

# Roland's e-Mail News

## Monday, August 2, 2004

**Subject:** What is going on in Mozambique?

Well, it has been some time since I have sent out e-mail to everyone. Part of the reason is that there have been several decisions that we have been on the verge of making, but had not made yet. So here is the current situation.

First, with everything else that is going on, I am not sure we have let everyone know, but in case we haven't told everyone yet, Mika is pregnant!!! She is due in mid-January, and we will be having the baby in South Africa. There are very good hospitals there just like in the States, but deliveries are much cheaper there.

Mika and I have decided, with the consent of the team, and the advice of several people, including Sam Shewmaker, to spend several months this fall in Maputo, the capital of Mozambique, teaching in a school for leaders from Churches of Christ all over the country. This will be good for many reasons. Of course, it will simply be good to be involved with this school. It will also be a good way to develop relationships with church leaders from all over the country. It will be a good time to get to know the missionaries there in Maputo. Teaching will give me lots of good practice using Portuguese. I will also try to develop a relationship with the Director of Religious Affairs for Mozambique. Also we will just be a few hours from Nelspruit, South Africa, where there are good medical facilities, so Mika can go down for some more pre-natal check-ups. We are excited for this opportunity that God has presented to us for this time!

Our team mentor and consultant, Sam Shewmaker, was just here from Saturday until today. It was such a blessing from the Lord to have him here. And the timing has been from God as well. For the last few months we have been struggling as a team with the idea of some of our group moving to the Province of Niassa and working with the Yao people. After much prayer and discussion, and even more prayer, advice, and discussion from Sam Shewmaker, The team has decided to send the Holton's (Kyle, Ginger, and Asher) as well as the Caldwell's (Rusty and Ann) to the province of Niassa to work with the Yao people. This has not been a split because of personality differences or interpersonal problems, and doesn't represent a split or destruction of relationships. I think that the pain we have felt with this decision has been so much greater because we all get along and work together so well. However, it is a split in the basis of God's calling and on the basis of serving Him, and because of this I believe that God will bless it. So now there are two teams where there was one, and two people groups that will be served. So we ask that you pray for the Yao team in addition to the Makua team, that God will bless the work of both teams, and also bless all of us as we go through a period of further adjustment. This decision did not begin or end with Sam, but God used him mightily so that the decision was made well, and for this God should be praised!

We thank everyone for their prayers and support during this time. Things haven't been exactly as planned, but things never are here in Africa, (and only rarely are anywhere else). God has continued to bless us. Until we go to Maputo, we have been staying with the family of Dave LePoidevin, a pilot for Missionary Aviation Fellowship. Their mission is to help missionaries serve in difficult to reach places. They are the ones that we would call if we needed to get out of an area for medical or any other emergency. They have been so kind to us to open up their home to us during this time. God has shown us his love and support in so many ways. I know that He still has many plans to use us to spread His Kingdom in the hearts of the people here in Northern Mozambique.

In Him,  
Aaron