

*November
2017*

*Lichinga, Niassa
Moçambique*

Deutschland



Dear friends and family

Greetings from Mozambique!
We are waiting for rain – it is very dusty, dry and nearly every day warmer than 32°C (90°F).

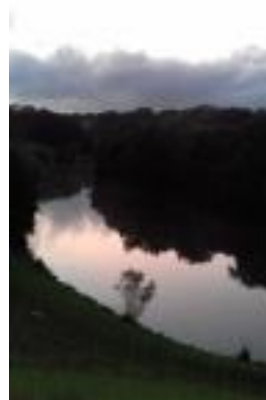


I do miss
the green

European summer a little and also the colorful fall, but it is green and beautiful during the rainy season here as well.



Blooming Jacaranda
tree in Lichinga!



My parent's golden wedding anniversary was beautiful and planned with so much love.
Meeting with parents and family in the Black Forest.



Another reason for my visit to Switzerland was a mission agency.
I am seconded to SIM, Biel.

That means that they also pray for me and stand behind me as well.

I have also received my Mozambican residence permit, called DIRE through SIM and I really appreciate it. Starting at the end of the year as well as in January we will also increase our cooperation, because many SIM missionaries are abroad right now.

Web: www.sim.ch

I will continue being a Globe missionary, also concerning donations.

Since moving here a year ago many things have changed:

I moved to the small town of Lichinga in May, where I feel more at home.

Sally, my housemate, studies Portuguese for many hours a day as well as the local culture, while building relationships with locals.

I still volunteer at the physical therapy at Lichinga Hospital, mostly passively moving CP toddlers (Children with usually congenital spasticity).





It is one of my ways of getting to know mothers and their toddlers.



Visiting Gondola/Manica and my “old team”; Africa 180, where I lived and worked for 9 years.



T. and her son. She has 7 children. A dear, competent, faithful, long-time co-worker. A long trip with cancelled flights and many delays – yet worth every moment I spent there! Very moving and a true gift for me.



My former team – Tracy, Sarah, Anna and Natalie, Director of the Baby Clinic, beside me.

Marta, faithful, long-time co-worker of the baby clinic.

Such joy! Another world, Maputo these days: Modern, you can get just about everything – and yet there is so much poverty and children are suffering.



This boy is about 11 years old. He rides horseback and is encouraged by an English missionary. Helen, missionary at Iris ministries, my dear friend and a faithful intercessor over the years.



He has experienced terrible things. He glows when he is riding, he is self-confident. He lives at the Iris Ministries orphanage, where I used to work for a few years and I still have good relationships. It really touched my heart and made me happy. Just a few years ago, experiences like these would have been unthinkable for the children. Now some of them come regularly for therapy and they love their time with the animals.



Finally, there was a diagnosis (October 23rd)

The boy became blind in March after Meningitis in January and a paralysis of both legs since May!

I was able to help the parents financially to travel to Nampula (one hour by plane or 12 hours by car) – where they didn’t find a diagnosis as well. Only a prescription for physical therapy. E.’s condition was getting worse, he had head- and back pain. And they didn’t know what to do. That was discouraging and troubling for me as well.

At the new private clinic here a well educated and experienced Doctor from Cuba found TB in his spine and brain – even though he had been examined in two big hospitals they hadn’t found anything.

This is true mercy – I do believe that God heard the heart cry of his parents – that he has survived to this day. Here you slowly die of tuberculosis, especially due to the rough living conditions (climate and low quality food etc.)



Physio:

Difficult, challenging – little initiative of severely handicapped children and their mothers, because they hardly receive any instruction from the local therapist. I read a lot on the internet and ask for advice from a British physical therapist, so I can learn something new.



Balls and more: Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon!

Great progress: It is still exciting to see the children develop:

Jao, Carlos, Cecilia, Rielsia, Eugenio, Carolina and others



C.:

Burns in his face, left thorax, shoulder and arm, he has been very limited since birth, can hardly do anything by himself, cannot speak, only make some noises. Now this terrible accident – and he couldn't free himself from the fire. Weeks at the hospital, terrible pain, often all alone at home, a smile on his face means the world!!

J.:

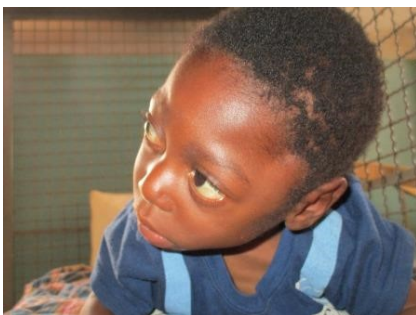
10 years of his life he was only able to slide on his backside in order to move. With the help of a ball and a walker, that he received from Mary in England, at home, he can now walk pretty well.

He has such a strong will

and he is so happy. His parents are so proud of him and so thankful. He can now move upright so much better.



It is God, who does not despise the weak, but lifts them up.



My goal is still

- to build a team.

Reaching decisions together – if possible in our own building, on our own property. Food and basic medicine – this and my experience as a nurse in Mozambique since 15 years.

Goal: Prevention and stopping abuse, children (mothers as well) – which means longer life with higher quality for children and affected parents, if they are HIV/Aids/TB infected.

Horses would be a means for therapeutic support.



So far meetings have been possible in Mary's house. Children and their mothers feel free and safe there!

The laughter of a severely ill child that cannot even express itself is like stopping the world, for a moment – feeling God.

It is nothing you could "produce" or really describe, because those children hardly ever have reason for laughter!



Here 5 year old G.'s clubfoot, left leg – congenital, before and after operation in Malawi.

Mary and Guy, a missionary couple and good friends helped with the trip etc., I helped with part of the expenses as well as translation, because several meetings and explanations were necessary before the operation.



Starting in 2018 this operation (Pontseti) will be scheduled here in Lichanga as well. So far only physical therapy and orthosis were the prescribed therapy. I often see congenital club feet at the hospital, which limit the children's mobility. G. couldn't walk on her left foot. Her small toe was crippled and her leg several centimeters shorter. Thanks to the operation it is growing, now.

Thank you so much, everyone of you – you are all part of the “bigger picture” and connected to me, but especially to the ministry to the children.

Without you purchasing a wheelchair for children like E. wouldn't be possible, there wouldn't be fuel in the car, so no trips to the doctor, no shopping etc.

50kg corn flour to help feed needy families need to be transported and many other things and patients as well.

Thank you, for prayers for daily protection from accidents or illnesses.

Thanks to my church, who will be paying towards a pension fund starting in September – that is a great encouragement. One of the church leaders took the initiative.

God has revealed himself.



Greetings from a soon rainy summer – rainy season start until the end of March in the North of Mozambique

Heide

PS: I love hearing from you

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Contact:

In Germany:

Ulrike Lauer
An der Aue 3E
64372 Ober-Ramstadt
Ulrike_Lauer@web.de

In Mosambik:

H. Zwirner

C.P. 296

Lichinga, Niassa

Mosambik

If you want to call me:

My mobile:

00258-87-7835047

Homepage:

**[www.globemission.org/
Heide-Zwirner.html](http://www.globemission.org/Heide-Zwirner.html)**

E-mail:

heidejes@yahoo.de

Skype:

heidejes

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