



Update from Dara and Chad Vanden Bosch

May 2026

Dear Friends,

Some weeks, or even months, in our life here in Mozambique seem to go on and on, fighting the same old battles and doing the same old routine—homeschool, farm, patient visits, repeat. But not so this last month. A lot seems to be happening recently. Mostly good. Some hard.

First off, we received a shipment of 2,500 audio Bible devices! This was the first in far too long. There had been new regulations and banking hurdles that made it a challenge to import these treasured devices. Much to our delight, we now have them in hand, and God's Word is going out in several languages throughout the country.

Also, the recording team had a busy couple of weeks in the recording studio. During those weeks, they wrapped up the recording of the complete Bible in the Makua Shirima language from northern Mozambique. This was a multi-year project that required over

1,000 hours of studio time to record and edit. We praise the Lord that the million speakers of this language now have God's Word available to them in audio.



May 1 is a public holiday here in Mozambique. It's celebrated as Workers' Day. If you are part of the 5 percent of the population that has formal employment, you really do have something to celebrate—imagine! For the first time, we gathered all of our employees who work with the palliative care program, the farm, and at our house. We served a lunch to 23 people. That's 23 families that can count on a monthly income—when there's only 5 percent of the population in formal employment, this is significant in our little village. For this we need to thank all of our wonderful churches and supporters who make this possible. In addition to the monthly salary, each one of these people need your prayers. Each of these 23 is dear to our hearts in some way. They all have complicated lives and families (as the one employed there comes a lot of pressure), and few of them have good role models or Bible-based churches. They all need more of Jesus and personal encounters with the Lord.



Two more things to share, we also ask for your prayers. From May 14-22, I, Dara, traveled to Ethiopia to do a few palliative care-focused arts in health workshops. This was an opportunity that has arisen from my speaking at the African Palliative Care Association Conference in September. I shared with these already developed palliative care groups how they can enhance their programs by adding an arts emphasis.

Finally, we are feeling the effects of the conflict in the Middle East, and it is significantly impacting our daily lives. Since early April, there has been a major fuel shortage in the country. We were able to store up some fuel in anticipation that this might happen, but we are feeling the crunch. A situation like this really helps you to realize how much you take a steady fuel supply for granted. Though we try not to make the 45-minute journey to “town” very often, we are doing it much less now. It’s making me a bit restless when the furthest I have been is up the dirt road, 20 miles deeper into the bush. And, when we do need fuel for my car to make these trips, we’re paying \$14/gallon. This certainly

affects us, but not nearly as much as so many of our neighbors who are already living on the edge.



So, there you have it, there's been a lot happening. We haven't mentioned homeschooling a 7th grader and a kindergartener and all else that a family needs.

We are good. We've been healthy despite a significant malaria season but that also has put many demands on us as the local health system doesn't have the resources to meet these needs. We have had to step into that role a bit also. It's a lot. Please keep praying for us and know that we acknowledge that it's only by God's grace that we're sustained, through your prayers.

Thank you for journeying with us. All our love,
Chad, Dara, Luzia, and Julieta

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