



# LUZ NEWSLETTER

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Issue # 2

## *Luz Newsletter*

**Luz** is a Portuguese word for light. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." **John 8:12**

"You are the light of the world .... Let your light shine before men."  
**Mathew 5:14, 16**

### **My First Trip to the Central Province of Tete**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of September, I and José (a professional school teacher) took a trip to Tete to buy project cows for one community in Cambine. This is a joint program between Heifer Mozambique and United Methodist Church. Tete is about 1000 kms from Cambine. We started off by 9:00 o'clock in Maxixe and arrived in Chimoio at 6:00pm. We slept in Chimoio. As we were tired we did not manage to catch up the bus at 5:00am. We woke up around 8:00, a friend of us, a former Missioner of Hope took us to the bus stop. No bus was there and the only option was to take a lorry. We therefore took a big lorry carrying bags of cement to Tete. That was my first experience traveling in a freightliner. The trip took us 9 hours over a distance of 400kms from Chimoio to Tete. In Tete, a UMC pastor came to pick us and stayed with him.

The following morning we had to go to the village about 80 kilometers from the city to

search for the animals. The idea was to send a villager to look for the animals.

A man called Fernando was chosen to go and search for the animals. He left the following morning very early and he came back with no single animal. When he came back and told us that he did not find even a single cow was the saddest minute for our trip!

We did not loose hope. As we were moving in the village, a shopkeeper called Vasco asked us what we were doing. We told him our mission and he told us that we didn't tell him before because he had just sold twelve cows; we told ourselves that we were unlucky. He promised to sell us 5 cows. So we started counting the numbers: now that we have 5 cows we are left with 15, because we were looking at having 20 cows.

The villagers told us that there is a small village in the mountains, where we can easily get cows. We went there and very unfortunately we didn't get even a single cow.

The remaining option was to attend the "Exposition Show" where farmers bring their cows twice a week for sale. That is where we got all the cows we needed. Now we started organizing papers and transport to carry the animals. It took about 2 days to arrive in Cambine. Not even a single animal was injured or dead. I say: "Thank you Lord as I saw the animals jumping from the lorry."

The following morning Cambine villagers came to witness the distribution ceremony. The trip to Tete taught me two important lessons:

*“We should never lose hope, even though things are getting tough”*

*“We have to share our needs to others, a solution may be found”*

***Ten Families in Cambine receive oxen: Heifer International in Partnership with UMC in Mozambique***

Two months after intensive training, ten out of 20 selected families received a pair of oxen each. This program is a joint effort between the Heifer Mozambique, the UMC church in Mozambique with financial support from Triesch UMC in Texas. The principle has been to send a team from Heifer Mozambique to empower UMC church agents, who on their turn will train local farmers.

Two training took place with ten Methodists attending the training.

Each of four women led families and six men led families benefited of two cows each. Others will receive their animals later on. The Heifer and the church believe that:

***“Where there are no oxen the manger is empty, but from the strength of an ox comes an abundant harvest.” Proverbs 14:4***

One of the expected outcomes is to increase the area under cultivation and increase family income.



***Dieudonne (in the middle) handing over a pair of oxen to Rodrigues' Family***

Still to receive the animals, are more 15 families who have been selected to receive goats. Two old women told the committee that they cannot afford to rear the cows or the goats asked the committee to grant them chicken.

This initiative was achieved through the efforts of the Triesch Church in Texas and the moving agents were two sisters: Marilyn and Barbara. Thank you Triesch UMC and thank you Barbara and Marilyn.

***Training a Pastor is Training Hundreds of People***

Let us imagine how many people come in contact with one pastor every day. I do believe that the greatest teacher with many students is a pastor.

Now imagine passing on the knowledge to forty pastors, who are serving in different part of the country, how many people will benefit from that?

Part of my time is reserved at teaching English to the first year students in the Seminary School, two hours a week. The first year has a total of 14 students from all parts of the country.



***The First Year Seminary Students in Cambine together with their agric and English Teacher (Second row in a black jersey)***

Students also take course in Agriculture. It is a combined course on theory and practical. The church does not expect to hear that a pastor dies of hunger while God gave us a fertile land and hands to work the land.

Seminary Students take theory classes and in the afternoon work in their fields. They grow vegetables, maize, cassava and peanuts. Some do keep animals especially small species which does not require too much work.



*Olivia Quiteria, 1<sup>st</sup> Year Seminary Student in her backyard Garden*

The main challenge remains the lack of seeds, tools and equipment to distribute to the seminary school.

## **Orphanage Potato Production**

The United Methodist Church in Mozambique has been facing a challenge of feeding children at the Carolyn Belshe Orphanage. Food shortage has been common to the center.

To overcome this problem, the Church has embarked on production of diversified food produce: vegetables, maize, beans, meat products and recently we embarked of potato production.

The program has been sponsored by the Triesch United Methodist Church in Texas. A total area of 1 hectare has been farmed. Certified seeds were purchased from the capital city.

A total of 3000kgs were produced. Part of it was sold to the market and the other part was given to the seminary students and orphanage.

Since seeds cannot be saved for the next production season, the seeds will be purchased to ensure project continuity



*Orphans carrying bags of potatoes*

This challenge of food shortage can be minimized and even overcome by donating through Advance:

Nutrition, Agriculture & Husbandry Training  
@Carolyn Belshe Orphanage:  
**Advance #3020657**

Gifts to Cambine Agriculture Program and Carolyn Belshe Orphanage Food Production through the Advance can be made

by Credit Card online at [www.givetomissions.org](http://www.givetomissions.org) or telephone at 888 252 6174.

Checks may be sent directly to Advance GCFA, P.O. Box 9068, GPO, New York, NY 10087-9068, or placed in the offering plate of any UMC. Please make sure to include the **Advance Number** in the memo line of the check.

(1) Cambine Agriculture Program:  
**Advance #3020561**

(2) Nutrition, Agriculture & Husbandry Training  
@Carolyn Belshe Orphanage:  
**Advance #3020657**

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