



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS!

'There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens...' (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)

It's amazing to think another year has almost gone! Time is like an ever flowing stream along which we are carried, powerless to stem its passage. With every breath we take we move forward in time ...a moment becomes a minute a minute becomes an hour.... a day, a week, a month, a year! What a great opportunity to glance back with God and reflect on all He has been doing in and through us all and to look forward with God to seek His will and purpose for the new year. Recent events in our world reveal afresh to us the fragility of human life... our only hope is the God of LOVE, who offers us abundant never-ending life through Jesus Christ.

Short-term Mission Trip

We thank God for Karen & Danny, Penny & Adrian, who boldly came to Africa for 3 weeks in September. Their contribution to the ministry was invaluable. It was so good to be able to reach the children through their puppet and interactive song and dance programme. They are still asking for 'Dito' and 'Isobela' the 2 puppets!

A challenging journey from South Africa to Vilanculos, due to a rather serious problem with our vehicle, initiated them into some of the typical problems we often face in Mozambique. No AA or RAC so when the radiator overheats, due to a lack of water, the only way is to inch ones way forward stopping every hour to put more water in. Adrian and Danny stepped up to the mark and it was a treat to have 2 strapping men to help us in our hour of need! We stopped off first in Inhambane at our friends Inge and Jaco and spent 2 days doing outreach into their villages.



In Vilanculos they ministered and preached at 5 different Aglow villages distributing footballs, toothbrushes, toothpaste and gifts for the children as well as giving out extra food to the most needy, whose crops have failed due to the drought. Penny gave an informed talk on tooth brushing at every place and counselled them to reduce their sugar intake...she could not get over seeing one man put 11 sugars in his tea! Adrian and Danny had a chance to

flex their muscles, when they joined Bento and Orlando in building 2 latrines for Rosa and Gloria. Hard labour in 35 degree heat is no easy task, but they did really well!

Vilanculos Aglow Land 2015



We thank God for the establishment of the land, which we bought in partnership with Mozambique Aglow. Bento and Orlando have worked really hard clearing it of bush, trees and thorns, digging out stubborn roots and then over the year building a small ministry house for accommodation, a kitchen, bathroom and latrine, a shaded area and most importantly a House of Aglow Prayer for the new Vilanculos Aglow group. In November the new group met for prayer and we officially opened the house and the land for God's work through the Aglow ministry. We are praying our Mozambican partners will continue to move forward God's

purposes and kingdom through prayer, unity and compassion. Here are Teresa and Rafina the missionary leaders of Aglow Vilanculos.

Widows and Orphans

Our message the last 9 years, as we have walked and talked amongst our Mozambican brothers and sisters, has been that *faith has to be seen as well as heard* and that God has a special place in His heart for the widows, widowers, the sick, the orphans and the hurting. You may remember **Bette and Ignacio, the twins**, who had been abandoned by their mother, who we were helping with food, clothes and shelter. We were waiting for an answer from the Social Security, when the father of the twins suddenly turned up from Maputo and pledged to care for his family. He has built them a new house and is seeking work to be able to care for his family. Please continue to pray for them. Charis has been helping **3 grandmothers**, who have been left to care for **the babies**, whose mothers have died providing them with milk powder and Celeriac. Most recently we heard about a young couple, who had had **triplets** and were struggling to survive. They have no close family nearby, who can help. The mother is very sick and was recently admitted to hospital. We are helping with milk and 2 Christian ladies have taken in the babies. Again this family need much prayer.



Village Bible Training

We thank God for a fruitful year, training between 35-50 people in the bible, along with the usual distribution of medicines!. Men, women, old and young, including some pastors and leaders from a plethora of different denominations attended weekly and a few have pledged to return to their villages, churches and Aglow groups to pass on what they have learned. It has been a privilege to help strengthen and build up God's church with His word and to sow seeds of truth in unbelievers too...we even witnessed to witchdoctors in our midst☺



Grinding Mill



Thanks to the kind donation from one of Charis supporters the village of Chiruala, which will serve a number of surrounding villages, will soon see the arrival of a Corn grinding mill(like the one opposite). Charis has built a house, where it will be stored and an Aglow committee will oversee the management of funds. They have pledged to allocate some of the monies generated to the most-needy in the communities as well as sending a tithe to the central Aglow fund in Maputo. The mill will be such a blessing to many in the area, who at present have to walk 20km there and back into town to grind a bowl full of corn. It will also provide an opportunity for some to come and sell their wares to those who come

to grind corn-perhaps seeing the establishment of a small market.

We thank God for all he has been doing in 2015 and all you our faithful supporters who have made it all possible! Thank you to all who prayed for Mandy's Dad, he has made a good recovery from his pneumonia, although his dementia continues to steadily decline. **Please continue to pray and also for:**

- The 3 new Aglow groups-Vilanculos town, Zavora and Macuama, for anointed leaders with God's heart.
- The safe arrival of the grinding mill.
- Our Mozambican partners as they carry the ministry forward into 2016 and beyond.

May God come close to you this Christmas as you reflect on the wonderful gift of Jesus!

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If you would like more information or wish to give a donation to our work please contact Kath Welch (Secretary): 1 Sunnyside Ave., Wilpshire, Nr. Blackburn, BB1 9LW. Tel-01254 240893 katmel09@talktalk.net

Please make cheques payable to Charis Ministries and send to above address.

You can also give online through BT MYDONATE. Charis Gift Aid forms are also available, which enables tax to be reclaimed.

If you wish to follow CHARIS on FACEBOOK please email Mel

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