December 2019: Overview of the Year Experience Mission Africa





Greetings from South Africa

Our year has been filled with many adventures: we've traveled through the rolling hills of South Africa, to the mountains of Lesotho, the sand dunes of Namibia, and the jungle lanscape of Mozambique. In each place we saw much brokenness but with each place we left we saw glimmers of hope. In each face, we were able to see light and God working in different ways. This year hasn't come without trial, but overall we saw more joy, more love, and more of Christ's faithfulness. During this year we received nine different teams. We had one six-month team. We received three, three-month teams. We received four one-month teams. Last, we received a two-week team to end the year. With each team and each community, we saw many transformations. We saw lives on fire for Christ and team members who returned home with a changed worldview and life. In this newsletter, you will see all the communities we were in during this year. You will also hear from different team members on how their experience here in Africa shaped their lives. Lastly, you will see some of the adventures we have been on. It's a privilege to be on this journey with God, it's a privilege to see lives changes, and it's a privilege that we are called to do this each and every day.

EM Africa by the Numbers

EM Africa has been all around Southern Africa and served in 13 different communities in four countries: South Africa, Lesotho, Namibia, and Mozambique. From inner-city squatter camps, to farms, to the desert and mountains we've seen the impact of transformation. We've also watched how God has worked within each place and in each people group. Check out EM Africa by the numbers to see how far we've gone (please note these numbers are estimates).

South Africa



Mooiplaas, Gauteng, South Africa

In Mooiplaas, we partner with a ministry that has a pre-school, outreach programs, an open-school and house of safety. Mooiplaas is a squatter camp and there is a high level of alcohol and drug use. Many kids end up not in school but on the streets. We partner alongside the students and staff members to offer hope and participate in service projects in Mooiplaas. *Total reach of people in Darling: 400*



Frankfort, South Africa

In Frankfort, we partner with a local church in town that specifically serves fatherless children, orphans, and partakes in prison ministries and farm outreaches. During the time in Frankfor, we participate in many farm outreaches and sharing the hope and love of Christ. *Total reach of people in Frankfort: 3,500*



Darling, South Africa

In Darling we partner with a ministry that work on local farms and doing school outreaches, church services and after-school programs. In Darling, there are major problems with alcohol and drug abuse and many of the kids have Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Our teams there offer hope just by showing up and sharing their testimonies. *Total reach of people in Darling: 3,000*

Lesotho



Maputseng, Lesotho

During the time in Maputseng, we were able to partner with a local ministry called Growing Nations. Team members got to take part in "Farming God's way" and help to farm the areas around Maputseng. We were also able to partake in a village stay in different villages around the area.

Total reach of people in Maputseng: 200



Leribe, Lesotho

The outreach in Leribe is a two day outreach into the villages in the surrounding area. We are able to visit houses and talk with the people there and then invite to watch the Jesus film. This year after the jesus film, about 20 of the people that came accepted Jesus into their hearts.

Total reach of people in Leribe: 300

Kamm Mangun, 1-Month Himba Team

My time in Africa is something I will never forget and can not stop talking and thinking about. The way of life, the change in pace, and the relationships that were made are just a few of the things God showed me in my month in Namibia. Learning to trust God with everything and not worrying or thinking about what comes next really allowed me to live in the moment and grow in ways I never thought possible. I now live every day with a new sense of time, always trying to soak as much up from each moment of the day as possible. I've learned to appreciate the small things in life and value each relationship i have with someone more. All in all this trip showed me who God truly is and pushed me to fully trust God in all the things I do. Take chances, pray often, love more, worry less, trust God.





Abby Busse, 6-Month Africa Team

During the months I've spent in Southern Africa, I have had the opportunity to live with and become a part of many beautiful families. From the outside they looked very different; Their routines, sizes, locations, cultures, languages, etc. But while living with them, I actually found a lot more things that were the same. The way they all loved and cared for each other as well as for me. The way they put what is best for the majority over their own needs. The way they chose to see the hope and goodness in the world despite what surrounded them. Family is not just a matter of blood and birth but a matter of love, value and the way you care for those around you. Lelapa will always be in my heart. I love you, Ek is lief vir julle, Kea o rata!

Mozambique



Milange, Mozambique

The time in Milange, Mozambique is spent in two ways. One, is in a village stay where team members are able to share the love of Christ through language as well as many cultural barriers. Some of the people here don't know about God and it's incredible to see change in kids and adults in small ways. The second experience was with the Reformed Church in Milange where the team did some community projects and attended church.

Total reach of people in Milange: 400



Mocuba, Mozambique

In Mocuba, team members were able to partner with a ministry that serves many kids in the surrounding villages and also reach out to orphans. There were also village stays in Mocuba where team members travel with the families to the outside villages and share the hope and love of God.

Total reach of people in Mocuba: 400

Namibia



Swakopmund, Namibia

In Swakopmund, Experience Mission Africa teams become part of the town. There are many tribes of Namibia in Swakopmund and we are able to be a part of building relationships at the market, on the beach with the school kids, or different people around town such as car guards or restaurant workers.

Total reach of people in Swakopmund: 200



Queen Sofia, Namibia

The outreach in Queen Sofia is unique as Queen Sofia itself is a resettlement project where many families live and learn how to "farm God's way" as well as other life skills. Teams partner alongside missionaries there and go on farm outreaches as well as spread hope and light in schools.

Total reach of people in Queen Sofia: 500



Opuwo, Namibia

The outreach in Opuwo is quite special because it's among the very unique Himba people group. The Himba people group is nomadic and many of them are still unreached. Teams had the opportunity to earn their right to be part of the community. We also had the opportunity to work in schools and visit local villages to share about Christ.

Total reach of people in Opuwo: 400



Milanda, Namibia

In Milanda, team members had the ability to live on a local farm and partner alongside local missionaries. They did farm outreaches as well as visit local churches. *Total reach of people in Milanda: 300*

Namibia



Walvis Bay, Namibia

Walvis Bay, directly translated means Whale Bay, is a coastal town close to Swakopmund. Team members stay with host families in Walvis Bay and also had the opportunity to become part of a local congregation. *Total reach of people in Walvis Bay: 300*



Kuiseb, Namibia

The Kuiseb region is located in the Namib Desert, which is the oldest desert in the world. Teams lived among the local people in the heart of the Namib desert. They were able to go on home visits and work in the local school there. Many people in this area are kind of forgotton and neglected. They have little hope so the outreach there is a precious opportunity to reflect on the Kingdom of God. *Total reach of people in the Kuiseb: 400*

Annabelle Camp, 3-Month South Africa Team

When I reflect on the unmeasurable moments that were experienced in South Africa, an overwhelming amount of emotions flood my heart. There is this different type of joy that come from knowing I have family and friends an ocean away. The joy is from being connected at the hip with a team who shined love, from the hospitality that was genuine, from the friendships that are deeply engraved in my heart. There is this sadness that comes from not knowing if I will ever be able to reconnect with these people who mean more to me than they know. These people taught me how live for God even when it looks like there is nothing to live for. These people taught me that if I am willing to show up, God will not let me down. Then there is this peace that flushed out all that sadness because I know they are surrounded by God's hands and He is always going to protect them.



Community Development

Experience Mission Africa strives to help in practical ways that are healthy and uplifting. This year, EM Africa completed more than 20 community projects in our 11 commmunities. These projects included painting projects, turning compost, scrubbing windows, building shelves, filling potholes, gardening, and many more repair and cleaning projects. Take a look by the numbers what EM Africa was able to accomplish in our communities.



Green Footprints

There are many things that negatively affect the environment, but the most shocking statistic is that there are more than 20,000 people who die each year in South Africa because of pollution in air, water, or food. EM Africa has started some green initiatives to make a difference. We planted more than 10 trees, stuffed many plastic bottles to help build a recycled fence, and picked up trash in many of our communities.



Our Teams



6M Team

This team stayed from January until June and traveled around Southern Africa where they served in Mooiplaas, Darling, Maputseng, Swakopmund and Queen Sofia.



1M Mozambique

This team traveled from South Africa to Mozambique on a four -day trek and served in Milange. They stayed in small rural villages while in Milange.



3M South Africa

This team stayed from January until March and served in Mooiplaas and Frankfort, a small farming town in the Free State Province of South Africa.



1M Namibia

This team stayed in the farming community of Milanda and served on many farm outreaches and schools throughout the area.

Our Teams



1M Himba

Our Himba team served in Swakopmund and traveled for two days to Opuwo in the Kunene Region where they served in a local school and visit the Himba villages.



1M South Africa

This team spent time in Mooiplaas. They served there for a month and lived with local host families while there.



3M Namibia

This team served in many communities including Queen Sofia, Walvis Bay, the Kuiseb Valley and Swakopmund.



3M South Africa

This team served in two communities in South Africa:
Darling, a farming community in the Western Cape and Mooiplaas.

Our Teams



2-Week South Africa

This two-week team was here for a short time but made a big impression on the community. They served in Mooiplaas for their two weeks and got to experience South African culture.

Life with EM Africa

Life with EM Africa can be exciting and fast-paced or slow and simple. But we can tell you one thing, it's always an adventure. Check out below some of the places we've stayed, some of the food we've eaten and some of the adventures we've had.

Places We've Stayed





Food We've Eaten







Adventures We've Had







Partnering/Investing Opportunities

Investing opportunities

With the increase in teams, the increase in number of team members on each team and the increase in communities we are working with, we start to feel the pressure on our infrastructure and ability to render professional support and service, especially in the area of transport. The cost of vehicle maintenance has gone over our heads and we find ourselves in a bit of a challenging situation. Please pray for ways and means to counter the rising cost of vehicle maintenance.

Praise

"Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name." – Heb 13:15

EM Africa Staff



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Thank YOU!

Thank you so much for your continued prayers and love. We appreciate all of the support that each of you give. We appreciate you!







By God's grace, the communities that we work in are being renewed and the people are being touched by God's love. We're thankful for the road that God has allowed us to walk and the footprints we can leave behind for the Kingdom.

"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now,..." – Phil. 1:3-5

A big THANK YOU to you, our friends, family, partners and supporters! By God's grace and by His lovingkindness we will keep walking......

Soli Deo Gloria! Hein & Helene van Wyk





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