

**Subject: Merry Christmas from Julie!**

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**Reply To:** [mercies@aol.com](mailto:mercies@aol.com) Julie Malacuski, Mozambique

## Merry Christmas from Julie!

Dear Friends,

I want to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Greetings from Africa! Here's a story and some news I hope you will have a moment to read as you prepare to celebrate the birth of the King of Kings! (Don't forget to look at the pictures!) . . .

"Mama Julie, come show me which bed is mine," little 10 year-old Antonio insists while tugging on my hand. I look at Antonio, and can't help but smile at him in his persistence. And I can't blame him. Antonio, along with 50 other children is pleading to come live in "Our Father's House." As education here is a luxury. Antonio does not study, nor does he spend much time playing. Antonio's childhood days are spent searching for food, often going to bed hungry. Antonio is an orphan who lives with his aunt. His aunt has no husband or way to provide for her children, but generously houses her own five children as well as five orphaned relatives in her small mud house.

Now that our orphanage, "Our Father's House," is ready to begin caring for children, many children here are convinced that we are their refuge from suffering. We are sure to point the children to Jesus, the only one able to give hope to the multitudes who suffer.

Some 10 year-olds are bold enough to walk bare foot in hot sand 1 1/2 hours to "Our Father's House" just to be sure we haven't forgotten they want to live with us. In all my travels I have never experienced anything like this. I never imagined I would have 50 children desperate to live with me in an orphanage. With high hopes, the children run when they see my car, push through a crowd of children for a space at my car window, and plead with me to write their names down!

We are basing our work with the children on Psalm 68:6, "God sets the lonely in families." As the Lord provides, we are building homes. Each home houses 12 children, Mozambican houseparents, and a missionary. We have also begun a day program to provide education, lunch and discipleship to additional children who are orphaned or have a single parent who is sick or unable to provide for them.

We want to thank you and celebrate with you what the Lord has done this year! We have seen the Lord provide and answer our prayers time and again! We know He is our God who truly provides a crown of beauty for ashes (Isaiah 61:3).

Look at what the Lord has done!

1. We have six delightful children now living with us and four children in our day program! Please pray for: \*12 year/old Carlos as he has chronic malnutrition. \*Our adorable 8 year-old twins, Enshowlee and Isaace who are a bit nervous for me to leave to visit America! \*Jao as he transitions into the home. \*Manuel, our 16 year-old orphan who has recently lost 2 aunts and 2 cousins to illnesses. \*1 1/2 year-old Elena, who I wrote about in my last newsletter. Elena has continued to lose weight and is severely malnourished. She and her grandmother will be living with us for 2 months, in hopes that her health will improve. \*Our four children in our day program!

2. Deepening relationship and discipleship with 30 spiritually hungry men every morning!
3. The Lord's hand on our health and safety, even when 30 armed military came to the abandoned military tower where we disciple, in an attempt to persuade us not to disciple anymore!
4. The Lord's hand and provision with construction of our first home for 12 children.
5. Our wonderful team of missionaries and helps the Lord has raised up. Please keep Ania in your prayers as she cares for the disciples and children while Michael and I visit the states!
6. My sister Dawn is recovering well from her near-fatal car accident in May!

Lastly, we are so grateful for our wonderful stateside team! Thank you for all of your love and support! I hope to see you on my visit to Detroit in January/February!

May the Lord bless you, keep you, and wrap his arms around you this Christmas!

Love, Julie  
(and Our Dream Project Team Michael, Ania, and Travis)

Check out our pictures below!



**The kids who walked 1 1/2 hours barefoot in hot sand out to the orphanage.**



Receiving our first children!



Where did they learn how to pose?





Time for new clothes!



Our children with their houseparents!



Our children and many of our staff!



Antonio is beside me in his new striped shirt!





Learning to read and write! Meet Enshowlee!



Here's Enshowlee's twin, Isaac. Could we be more blessed?!



**Introducing Carlos! He was so happy to come live with us!**

**Email:** I love to receive emails at [ourfathershouse1@msn.com](mailto:ourfathershouse1@msn.com)

Michael can receive emails at [ourfathershouse@hotmail.com](mailto:ourfathershouse@hotmail.com)

**Phone:** You may contact me while I am in the states through my parents at 231-734-6190.

**Mail/Packages:** Mailings to Mozambique are not secure and can take one to four months. Our mailing address in Mozambique is: **Julie Malacuskay or Michael Goodnight, Iris Ministries, P.O. Box 275, Pemba, Cabo Delgado, Mozambique.**

Mail sent to South Africa is more secure but will take even longer for us to receive in most cases. This address is: **Julie Malacuskay or Michael Goodnight, Iris Ministries, P.O. Box 20017 West Acres 1211, Nelspruit, South Africa.**

**Prayer support:** Our lifeline is prayer support. If you would like to be a part of our regular prayer support, please email Michele at [motherof5cherubs@fredlaverycompany.com](mailto:motherof5cherubs@fredlaverycompany.com) so that you can specify a certain time to commit to prayer, or just receive our monthly prayer calendar.

**Tax-deductible donations:** Send to either my mom or Michael's mom. They will then be forwarded to World Missions and Evangelism. Please make checks payable to WME.

My mom's address is: **Connie Malacuskay, 12920 110th Avenue, Evart, MI 49631.**

Michael's mom's address is: **Dona Goodnight, 1631 Lark Drive, Jonesboro, AR 72401.**