Thursday 06 October 2022

Harpers Happenings

THANKS for reading prayerfully

Latest news, Journal style

May

27th: Excited about the new Missionary training school in Cabo Delgado! Though we were disappointed that our old organization YFC is not willing to let us purchase and restore the Bethel Centre that we built from 2002 till 2014 and is now completely derelict, we still had good meetings in Maputo with other ministries and Churches.

28th: Very PROUD of Malaquias who is currently in his 4th year of med School. He is a faithful preacher and minister of the gospel. Thrilled with Lazaro's great results in 3rd year electrical engineering

31st: Mark worked hard the past 2 weeks on upgrading My Fathers House, Working for and with the boys to build and plumb new bathrooms, improve the vegetable garden, laundry area, entrance way and gardens. Our own garden is beautiful and the vegetable gardens are sprouting....making admin tasks so much easier in pleasant surroundings.



Farmer Brown, a new experience this farming is, but we are loving this new adventure.



Kids Camp.. The boys are becoming young men. Thankful for Gervasios help in running the camp.

June

4th: celebrated Samuels Birthday today. Solar lights died after only 5 minutes as it had been a cloudy day today.... Rest of the celebrations were had in the high beams of our Mahindras headlights. It's so good to see the boys grow and become young men.

7th: Horrible images of of decapitated and dismembered corpses and homes burning after Sunday's terror attack received this morning, , from our friends up in Cnbo Delgado. As we respond to them in their need we feel fear rising on their behalf...BUT... we 'take every thought captive' God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power, love and a sound mind. 2 Tim 1:7

21st: Les rushed me through to Nelspruit after I fell off a tall ladders and broke my wrist while trying to install the wiring for my parents solar system.

22nd: Long op, steel plate and 10 screws were needed to repair the wrist. This is going to put me out of action for 3 months...the thought is appalling and the pain mind numbing.

Praise for the Royal Treasures

The latest updates

The Lord is Good.

We praise the Lord for young GODLY men like Malaquias and Lazaro who know the Lord and who are leading by example.

Praise for the LIVE SCHOOLS

The latest updates

The Lord is Faithful

The Schools up North continue to flourish and grow in number. Our desire is to see 1,000 national Missionaries trained up in Mozambique

Page XX

Praise for The Farm

The latest updates

The Lord is Compassionate

We have started a small farm to try to be a little more self-sustaining for our family and for the Royal treasures, to improve their diets and to cut some costs in the budget.

NEWS TODAY

JULY and AUGUST

The latest updates - window on our world

9th: So thankful our old friends from 4 villages in the Maquese area could come to us for LIVE SCHOOL Missionary training, in our own lounge as Marks arm was still too painful to travel the jeep tracks to reach their villages. The potential impact this program can have in the area excites us as well as the gift of wonderful mother-tongue audio resources recorded on the same device. We thank the Father and everyone who had a hand in making these resources available.

15th: Lazaro was a huge help today and we are thankful for his help in distributing 6 food parcels for the grandmothers of the Royal treasures, also for his wisdom and insight in mentoring the young men at My Fathers House.

We are ALSO so grateful to the Lord for Gervasio Manave... Such a great team member. We all enjoyed working as a team in our home, to train leaders and prepare a strategy to help 3 very rural villages with very few literate or even Portuguese-fluent adults to still have access to Missions School training, by sending an itinerant facilitator who can translate from Portuguese into the local dialect, by going out to stay in these villages for two weeks every 8 weeks... Graduating will be delayed for these students but the audio material will be such a huge blessing. Please pray for ongoing finances to sustain this solution. Boavida is such a dedicated Pro-Visao Missionary! Also so very thankful for the mother-tongue Jesus Film and audio Bibles! Excited about the Community Bible Study training

23rd: Glory to God for this lovely group of Missions School Facilitators, trained and equipped now also with Community Bible Study training for literate communities.

31st: Ten piglets born before church this morning... What a blessing for Royal Treasures!

4th: My dad's Birthday today. Family are all so far away and our hearts long to see them and hold our grandsons. Modern technology makes it easier a little and harder too. Feeling the loss today more acutely than others. I know Les feels it too.

7th: It was so good to see pastor Titos and the evangelists out around Mavuane doing so well and their Churches growing... Great interest in a Missions School. And to see our donkey cart and the same little old donkey collecting water for the church! Thank You God for filling the little dam and giving an abundant maize harvest!

12th: So thankful for God's abundant blessing and the joy of seeing our old health evangelists from the 5 villages around Makeze still strong in the Lord and now starting to train other Mozambican missionaries. Thank you, Boavida Boavida Manjate for encouraging and helping them get started! You are incredible! Pray for Royal Treasures on holiday in their respective villages from today... Always a vulnerable time!.

25th: Royal Treasures family on camp at our home, starting tomorrow... All the shopping is finally done, the birthday cakes made for little Nelson and 17 year old Estêvão.. Praying for Spiritual breakthrough... And that our generator will be repaired in time so we can pump water again.! Praying for safety on these crazy roads when we fetch the kids, swimming activities in the lake and above all, for growth in grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus, for each and every child and young person !!!!

29th: Camp ended well yesterday, and youth arrived safely in their villages as today was the first day back at school. We had simultaneous study groups -Changana and Makhua watching Gospel recordings and part of the Jesus film last night, (God sent a refugee family from Monte Puez here to us) We still had the unit for Monte Puez with us, so test drove it with them... So much fun!



Our
Mahindra
serves as our
bedroom and
Marks
workshop
when we do
outreaches in
the rural
areas.





Birthday Celebration

30th: I am so very blessed! What a perfect birthday surprise! My Fathers House kids and Gervasio swore Mark to secrecy and organised a surprise party for me. After a trip out to fetch fuel Mark started home, my heart sank...then we "stopped in at the kids" and SURPRISE they all jumped out singing.

Cake, flowers and a beautiful vase with snacks too. Such a treasured expression of love. I could not have imagined a better surprise.

#1 .. Pastor Titos receives his Solar Kit made by Mark and the Live school Tablet - pre-loaded with the full Live School curriculum, Jesus film in his home language (Changane) as well as the Audio Buible and some Christian movies for kids...... WHAT AN ANSWER TO PRAYER.

#2 .. Les teachers a LIFE School facilitator how to operate the device (Tablet)

September and October

2nd: Driving out to Guija area to deliver a repaired Live school unit and 2 more solar charging kits to these amazing evangelists, trained in July in our home as Missions School Video Facilitators....

The solar systems will be stationary, the Unit for showing Jesus film and projecting the Live school lessons will travel from facilitator to facilitator by donkey, ox cart or motorbike... One unit is serving 3 villages here. There is great hunger for God's Word. We are so humbled!

5th: Sadly no graduation of Missions students possible this time but such important relationship building and training was possible.

It was fun teaching the pastor's how to set up their own solar systems. Talking them through the how's and why's and seeing the lights come on when their systems worked. Tonight pastor Cláudio and I (Mark) are headed back to Maputo by plane. Arrival 1am. It's going to be a long night. Praying for a flight tomorrow, for Les... Though she will miss this amazing group of pastors. She has so enjoyed training them to use the tablet(and Live School materials), and learning so much from their amazing testimonies too. God is at work in the North despite the Islamic attacks.

11th: Mark and Claudio made it to the meeting with Community Bible study mentees in time despite their 1am arrival in Maputo and little sleep.

I'm glad we could facilitate this partnership. Mark and I were so touched by the courage, joy and gratitude of a refugee Church in Cabo Delgado, who blessed us, with a beautiful and valuable gift of a blanket, after our recent Missions School Facilitator Training in Nampula... Made me cry!

12th: Special Birthday for Mark, the last of the 50's. Amongst many gifts I received a cat.....with 4 kittens from Les. Each one its own little gift. Only cat lovers will know the joy.

22nd: Pigs, chickens and the wonderful blessing of rain last night making the vegetable gardens thrive - God's blessing and Provision.... And this weekend we will celebrate special birthdays for Mingo and Arcenia... So proud of these Royal Treasures! God is good to us!

25th: A special time of celebration and Input into the Royal Treasures lives this weekend! Can't believe Mingo is 15 already. God has faithfully kept these kids through so many trials and joys.

1st: Our anniversary.. lovers, friends and partners in the adventures and challenges of ministry and life. ... each day, serving our Master together. May our love and partnership in Ministry grow deeper with each year that passes. 34 years have flown! Thanking God for His Faithfulness... The hymn sung at our wedding... 'Great is Thy faithfulness, Oh God my Father. There is no shadow of turning with Thee. Thou changes not, Thy compassions they fail not. As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be... Great is Thy Faithfulness... Morning by morning new mercies I see.. All I have needed, Thy hand hath provided

Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto us!!!!.

3rd: It's almost the end of the school year, some big expenses looming in Dec / January... (registration for 3 kids starting teacher training / nursing college) uniforms for High School for one more student and new uniforms for 5 kids whose uniforms are already way too short! Kids family vacation in Quelimane with Bernadette's kids also on the cards if funds allow.

5th: God is so good to us! We swapped 2 piglets for 4 laying hens, today we had twelve eggs for Royal Treasures, and the 2 new Danish Whites (pigs) are thriving along with our hardy little mixed breeds. We are madly making compost for the Farming God's Way seminar we hope to run in November, part of the Live School curriculum. We also planted peanuts (despite Les's severe allergy, yes it was her idea) to improve our sandy soil and reduce evaporation.

We are trying hard to become more auto sustainable and feeding the kids a better diet with more protein and veggies. The cost of living has gone crazy and our "income" has not kept up. Pray for ongoing monthly support for the Orphans – we are below 60% on their budget



1 Gift of a blanket, Kapulana from a church in a refugee camp in Cabo Delgado – humbled and honoured!



2 Pastors Building their own Solar kits



3 Food aid to refugees via the LIVE School Groups.



4 Our Vegetable garden is starting to produce.



5 Kids CAMP, fun at the lake.



6 Training of LIVE School facilitators.



7 LIVE School training in action, solar powered.

Praise and Prayer

Issue #10

With thanks to the Lord



8 Kids CAMP in our home. Les teaching them piano.

- 1. Please pray that the leaders of the Missionary Training schools do not 'become weary in well doing' but carry on to successfully coach all their students to graduation, and beyond, as effective ministers of the gospel and pioneer evangelists / church planters in unreached areas.
- 2. Please pray for their protection, during their practical outreaches and once they graduate as they will be working under great persecution and often in real danger and hardship.
- 3. Praise God for all the new classes and schools in the North and in our own province who are preparing labourers for God's vineyard in very difficult places. Praise God for the new schools in our own province, and for Gervasio and Pastor Boavida who have been helping us to coach and encourage the facilitators in 6 rural communities in our own province, where very little Portuguese and no English is spoken.

4. Praise God for protecting us as a couple as we travelled from Quelemane in Central Mozambique, by taxi at night, over some really bad roads, with really bad headlights to our overnight stop, where we fellowshipped with fellowmissionary and amazing foster mom of 6 precious Royal Treasures in Mocuba. The next day we travelled, again by taxi, and at break-neck speed with quite a bit of reckless overtaking to the YWAM base for the training and distribution of the tablets in Nampula, which is a safe, central location for the refugee pastors. We had wonderful fellowship and training and could set up reliable channels for 3 mo of refugee feeding 5. Treasures: Praise God for open hearts during the devotionals on the camp this month, and a wonderful time of individual personal Bible Study. It was encouraging to see a change in the maturity level of especially the 3 boys who were baptised recently! All the glory to the Lord. 6,Please pray for the kids' academics - 2

older kids in kinship fostering left school without reaching even tenth grade (heartbreaking!) and some of our Fathers House kids are struggling quite a bit with exams coming up. Pray their English and Portuguese communication skills would improve. Pray for skills and wisdom for the Treasures in order to sustain themselves and their families, as economic times are changing around the world, hitting those closest to the breadline hardest. Pray that they would trust the Lord, not men, for their provision, and have a good work ethic and creative, open minds to what the Lord wants to show them

Refugee blanket distribution earlier this year – as we write food parcels are going out with the evangelism teams from the Missionary Training School, into the refugee camps, photos not included for their



We are beyond excited to be able to finally meet our second grandson, and renew our relationship with our first grandchild, Nathan, who will be 3 in March, and left South Afrca for Uzbekistan before his first birthday. We are thankful to the Lord for His grace and favor on our family, though we miss them, and are sad that our youngest son, Michael and his wife, Whitney, cannot come to South Africa at this point. All in God's perfect timing!



NEEDS AND PLANS

- 1. Thank YOU once again for praying for us. We are very tired and needing a bit of spiritual refreshment and time out at the end of the year.
- 2. We are concerned for the health and provision for our extended family. This is a big concern of ours especially when we can't travel to SA to see them as often as in the past. Those who visit Kruger might like to stay over in their 'treetop cottage' in Marloth Park 20 minutes from Crocodile Gate to Kruger Park?
- 3. We have been invited to Memphis, USA in July/August next year for an Orphan conference and to attend the **ORPHANOS Retreat**. Much needed. We would love to attend and have been offered some airmiles for a little internal travel to visit supporters after the retreat, so please contact us if you would like us to try visit you. Please pray for the Lords provision of tickets.
- 4. We have a small ministry team developing and we are concerned for their well-being. We helped Gervasio to initiate a small motorbike taxi busines so that he can be self-sustaining. Boavida is working with us part time for which he gets paid a small salary. Franco needs to return to Beira and work on residence documents etc The process is long and going rather slowly. Franco would like to return to his very effective market evangelism ministry in Beira, but needs to raise his personal support and fuel/ministry costs. Please contact us for his details to receive his newsletter. We request help to get the word out of the need of these brothers in Christ and co-labourers.
- 5. **Royal Treasures**: We are looking at the projected needs of our 2 twelfth-graders who will be studying education and medicine, respectively, next year and are needing sponsors, so they can prepare themselves to be self-sustaining adults
- 6. EXCITING PLAN FOR YEAR END... Our beloved kids in Uzbekistan will be spending 2 weeks with us in Eastern Cape, South Africa.... We are so thrilled to finally get to meet our one year old grandson, Ian, and renew our relationship with Nathan who left before he turned one!

- 7. Once our family leaves we are looking at taking the kids from Fathers House with us to spend a part of their Holidays with our Missionary Friend Bernadette, in Mocuba, Zambezia, or just at a spot a bit closer to home. This is an important time for ministry and relationship building with the kids.
- 8. The next MISSIONS SCHOOL graduation is scheduled for January 2022.... After that we are praying for a visit from very special guest who ministers to persecuted Christians around the world Monnie Brewer Please pray for funding for the transport and food for both these programs in the North of Mozambique, and for the protection of all the participants and graduates. As I write, 7 of these most vulnerable Missions Schools are going into their practical outreach and church planting phase we covet LOTS of prayer for them and for the unreached groups with whom they will share Christ
- 9. Finally, as part of Farming Gods Way, we would like to run a course on Bee keeping and are looking for materials and someone to come share the skills needed.
- 10. It's just a month to ORPHAN SUNDAY 2022 (13 November) please pray that orphans all across Mozambique and around the world would be impacted by the love of Jesus 'every child in a LOVING FAMILY ... embraced in a collaborative COMMUNITY

