

Restoring the Breach

Steve & Rachel Good

September 2014

Ten-Year Anniversary

September is our 10-year anniversary of starting our lives as missionaries and development workers. We went to Brazil in 2004 for Portuguese language school. We were 10 years younger, none of our kids were married and two were in university. We had never lived in a different country as a couple and never been together 24/7 since our honeymoon and a few vacation times.

It has been quite a ride! We have learned a lot about ourselves, about Mozambican and African culture and about development. One of the main things we realized is that we can bring good teachings, materials and methods, but it is only God that can transform hearts. As we obey Him, the seeds are planted and some of them bring good fruit while some fall on hard ground. One of our common phrases is "Everybody makes choices." Our encouragement is to make choices that lead to abundant life in Jesus.



Labor Day Weekend

The Good's have been going to Lake Michigan on Labor Day weekend since Steve was 10. This year was no exception and we had a wonderful time introducing the new generation to the Lake and to each other.

U.S. Summer

This year we spent 11 weeks relating to family, friends and grandbabies back in the US. We attended three family reunions, held one of our own and made visits to each of our kid's growing families. As you may recall, Joel and Joanna each added a grandchild in January and February. Soon thereafter, Janelle and David announced they are expecting at the end of November. It must be the "year of the baby!"

Part of the reason for taking more time in the U.S. was to assist the family with sorting out things at the farm where Steve grew up. While most of the farm has been sold, there are still lots of issues to deal with and equipment to repair and sell. Steve spent several partial weeks with his brother John fixing tractors and feeling like a farmer/mechanic again. The work did not all get done, but we made a big dent in the list.

One of the blessings of relating to a sending/local church is the supportive relationships we have when we come back. Having been a part of Harvest Community Church for 30+ years before going to Mozambique, we have developed many deep relationships that still stand with us today. It was our privilege to spend time sharing over meals, getting reacquainted and hearing what God is doing in the lives of others. Thank you to each one who shared your time with us and those who wanted to when we ran out of time. You have refreshed and encouraged us by your love and actions.



Elections and Peace

The Mozambican government and a former rebel group, Renamo, signed a peace accord in August after two years of sporadic clashes, mainly in the center of the country.

"The declaration of the cessation of military hostilities which we've just signed is made in the spirit of good faith and represents the will of all of Mozambique's people to establish peace and harmony in our country," said Saimone Macuiane, a Renamo negotiator.

We are very thankful to God for this. Please join us in praying for a peaceful election on Oct. 15th.



Atalia in Mukhotwene



Atalia (on the left) is a young woman who is dedicating her life to God by serving as a trainer of Spiritual Transformation Groups and church leaders in the village of Mukhotwene. She is passionate about what God has done in her life and eager to share truth with others. Atalia shared her excitement with us about how the discipleship teachings are being multiplied as people she has taught are now sharing with others. With the encouragement of our church we are raising funds toward Atalia's support and the WR Church Development program she works with. If you would like to give toward this project in Mozambique, please mark your contribution to HCC for Atalia.

Thank You!

Thank you so much for your friendship, love and support. We feel we are part of a team and not doing this on our own. God bless you!

Stopover in Germany

We left the U.S. on September 5 and spent the next three days with friends of more than 35 years, Del and Jeannie Penner, who have lived in Idar-Oberstein, Germany since 1985. We have a lot in common and a lot to talk about.

We did a bit of touring around. Some of the things we learned were: 1) this section of Germany with its mountains and valleys looks a lot like West Virginia and western PA, 2) Many buildings were older than the U.S. as a nation, 3) Food costs are lower, but a Coke is \$5, 4) Life in a castle was more a bed of thorns than roses (and cold), 5) Like our plane, German trains don't always run on time (for which Del apologized profusely).

Many thanks to the Penner's for their wonderful hearts to host and encourage us. It was a fantastic way to get over jet-lag. They were great at explaining the local situation, challenges, culture and customs.



Email: steverachel@srgood.net

Blog: srgood.blogspot.com

Financial Support: make checks payable to Harvest Community Church, 17285 CR 34, Goshen IN 46528 USA

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