

Koher Connection

Merry Christmas

December 2020



Dear Friends and Family,

As many of you are familiar with, we had to cut our time in Portugal short. Various factors were considered when making this decision including our visa expiration date, Baby's due date, and the processing time of receiving documents such as Baby's passport and our visas for Mozambique. We made the lengthy 23-hour journey to MAF's headquarters (HQ) in Nampa, Idaho, at the end of October. We'll be staying here as we await Baby's arrival and our required documents to travel to Mozambique in 2021. Elias has been enjoying running around outside and having other kids to play with here at HQ. We have been enjoying the blessings of a supportive church family nearby who arranged meals for us during the first few days of our transition back to the US.

Leaving Portugal at this time shouldn't affect our timeline and preparations for arriving in Mozambique too much. Ryan is continuing his Portuguese language classes with the University of Coimbra via Zoom through January, and I (Annabel) am continuing self-study until Baby is born. Upon Baby's arrival, we will begin the processes necessary to obtain his birth certificate, his passport, Ryan's work permit, and our visas. These processes will likely take a few months and, due to the COVID-related processing delays, we are unsure of when we can expect to be leaving for our new home in Mozambique. Ryan and I are praying to be ready for departure in March or April of 2021.

In the meantime, we'll be living in Idaho where Ryan will be attending trainings at HQ to better prepare him for service in Mozambique. It is our desire to use the skills that we have acquired to serve Christ and further the Gospel in this country we'll be calling home. After almost two years of preparation, we are thrilled to finally be so close to our departure. The anticipation of seeing firsthand the light of Christ shining in the darkness of a country in need of hope fills us with joy! Your participation in this ministry through prayers and support have been vital and are greatly appreciated!

Ryan, Annabel, & Elias

Prayer Corner

Prayers:

- ♦ **Smooth delivery for Annabel & Baby**
- ♦ **Continued improvement in our Portuguese language skills**
- ♦ **Swift processing of documents and visas**
- ♦ **The team in Moz as a family transitions to a different program, a family transitions from language school, and another family starts their furlough.**

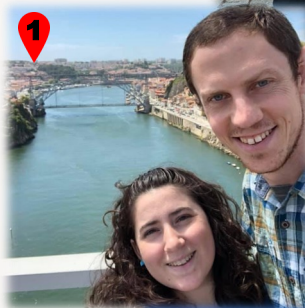
Praises:

- ♦ **Safe travels to Idaho from Portugal**
- ♦ **A wonderful network of prayer warriors who lifted us up during our COVID sickness**

Memories Made

Portugal was our home for about nine months, and we had the opportunity to visit many beautiful places during school breaks and weekends. This small country is rich in history, architecture, and natural beauty. Below are some places we visited and made special memories with family and friends.

1. Porto
2. Castelo de Santa Maria da Feira
3. Costa Nova
4. Coimbra (our home)
5. Castelo da Lousã
6. Praia Fluvial de Vila Cova à Coelheira
7. Serra da Estrela (highest point in mainland Portugal)
8. Castelo de Pombal
9. Convento de Cristo, Tomar
10. Lisbon Airport
11. Albufeira



"The people who live in darkness have seen a great light, and for those living in the land of the shadow of death, a light has dawned."

Matthew 4:16 (CSB)

"O povo mergulhado na escuridão viu uma grande luz! Luz que brilhou para os que estavam na região escura da morte."

Mateus 4,16 (BPT09)

We are incredibly blessed to serve with an organization that cares so deeply about their staff. During our transition back to the States, they have been most interested in our well-being and care of our entire family. Part of what has allowed us to be able to come back to the States for our son's birth is the **Emergency Medical Travel Fund**. Therefore, **would you please consider** giving a special gift to replenish MAF's Staff Emergency Medical Travel Fund? Contributions can be sent to MAF designating "Fund #4589" in the memo line or you may give online at www.maf.org/4589. Thank you for helping make this blessing available for others in the future.

We have reached 100% of the funds needed for our vehicle in Mozambique!

A big THANK YOU to every person who has contributed and prayed for this project. We will be thinking about each of you as we drive through the flooded roads in order to accomplish the tasks set before us!

