who dug the grave and covered it over again. The simplicity of the ceremony and the love and respect shown was very touching. Mariano delivered the Word of God and assured everyone that we are all one family through Jesus and if anyone has no natural family they need not feel alone and afraid. We are here to be their family.

We always preach salvation at our funerals and give opportunity for people to step forward and receive Jesus as Saviour. Usually there are unsaved family members and community members around. Today there were only believers present, as all family have long since died and the community outside of the church had no interest in someone this old and frail. A few people spoke a bit of how Luisa would sit and laugh and talk with them. Tonight Luisa is not asleep on her mat in a dark hut, but she is rejoicing in the Presence of God where His Glory and Love fill all of heaven. What a reward for someone who had so little on this earth.

I was intrigued to see a light skinned man among the dark Mozambicans at the funeral. Who was he? It turns out he lives in Inhaminga now and was a friend of Senhor Dique and knew Luisa. MMmmm...I think we should visit with him and find out more of the fascinating history of this place.

AFRICAN THANKS

In Africa we do not have a celebration set apart specifically for giving thanks. America is a testimony to all the world. A testimony of giving and giving thanks, of blessing and generosity.

Here in Mozambique people have some unusual ways of giving thanks. It is rude to express a demonstration of thanksgiving through whoops and yells. Never would one tear open a gift in enthusiastic excitement.

If you extend a gift, a woman will first give a little curtsy then clap her hands with cupped palms in appreciation. In the very rural areas she might sink to her knees to receive the gift, and then walk off without saying anything. Later on in the day or even a day or two later she will return to thank you for it, by expressing a simple 'Thank you' and again clap cupped hands. She will not comment on whether or not she likes the gift as it is unthinkable that someone would not like a gift.

The men would bow the head slightly and clap with cupped hands. Certainly nobody opens a gift in front of the giver. It is placed to the side and opened only after the visitor is gone. When giving a group gifts such as blankets, clothes or food, the people will gather together at the end and several will make a 'Thank You' speech. Then they will sing and dance and even jump for joy!

SO HOW WILL WE THANK YOU?

The gifts of our friends and supporters is what keeps us on the field, keeps our wheels rolling and provides for all development and expansion of the ministry. Souls are saved, trained, churches are planted. People are healed, filled with the Holy Spirit and walk in the miraculous. Work skills are taught, small business projects are launched and the poor and needy are helped. We all work hard doing these fun and wonderful things, and our supporters work hard at their jobs to be able to send us money.

We give thanks through monthly reports and photographs, by showing the reward and harvest that you have such a vital part in. We pray for you as you pray for us. Together we are laying up riches in heaven, storing treasure where no thief can steal it, treasure than cannot rust or devalue!

Right now we say **thank you** with all our heart. You can never know while on earth just how much your giving means to us personally; as a Team and to the many we reach. But in eternity you will know and you will be blown away! If you were here right now we would sing and dance for you, give loud whoops of joy and enthusiastically cheer you.

Then we would lay hands on you and pray a blessing so big you would not be able to contain it. It would run over you like a mighty water fall forming a great waterfall of blessing and anointing that would never cease in your life. We would hug you hard and pour the Love of God on you. As you are not here in person we cannot do it physically; but as there is no distance in the spirit, CONSIDER IT DONE! We thank you, we bless you, we love you!

TOUGH WORKERS NEEDED!

Missions are not just preaching the Word!

Somehow people see missions as someone with a bible in their hands, standing in front of a crowd of people. Yes, preaching the gospel and making disciples is our purpose. However, to make that happen, a LOT of hard work, sweat and tears go into paving the way so others can preach.

Hands and Feet Needed!

This ministry is developing so fast, we are running to try and keep up to the growth. We need help! On the spiritual side, we have enough preachers and teachers for training up leaders. It is the practical, physical side that needs hands and feet...Our hands are already very full and our feet already running full speed!

HANDYMAN: A Mr. Fix-it with a heart to serve and the gifting to make a plan and make things work. Someone who does not mind getting their hands dirty!

MECHANIC: Our roads are bad, vehicle maintenance is constant. This is a BIG need!

DENTIST: A missionary with the heart to help the suffering through dentistry.

KEEPING IN TOUCH!

We love hearing from you - email us at hein@afrikawayesu.org

For more information about the various ministry departments and Team Members of Afrika wa Yesu, visit us on www.afrikawayesu.org

CHANGES: Please notify us should you have an address change.

DISCONTINUE? Please email us if you no longer wish to receive our newsletter.

CONTRIBUTIONS: Should you wish to partner financially with Afrika Wa Yesu, make check payable to "Resurrection Fellowship"

MEMO: Afrika Wa Yesu (**NOT** Rod & Ellie Hein)
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