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March
2022

Lichinga, Niassa
Moçambique

Deutschland



By the word of the Lord the heavens were made,
their starry host by the breath of his mouth.
Psalm 33:6



January to February was a really rainy season, with thunderstorms, heavy rains... and again tropical cyclones, whereby there were some deaths, as well as damage to houses, bridges, roads... To find online e.g., under the name "Ana", followed by the storm "Gombe", which destroyed among other things a bridge of the EN1 (the north-south link road).



Foto Clubofmozambique.com <https://clubofmozambique.com/news/mozambique-cyclone-gombe-threatens-580000-people-in-two-provinces-noticias211313/>

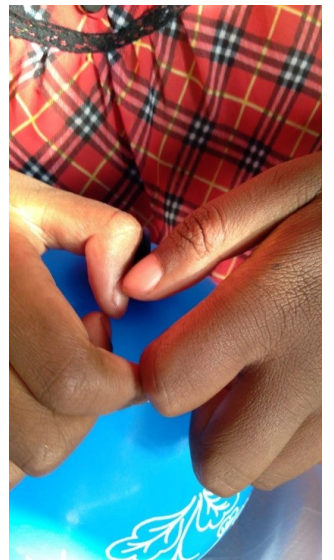
It rained much less in March; the end of the rainy season is around mid-April.

HEIDE ZWIRNER

Newsletter

AL. passed away in February.

Her last days were very difficult for her, her family, and for me: pain, crying, then coma, and in the end multiple organ failure. I believe she is with JESUS, free from all suffering.... Hope, for life in eternity. I miss her here; she had become a good friend over the last three years. I want to say THANK YOU in her name, for each of your prayers, good thoughts during the last years, and practical help (e.g., good wound dressing material, special skin-friendly plasters etc.), prayers for the family, and for me. Nothing was in vain; it has eternal value. I keep in touch with Al's family, which is very nice and important.



WEDDING! Joana and Andre: on Feb. 12th, 2022.

My Portuguese friends got married here. Both live and work here for 4 years. They got married in a civil ceremony in Lichinga and celebrated with a nice big party and African music afterwards with about 30 guests. It was beautiful!



CHILDREN:

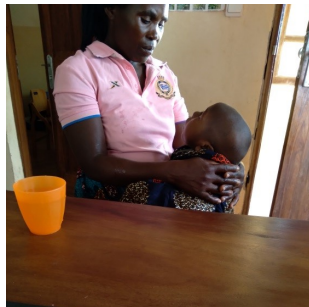
-Alv.! As mentioned in the last letter: he received the wheelchair because of his legs/feet, as well as the inability to walk. Now his life is changed, he attends the preschool program of a Brazilian missionary and out of 74 children he is the best in class! In the photo he sits IN FRONT OF the wheelchair, is just like all the other children, laughing and playing! This touches me very much, because at first, I doubted that Alv. would really be taken to preschool by the friends or the aunt, (the father has left the family, the mother is heavily pregnant). He is now top of the class, at about 5 years old, and enthusiastic about it.



-R., with mother:

A very sick, disabled child... it is about 8- 9 years old, but very small, cannot see or hear. I have known them since 2017 and support them with protein foods. They were in our group of moms with kids, along with Mary (for 3 years until Covid came 2020), he had made small progress at that time. His mother continues to take care of him and does not give up on him (contrary to the culture)!

We can almost always pray for the patients - very few say "no", partly because of fear of the unknown, partly because of their fear of punishment from the spirits, or their religion.



Again and again, men come to the clinic; many have infections, chronic pain, or acute malaria, untreated because medicines are lacking in the health centers.

Malaria rapid test:
Neg.-in Jmem Clinic



-An 8-year-old boy with disability, about 8 kg weight. He is seriously ill again and again, with protein deficiency, malnutrition=Kwashiorkor. This unfortunately despite our food help, which is also due to the rare appearance of the mother, as well as many difficult circumstances.

My main goal, focus of treatment: children - HIV pos., malnourished children and with disabilities, respectively their mothers, who are often HIV pos. themselves, who need encouragement, support (food), visits, etc. This photo is from the children's ward in the hospital in the province, which is currently full again with seriously ill children. I make regular visits here.



-A 2-year-old girl, with severe malnutrition, malaria, anemia, and edema. Her mother had another baby, so she was fed less, or paid less attention to, as the "second to last" child. Unfortunately, this course of disease is not rare.

Now a lot of children are sick because of the rainy season = main season of malaria, as well as little to eat, field work and the hard life. (Food and good water are missing there, that means hunger—especially for the smallest ones).

-A woman in the hospital, cared for by her mother, touched me especially: She is albino (genetically white skin, which is very susceptible to sunburn, etc., because melanin is missing), and has a very large tumor on her ear and head towards her neck, so one half of her face is severely deformed. (People with albinism have higher melanoma =skin cancer statistics). She is now waiting for surgery, so she has been in the surgery department for some time. However, there is no neurology or adequate intensive care here. She is also 8 months pregnant. Her pain is very severe; I can hardly imagine it. She probably has little chance of improvement or recovery here. Since she can hardly eat properly, I also brought her dry milk, for which she and her mother were very grateful. I hope she can still go home for her last weeks. She would need palliative care, which is not yet organized officially here in the city.

SEMINAR at the Hospital:

Palliative Care Seminar by 3 missionaries from other ministries here: it is about improving the treatment and care of the chronically ill and physiotherapy at the hospital. Possibly there will be innovations to this, in which I can participate since I worked in physiotherapy from 2017 to 2020 as a volunteer with the children with disabilities.



World Women's Day (March 8) with friends, 7 organizations from 7 nations!
(Some missionaries were missing that day) I am grateful for dear friends here!



THANK YOU for your faithfulness, support, prayers and warm greetings, God's blessings to you

Heide

Trip to Germany: in July? - approximate plan -

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