

Hi friends,

12.May 2016

how have you all been doing? It has been quite some time, since you heard from me. In the beginning of the year I was busy with my two boys having surgeries in Beijing- bringing them there by train and picking them up again. It was a very emotional time for me, with lots of worrying and trying not to worry and to just trust God with the whole situation. Now that they have been back for a while, and they have fully recovered and seemed to have forgotten the whole trauma, I ask myself what I was so worried about? Luka is back to his funny, cute little self- with a big scar on his chest. His chest bones are sticking out more than before, but besides this, he is doing great. Jona was very weak when he came back, and I was upset about it. I wondered, if the surgery had done the opposite, harm him, instead of helping him. But, to my surprise, he has recovered back to his normal self. A few weeks ago Jona, who has cerebral palsy, suddenly stood up all by himself and just stood there for 20 whole seconds. It was like a miracle to us. Especially I, never thought he would be able to do this, even though we keep praying and believing for this miracle to happen one day (and do our part in training his muscles). Now my faith has grown very strong again and I believe that he can walk one day. Jona loves to watch a video where Jesus heals a lame man. Kaleb or some other kid usually goes over to him, while watching, stretches his hand out and acts like he heals him, Jona then stands up, as good as he can, and acts like he can walk. One day....!



Jona



Luka

After those dramatic weeks we quickly settled back into our normal routine. Chinese New Year came and went with lots of fireworks all over town. As usual God was faithful to provide a team from abroad (Finland) to come and help us out during this time, while all my Chinese helpers took off to celebrate new year in their families.

I then took a short trip to Germany to help my mother recover from her hip surgery. It was a precious, one on one time, with my mother (hadn't had this in years). She recovered very fast and is back in Tanzania now with my dad serving our Father there.

When I came back our semester of studying Chinese at the university (for visa purposes mainly) had started already. It was again time to pay the big tuition fee- not a happy day☺ . Just before we wanted to go to pay, our teacher called and told us we got a scholarship. I politely thanked her and hung up. I had no idea what was awaiting us. I thought they were going to help us out with a hundred or two hundred kuai, which I totally was happy about, but knowing we would have to pay 6000 kuai, just did not get me too excited about their scholarship. I also knew Thirza was struggling with getting the money together so she was quiet excited about the help. When we arrived I quietly asked one of our teachers, how much the scholarship was. She said 6000 kuai!!!! PTL! Another miracle happened right there!!!! Later Thirza told me she hadn't even brought 2000 kuai to pay the tuition and was praying for a miracle the whole time. I would say, her faith was greatly rewarded.

These last weeks we have been preparing Bing Bing for his adoption next month. He will be going to the family, who adopted my little Noelle last year. We all are so excited about this. I was in touch with his family since Noelle's adoption process started. Even after her adoption we stayed in touch. One day, Noelle's (now EmiJoy Noelle's) family saw a picture of Bing Bing in their agency and told me about it. They asked if they could help advocate for him, to find a forever family for him. I was very thankful. One morning I got a message from them, saying God had spoken to them, that they were not supposed to advocate for BB, but instead be his forever family. Isn't God good? His ways our not our ways.



Bing Bing soon to be Samuel



One of my other boys , who went to America a few months ago , Maodi now Nathanael, is with his daddy in hospital at the moment. The doctor's are treating his legs and believe that one day he will be able to walk on his own legs. When he was with me, he crawled around on his knees. The o had sent him to Beijing for surgery , but they didn't even strat the process of fixing his legs, because his condition seemed too serious. I am so happy for him and grateful for his wonderful forever family.



Bing Bing and Maodi

On Monday I will have my cousin come and live with us for half a year. This will be a good family time for me.

Thank you all for all your faithful support in prayer and finances. May God bless you for all you do.

Love

Mirjam



**Some pics to enjoy!**



our apartment



fun times



Jiao Jiao



Kaleb



Emma



Luka



Jona



Bing Bing