

Dear friend

November has quickly passed by. This month has brought us many things which has made us to stop and be still. Many of the children, staff, and teachers have been ill with a new virus. This creates extra work for the staff who are well, making life harder. Each afternoon the children and teachers help with supper and prepping vegetables for the following day. We have made a schedule for helping in the kitchen, working in the garden and with the little ones. We have started our Christmas program preparations. Usually we are able to go to the mission post three times each week. However, due to the situation we are facing we are only able to go two times a week. I am hoping that we are able to get more staff to help in the home for cooking and looking after the little ones.

The new building's progress is coming along well. We are in the finishing stages of putting tile on the roof, the ceiling is complete and we are now painting and putting the finishing touches on it. I am optimistic that we can finish on time. We are still busy with the paperwork which the government requires, at times it can be frustrating with the amount which is required. Almost every week the government will check what we are doing whether this is a physical visit or over Zoom. Despite all this when we look at the buildings we have satisfaction that when it is finished the students have a better place to learn than our hall. They will be able to use the library and laboratory as classrooms.

November is also a season which we can harvest and eat many fruits. Our fruit trees include: mango, avocado, Jambu, and pineapple. Lately we have had several good rain showers, and are busy making the garden ready. This year we are going to plant dragon fruit, papayas, corn, cassava, vegetables and sweet potato. We are hoping to receive a good harvest as this year we plan to use drip irrigation for the garden. This is now possible because we have a water truck and are able to get water more easily even in the dry season.

This month we also celebrated "Teacher's Day". The children wrote us letters/cards. Some were funny and others were meaningful. I received a letter and written it said, "Mommy (what the children call me), don't forget to smile....I love you." It is just a small thing but it means a lot. As a teacher, I look forward to see them reach and accomplish their goals. I pray that God may bless their hearts and they learn to obey and follow God's plan for them. I long to see them be a blessing to those around them. I also pray God may bless the teachers, and give them wisdom and joy to do this work.

This week, I was reminded of the important things in life. Jason was upset because I was very busy and wasn't home much. He was complaining that Yanrus and I were not home. We explained to him we have to work to put food on the table. Jason's reply was that we don't have to work that hard because he is ok with eating noodles every day. While we smiled at this comment it really is a slap on the face/reality check. As parents we always think we are doing what is right, we work hard for the children but what they really long for is our presence. I hope when the school project and Christmas program is finished we may have some time to spend together.

When we see what has been accomplished this past month we remember it is impossible for us to do all this ourselves. We thank God for His merciful hand over us all. We were sad to hear what has happened in Sumatra and other countries, many people who are missing, lost

their houses, and family members. We pray may God bless and heal them, and that this may be over soon.

We are also sad to hear Opa Sommer is sick again, and we are hardly able to hear his voice. We are praying for him and that God bless him with His miracle. Opa Sommer has taught us many things about trusting in God, being faithful, and content with your life. We are doing our best teach the children all of the lessons Opa has taught us.

For December we pray that God will bless us with His warm peace and a joyful heart. We hope God can bless us with health and wisdom to prepare the Christmas programs. May God bless the children with His nearness and they love Him with all their heart.

May God be glorified through all our deeds. I finish this report with a verse from 2 Corinthians 7: 16' I am glad that I can have confidence in you.'

Greetings from Sumba

Yanrus and Christin



New Garden



Harvesting From the Garden



School Project



Play time