



marco
justine
naomi
noah

March 2012

Buying tickets... Find out where we're going on page 2



Soccer for Spalkes!

Right now the third OASIS CUP is happening in Germany! Our home church Oasis from Molbergen has been organising a soccer tournament which has grown into a huge event in its third year. Twelve amateur soccer teams from various churches in our region are fighting for the desired challenge cup today from 10am to 4pm in the local sportshall. The proceeds of the day will go straight to us and our minstry – to whom the trophy will go is not decided yet... There is also going to be South African goods for sale and lots of food to buy which businesses and friends have mostly donated for free. These guys have even made a promotional clip and edited a video of the official group draw! Plus, Marco was able to join the opening ceremony with some inspirational words via Skype call. We are so stunned by how much effort our friends and family have put into this day, all to support us! A huge THANK YOU to Oasis Church for coming up with this great idea and all your hard work!!!

African Time

Haven't heard from us in a while, huh? I was frantically searching my whole computer trying to find our February Newsletter, because it seemed strange to me that it was not available for download on our website. Mmmhhh... hard to find something that you have completely forgotten to write in the first place! So here we are, late March. Let's just file this one under the well known (and very appropriate) term "African Time", shall we?

Our renovation work at **Sibongile** also falls under this terminology. In January, we wrote that the re-opening of our day care centre will happen at the end of February. Unfortunately, the construction has taken longer than anticipated and so there was still frantic painting, scrubbing, decorating and sorting happening on Friday morning (23rd of March), with the Grande Re-Opening Ceremony starting at 11am that day! And let's not underestimate "grande". Nomasango, Bukelwa and all our mamas decided we have to do some serious celebrating. We had a huge party tent, an entire van loaded with groceries, cooking starting at 5am that day, political representation, the local press and LOTS of visitors!

We have not worked on the pictures yet, but it's worth to keep an eye on [our website](#) and the Sibongile Newsletter coming soon for some good stories and interesting pictures of this joyful, crazy and



Our two World Travellers

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
Matthew 5: 6

Some children from the Iris childrens homes

The Iris Base, Village of Joy, in Pemba, Mozambique

Lectures in a typical, African Gazebo, without walls



Mozambique

Applications accepted, flight tickets booked -
12 weeks in Mozambique, here we come!

exhubarant celebration! The normal running of the day care at the new centre will resume on Monday when five of our full-time children and seven disabled kids from the community start to attend their beautiful preschool.

Germany

We gave some feedback on [Marco's and Nomango's Germany Tour](#) on our website already – it was such a success! Many presentations, visits and conversations later Nomasango had learned the full extend of the Sibongile supporters and many

more were added in those few weeks. It is hard to imagine how eye opening such a trip to another country can be when you have lived only in South Africa most of your life. We are so excited that God opened this door for Nomasango and she could finally get to know *our* home after *her* home country has welcome us so lovingly many years ago.

Mozambique

Finally we can announce our official news: from the 27th of May to the 17th of August 2012 we will spend some time as a family in Pemba,

Mozambique! Marco and I will attend a 10 week missions school at [Iris Ministry International](#). For years we have talked about how desperate we are for some spiritual and practical teaching and input again, after spending so many years investing into our calling. We have known of Iris Ministry for years. It is an influential ministry, that offers thousands of orphaned children a new home, and helps multitudes of people to get out of poverty, sickness, crime and unemployment in one of the poorest countries in the world. “Stop for the one” is the guiding

"And so we are going [...] full of questions, searching..."

motivation and this principle is taken seriously on every level. No one is refused practical help, prayer, and loving community, because Jesus is always enough.

We personally believe that too – but do we live that out? No! How often do Marco and I reach our capacity and close our eyes for “even more problematic cases”? How often do we find an

excuse to bypass the poor and needy because we simply do not know how to meet their needs with our limited resources? And so we are going to Mozambique full of questions, searching and with open hearts. When we come back we hope to be refreshed in all areas and challenged in our worldview. We will then look at how we can apply what he have learned in our

“usual” surroundings – every day life, Sibongile, our immediate family. That might turn out to be more challenging than three months of rice and beans, mosquito nets and unreliable electricity...

We will give you more information about our trip in the next few newsletters!

God's blessings, the 4 Spalkes