

See a Need- Do a Deed

An amazing privilege to realize that we have everlasting arms carrying us no matter the greatness of the challenges we are facing (Deuteronomy 33:27). And indeed great is His faithfulness. Taking confidence from God's unchangeable nature we looking forward to the new year which we have just entered.

Adam 1 year

December 26, we celebrated Adam's first birthday. Many people ask whether that is really his birthday and yes, that is his real date of birth.

We had a wonderful day and Adam enjoyed his cake and now also his beautiful presents. The big cuddle dog, has been given the name Max. As soon as Adam sees Max, Adam begins to "bark" :). We are privileged to be his dad and mommy.

End December

Unexpectedly we received 2 girls to take care of, aged 4 and 20 months, until the local social worker is able to do a proper investigation and is able to place them in a home where they will be cared and loved. After a week we found another temporary home for the younger one in Gobabis with a special family. A hectic week, but certainly one we learnt from a bit more than usual. Lovely girls indeed, and like any children they were eager to touch and taste. Adam enjoys their company whilst learning a bit of Damara, his mother-tongue. Just a pity his parents are learning a bit slow.

We unexpectedly had a crisis placement of two sisters of 4 and 1 ½ years. After a week the youngest girl went to another (foster) family and we take care of the eldest girl until a suitable family member is found who can take care of her.

Both of them were very loving ladies but very active as they continue to explore every aspect of their new environment. Adam enjoys playing together and at the same time learns a bit of Damara, his mother tongue. Just a pity his parents are learning a bit slow nevertheless every word of Damara we learn comes very useful.

Lighthouse

Despite the fact that we did not have a larger house yet, the Lighthouse became active as we took in these 2 girls. The timing was just perfect; just before we received the girls we found a suitable home to rent, which is ideal for the Lighthouse. We are very grateful and happy that we will be able to live there as soon as the end of January as we hope to make a few reparations before moving. Then we hope to accommodate more children in our Lighthouse. A wonderful prospect!

Group of Hope

Words fail to properly describe how thankful we are for the first year we had with this group of children we have become used to call the Group of Hope. We are very grateful that after 2017's rehabilitation year and that each of them can have a hope of going to school in January. Each of them will then continue with the grade where they left school. We hope to continue supporting them through the sponsorship program.

In January Miss Maria will receive training so that she is better equipped for the new year with new children from the street. We look forward to join hands in addressing a next challenge. We are very grateful for the support we receive from the Ministry of Education and the regional library where the classes are presented. They are very happy with the program and promised to continue helping where they can.

Say cheese...the Dutch were visiting

We remain happy for our Dutch connections, whereby we receive regular visits from family, friends, acquaintances, even some we have never met.

We look back on a wonderful time with mom and dad. Adam also really enjoyed the attention of his grandfather and grandmother and it was as if he knew them already! We are so grateful that we could have the time together. We now enjoy all the memories.

2 weeks ago John and Phillippine van Kleef (Phillippine is on the board of Light for the Children NL) were with us after they have made a tour through Namibia. It was nice to spend time together with them and let them take a look into our lives and what we are doing.

Also we received another Dutch family for a short visit, they also wanted to know what we do and where we live. Currently they are also touring Namibia. So it seems like when you're touring Namibia, you also need to plan a visit to Gobabis ;)

2018

The new year has already started and we take a quick look back to think about everything that we have done in Gobabis during the last year and also what we want and / or have to do in the new year. The need is so great, and our hands can actually do so little. Uncle Henk hopes to take things a bit slower and as a result more tasks will be handed to us. We look forward supporting him even more.

We are already looking at airline tickets to the Netherlands because we want to be at the weddings of two sisters, in late September and early October. That is of course also a great prospect.

"We might not know what the future hold, but fortunately we know Him Who holds the future".

We take encouragement from the Word of God where he tells us that by his Spirit (Zech. 4:6), he will guide us (Ps. 32:8), to continue showing love and mercy (Zech. 7:9). We trust the Lord that He will guide us in every situation, bring us into contact with the right people so that we will do what He wants!

This is also our prayer for each of you. Thank you for your support in 2017, whether it was relationally, financially or prayerfully. Please continue to pray for us, and we will do the same for you. Let us know if there be any specific requests. We continue to realize that our strongest weapon to fight this battle is prayer!

Shalom!

Jac-Louis, Gijbertha en Adam