



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

Westerholm Family News

Ministry in Mozambique

Our team is thankful for God's protection and healing for our teammate, Aaron. Since his arrival in South Africa, his health improved dramatically. I was glad that our team was able to be of help in making the many arrangements necessary for him to get to a health clinic in Pemba and then fly out to South Africa. In times of crisis it is difficult to imagine working here without teammates.

This month we had an excellent annual team retreat where we spent time in prayer, discussed our priorities, and examined the direction of ministry here. Much of our reflection and discussion revolved around the theme of "abiding in Christ". While evangelism opportunities, teaching seminars, and leadership training all abound, the base of all ministry must be founded in abiding in Christ. John 15:7 states, "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you." Jesus makes a great promise in this passage, but he also makes a great condition. I wonder if too often I am abiding in a busy schedule more than abiding in Christ. As our team examined the status of the work here, we were excited to see that our team has helped plant (directly and indirectly) 17 new churches in the past four years. Currently our team is closely mentoring twenty church leaders who we hope will form the core leadership in continuing the church planting movement. My prayer is that these churches and individuals will learn more and more to abide in Christ and let the words of Christ shape them so God can accomplish great things for His kingdom through them.

Last month, I made an overnight trip with Aaron to visit some churches in a really remote area in Namuno, over two hours from here. We were excited to arrive and teach to a gathering of over fifty adults and innumerable children. This month Alan and I returned to that area where we taught a seminar on the Sermon on the Mount. This time over seventy people attended the seminar. The farther out in the bush you go, the more openly the traditional Makua religion seems to be practiced. I witnessed a woman practicing divination in front of a small house where a spirit had been invited to live.

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Alan Teaches About the Authority of Christ Over Demons

Praise God For:

- ◆ Aaron's recovery from his illness
- ◆ A successful meeting with the Namuno churches
- ◆ The 17 churches that have been planted and the twenty people being mentored by our team
- ◆ The new printer and quiet generator for showing the Jesus Film
- ◆ Our family's health



A Tree Used to Worship Spirits

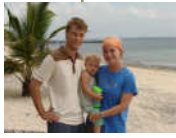
The last time I had visited I noticed a tree with a cloth tied around it and a beer bottle at the trunk. Since this was on a tree next to the church building, I asked the church members about it. This time when we visited, the church members proudly announced that the tree had been abandoned by "the owner" (a church member?). The next day I noticed another tree, a stone's throw away that was now being used for worship. On Sunday, Alan and I both taught on the need to trust in God only as the supreme authority over all spirits. If the churches do not learn to trust God, then they will only relocate their animistic practices yet another stone's throw away from the sight of the missionary.

On Saturday evening, we showed the Jesus Film, powered by a new low volume generator which allowed for the film to be heard without difficulty. We were pleased that about four hundred people came to see the movie. We have also been blessed by another piece of technology, a high volume printer. Since our team is printing out a lot of materials for the churches and especially booklets for church leaders, we decided it was a necessity for our ministry. We just received the printer this month, and it is already being put to good use.

My car is still not ready, but I have continued making village visits to Nanhupo and Nanjua regularly. I hadn't been out to Marimano in almost two months, so I decided I really needed to visit this new church. I caught a ride out to Nanjua and then walked to Marimano. The first Sunday I did this, it was disappointing to only find two people there, but the second time I went about nine of us worshipped together. Two men walked with me from Nanjua and one of them admitted, "We need to start following Chad's example and walk out to the neighboring villages." I hope that the Christians in Nanjua will grab hold of this vision and take the gospel to the neighboring villages where people have not yet heard the Good News of Jesus. I hope that all the Christians we work with will be able to see that we are abiding in Christ and letting his word abide in us and that they will likewise follow our example.

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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Margarita's Mundo

This month we had our annual team retreat and we went to the beach! I love going to the beach and playing in the sand, we had so much fun. The adults would have meetings every morning and all the kids got to play together in the sand. Then in the afternoons the adults and kids would get together to play a game of Red Rover or Simon Says on the beach, it was very exciting! We also got to see some whales way out in the water, this is the time of year that they swim right by Mozambique. The weather is definitely getting hot here;

Mommy likes to have the fan on all the time! The hot weather also makes the red lilies bloom around our house and they are so pretty. The other day I made Mommy smile because I had all my little stuffed animals in a circle and I got a skillet and a spatula out of my cooking toys and pretended to heat up water in the skillet and then use the spatula to shave my face just like my Daddy does (only he uses a razor!) After I was done with my face, I shaved all of my animals faces too, Mommy really liked that.



Maggie does some yard work with Daddy



Maggie and Daddy play at the team retreat

We also had a visit this month from one of the Nampula families in our organization, the Been's. We had so much fun getting to play with all of their kids. Daddy even had one of our coconut trees in the yard harvested while they were spending the afternoon at our house. A young Mozambican boy climbed all the way to the top of the tree and knocked down 125 coconuts! The going rate for harvesting one coconut tree is twenty cents! Then we got to eat fresh coconut, drink coconut milk and Mommy even made coconut cream pie and that was so yummy! Till next time!

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The kids enjoy singing children's songs during team worship

Please Pray For:

- ◆ Our team as we strive to "abide in Christ".
- ◆ The family of Momade, a church leader in Matiko who recently died.
- ◆ Amy's pregnancy to continue well
- ◆ Our car to be repaired
- ◆ A new village, Mesa, where we will be starting a church plant this month.

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