Hope in the midst of a pandemic

Still in Mission! Seeing these words across many social media sites, has given me hope that the mission of God is still standing amid all chaos and tough situations happening all over the world. When the COVID19 was announced as a pandemic, many thoughts and feelings rushed through my mind. I had read about pandemics before but never experienced one in my life. Fear and panic got hold of me. How were we going to survive especially in a place where proper health care is a big challenge? How was my mission going to be like? To which extent will it affect us? For how long will it bring destruction before a cure is found? Will I ever see my family again? The last question got me paranoid because any sign of a cough or sneeze, I would rush to call my doctor to get some confirmation that I was not having the virus. It's funny to think that even without a test to confirm it but just the presence of a medical personnel somehow brought a sense of calm in my mind. Constant calls back home became a norm. I have never talked with my family this much within a short period ever before. With all this the thing that kept me busy was work. We had to let go of half of the staff and it was really a tough decision to make due to financial constraints. With shortage of staff we all ended up filling the gap in the positions which were left. You can imagine the amount of work! The first month was the hardest. In another way, it had a positive impact on my mental state as it kept me busy and exhausted at the end of each day to bother my doctor everyday with my nervousness. Production continued and actually increased. With our harvests we made a huge impact in the communities than ever before. Seeing this finally, my heart calmed! This was it! The hope I needed in the midst of all the chaos and uncertainty! Still in mission, was no longer just a phrase I saw on the media but I could also testify with others that 'we are together in mission'.
Kamisamba Farm
Production is ongoing with an increase in harvest of maize this year compared to the last season.

- We did 8 Ha of maize and harvested an average of 4 tonnes per hectare (2.47 acres). We also had a good harvest of soybeans, groundnuts and sugar beans (peas).
- On the animal site, there continues to be an increase in the number of pigs which allows us to sell some, giving us a revenue, which enables us to pay for some of the expenses of the farm. This has been a lucrative enterprise.
- We are also in the process of renovating 2 old fish ponds which were constructed a few years ago but never used. This additional site will be a much-needed source of income for the farm. It will also be a breeding site to help cater for other districts who want to start fish production and help in fundraising efforts for the district’s projects.
- In the crop section site, transplantation of onions, Chinese cabbage, cabbages and tomatoes is ongoing. In addition, 1 ha of cassava field.
- Pineapples which were planted last year are coming out well, including the mandarins, orange and lemon trees.
- A new solar and water system was installed and this has been a really great addition to the farm. Campaigns in communities for renewable energy were being done just before the evolution of the COVID19 pandemic. We were forced to stop these as lockdowns were put in place.
- In the previous Belgian house, bathrooms and lighting systems were installed. This has given a new look to the house. We intend to make this into a guesthouse where the income retrieved from this house will go towards activities that happen at the school centre.

Click link to view Farm pics

Raising the flag high- Africa University Alumni
It is always a great joy when your former college recognise the work you are doing in the world and how it is impacting many. I had the privilege to be interviewed by the Africa University Development office as an alumnus. It was a wonderful experience to tell my story. Little did I know the emotions it would bring not only to myself realising how far I had gone from where I started, but also the appreciation and encouragement I received from fellow colleagues, friends and people I didn't even know reaching out. It is one thing your family being proud of you (as is expected 😊) but when its coming from other people it made me reflect a lot on what I had achieved over the years. Thank you all for your love and support!

Click here to see my story- Africa University Alumni bring change in communities
**A World in Chaos**

Following what is happening in the world and the USA, just some time ago I watched a horrific video of George Floyd's murder. At first, I thought maybe it is a prank and someone will come out from behind and say 'cut' or 'got you'. I could not the life of me think this is how it has come to, police par taking in such a horrific act and not even minding the cameras which were recording near them. Something took me back to the story of the cross, when Jesus was crucified. Not saying George is Jesus but I was thinking of the activities which happened just before the death of our Lord. The emotions that must have ran through the mind of Mary and those who watched Jesus being nailed and a spear going through his side. They watched each moment until his last breath. The onlookers in the video of Floyd pleaded with the police to release their grip on him but to no avail. I wanted also to shout out but no word could come out of my mouth. I just felt tears running down from my eyes, feeling hopeless. It took me a long time to snap back to reality. Is this how you felt too? The senseless killing of an unarmed man! Is this how our world has become now? Murder happening in broad daylight! Is 2020 even real? All events, disasters, chaos, riots, brutality, racism, injustice which have happened in just this year alone 🙃.

One thing that touched my heart is that it's not white vs black, it's everybody vs racists! Where we are, I stand in solidarity against racism, injustice and brutality.

#BLACKLIVESMATTER

Sending prayers to all families who lost their loved ones due to the

- Corona virus
- Police brutality
- Racism
- Vandalism
- Senseless shootings
- Passion killings

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