



Chad, Amy & Maggie Westerholm
C.P. 140, Pemba
Cabo Delgado, Mozambique

Westerholm Family News

Ministry in Mozambique

Last month we asked for prayers for Maggie's ear infection (which cleared up nicely), now the parents are the ones who are sick! Amy came down with giardia (a common stomach bug here) and I was losing my voice due to allergies, when I came down with giardia too! We had planned to spend this weekend visiting a church that is about two hours away. Our team has decided this year to do several weekend seminars in the churches that are one or more hours outside of Montepuez. This was the first one and our plan was to go with the Howells and visit a group of four churches but due to our illness we were not able to attend. Thankfully, we are finally starting to get over the giardia and get our strength back.

On most other Sundays we are continuing to visit and worship in Nanjua. The church is starting to talk seriously about building a church building once the rains stop (currently we meet in someone's yard in an African style gazebo). It is exciting to think about the church taking this step towards being more established in the community. It is also neat to see the church begin to grow in their study of the Bible. While I was in South Africa, SIL/Wycliffe Bible translators printed out a lectionary that has scriptures in Makua-Metto that can be read in church each Sunday this year. It includes a lot of Mark, but also portions of Genesis and James (which will soon be available). It is such a great blessing to be able to watch as Christians have the opportunity to study God's word for the first time in their own language.

In Nanjua there were also three baptisms this month for some people who had been visiting regularly for a while. Everyone loaded into the back of my truck and we drove to a nearby pond. As we drove through Nanjua the church sang and we made quite a scene, reminding me about the public nature of baptism as a confession of faith. On both Sundays as we arrived at the pond it started to rain. The second time it happened someone commented that the angels were sending us the rain because they were happy about the baptisms!

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Visiting With Mika

Praise God For:

- ◆ Chad's back is recovering well
- ◆ Healing Maggie's ear infection
- ◆ The three baptisms in Nanjua
- ◆ Allowing us to sign another two year lease on our house
- ◆ We have hot water in our house again!



Team Kids at Team Night

Last Sunday before the baptism, the church members had an interesting discussion about baptism. Since they were speaking in Makua, I didn't understand quite a bit of it, but it seemed like they were discussing how people suffered from evil spirits before baptism and afterwards how they were freed from that spiritual oppression. It was interesting to hear the discussion and note some similarities to the way baptism was viewed in the first centuries of the church. For example Hippolytus described a detailed baptismal ceremony saying, "A deacon shall bring the oil of exorcism, and shall stand at the presbyter's left hand...the presbyter shall anoint him with the oil of exorcism, saying: Let all spirits depart from you. Then, after these things, let him give him over to the presbyter who baptizes..." (Hippolytus, The Apostolic Tradition 21: 8-11). I have usually viewed baptism as a public demonstration of a personal decision to follow Christ. It is intriguing to also think of baptism as a renunciation of demonic power in our lives and a submission to God's healing power.

Two years ago there was a poor harvest here due to lack of rain. Last year there was a good harvest because the rains were just right. This year there has been too much rain! Corn is having a difficult time growing in Montepuez because there is not enough sun. Too much rain can affect more than just crops. A number of houses have fallen down this year due to rain. Since most houses are made with mud walls without any foundation, when the ground gets wet around the house, the ground the walls rest on turns to soup. Many houses are built like a house from a deck of cards. Each wall rests on another and when one wall falls, the whole house can fall. Several of our friends' houses have fallen or are threatening to fall.

Despite, our illnesses, Maggie has been full of energy. She has not yet used that energy to try walking, but she seems quite content on her knees. We are looking forward to my parents coming this month and we know they are looking forward to seeing Maggie too!

Donations to this ministry can be written to Cordova Community Church with the memo "Mozambique" and sent to:

Cordova Community Church
PO Box 4435
Cordova, TN 38088-4435
(901) 828-0435



Westerholm Family News



Margarita's Mundo

Hi again everyone! I have had a good month. Mommy and Daddy and I seem to be getting into a routine in our lives here in Montepuez. I wake up in the morning and eat breakfast then I usually go for a visit with Mommy. I love being outside and usually Mommy carries me on her back when we go out visiting which makes me giggle. We go and visit and Mommy practices her Makua while I play in the dirt. After our visit is over I come home and take a nap. Then after lunch I spend some time with Daddy and then I play outside while Mommy studies a bit. Then I take another nap. After I wake up sometimes

Mommy takes me to a teammates house to play or swing on the swings. I love swinging on the swings at Luke and Andrew's house and I like to laugh when Mommy pushes me high. Then we come home and I take a bath in our brand new bathtub! It is clean and white and I can splish and splash without getting Mommy all wet like I used to in the little plastic basin, I miss getting



Maggie On The Front Porch

Mommy wet but I love the new tub! Our church in America sent some bath tub toys too which are so fun! My favorite things to do this month are play with my set of 8 small stackable cups and put the yellow shapes in my red and blue Tupperware circle. I also love to watch our dogs play and run. I am still crawling and I have worn holes in the knees of just about all my jeans! I'm just not in a big hurry to walk yet, I figure I've got plenty of time and maybe I can do my first steps when Pop-Pop and Grammy or Granddad and Gran are here, I think they would like that. See you next month!

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Maggie's St. Patty's Day Headscarf

Please Pray For:

- ◆ Chad and Amy's health
- ◆ The rains to pass
- ◆ Us to hear and understand Makua better
- ◆ Continued maturation of the church in Nanjua
- ◆ The new Christians in Nanjua

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