



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

Westerholm Family News

Ministry in Mozambique

Baptisms in African villages tend to involve some details that one does not consider in other parts of the world. For example, where does one go to find enough water to immerse someone? While there is plenty of water in the rainy season, in the dry season it may be necessary to walk an hour or more to find sufficient water. Since it is often a long walk to the water, usually the confession is made before leaving the church building. This is followed by a procession with singing as the church walks to the river or pond. Once everyone reaches the water, one usually finds a small crowd of people washing clothes. Because of this, baptisms are public demonstrations of one's faith, seen by both Christians and unbelievers. Scripture is read and the person is then baptized while the others sing songs of praise. Due to the lack of water, baptisms are usually done by the person sitting in the water and then lying down.

Twice this month I was privileged to be a part of baptisms like this. First, six young men in Marimano who had been studying the Bible for the past few months gave their lives to Christ. Following the baptisms we had our first worship service in Marimano which was attended by the Christians in Nanjua. About twenty adults and fifty children stood nearby for about an hour, quietly watching us as we worshiped God. The worship went until 3:30 as everyone sang and three different sermons were preached (in addition to the two sermons for the offering and the Lord's Supper).

The following weekend we held a district seminar in Nanjua where the churches of Nanhupo and Marimano came to participate. Since each of these churches only consists of about ten to fifteen people each, it was a real treat for everyone to worship with a group of forty people. The first night we worshiped with much joy for a long time by candle light. The Smiths came and we taught together through the Sermon on the Mount. Since the gospel of Matthew is not yet translated into Metto, we had to make an improvisational translation of Jesus' teaching into Metto, which

Volume 7, Issue 5 May 2008



Baptizing a new believer from Marimano

Praise God For:

- ◆ The new church in Marimano
- ◆ Receiving our car after nine months of waiting!
- ◆ A great district seminar in Nanjua
- ◆ The James study in Nanhupo is going very well
- ◆ Good health for our family



The first worship service in Marimano

Jeremy had put into a booklet form. On Saturday night, two men from Marimano told us that they too wanted to be baptized. This was especially exciting because one of these men is a respected leader in his community.

One great need of new churches in Mozambique is Bibles. Bibles cost about \$6 and must be bought from the Bible Society in Nampula. It costs about \$25 to get to Nampula and back, so this is quite difficult for most subsistence farmers. On the other hand, giving Bibles out can be expensive (everyone wants one) and one is never sure if the person really appreciates it. Our team has begun a program of giving Bibles to anyone who memorizes all the books of the Bible. In the past two weeks nine different people have received New Testaments after memorizing all the books of the New Testament. It is a great joy to give Bibles to people, knowing that they are ready to study them.

The work here seems to really be gaining momentum and it is exciting to think of what is possible in the upcoming years. However, at the end of this year, a significant portion of our financial support will end. Without this support, our work will not be able to continue. God has always provided for our financial needs in the past. When we were lacking \$10,000 of annual support, God provided it the week we left for Portugal. Once when we lost support of one church, another church offered their support that very week. Having seen God's provisions in the past we are encouraged to know that all things are possible with him. If you know of a church or an individual that is interested in supporting this ministry, please feel free to email me at cawesterholm@hotmail.com. Since we are confident of God's calling us to this ministry, we are confident that he will provide all our needs.

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) 828-0436



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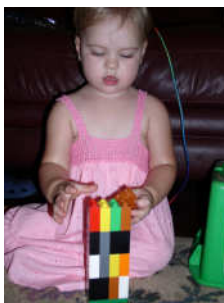
Westerholm Family News



Margarita's Mundo

Hi friends and family! I am enjoying the winter weather here in MZ. I ask to wear my Winnie the Pooh jean jacket to stay warm as it sometimes drops below seventy degrees! This month I have been doing lots of things that made Mom & Dad proud. I am really getting the hang of jumping up and down, it is so much fun! I am also continuing to enjoy building with Legos. I like to get all the pieces of the same size together

and then build tall towers with them. Mommy decided to can some tomato sauce this month and one morning she bought two huge buckets of tomatoes that equaled about double my weight! Mommy let Daddy and I taste the sauces she was making and when I had a bite I told her "Mmmm, tastes like a kiss!" It was very yummy and now we can eat it on one of my



Maggie amazes us with her Lego creations



Maggie in Daddy's hat

favorite foods of all time: pizza! Sometimes I help Mommy pick lemons with a bamboo stick and recently I started trying to use a bamboo to knock down the passion fruits from the vine in the backyard. Mommy and Daddy usually pick the passion fruits by hand but I am not tall enough yet so I use the stick. Mommy laughs when I do this since the bamboo is twice as big as me. I am going to keep trying till I get one of those passion fruits because they are so delicious! See you next month!

Volume 7, Issue 5
May 2008



Maggie & Daddy dressed for MZ winter weather

Please Pray For:

- ◆ Our car to run well
- ◆ The church in Marimano to grow in faith and numbers
- ◆ The church in Menhuine, after one of their members was accused of sorcery and murdered.
- ◆ The interns who are about to visit us during June and July
- ◆ God to supply all the financial needs of our ministry

amywesterholm@hotmail.com www.makuateam.org cawesterholm@hotmail.com
Our cell phones: 011-258-82-6448670 011-258-82-5661484 Our home phone: 011-258-272-51033