

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

# Westerholm Family News

## Ministry in Mozambique

Births remind us of the importance of beginnings and beginning anew in life. It is this idea of beginnings that is at the heart of the message of Jesus: "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" (Mark 1:15) It is this message we strive to live out before the Metto people. When Amy, Maggie, and I returned to Mozambique in 2006 we still had much language learning to do, but we wanted to begin to work with one of the several existing churches in our area. Our teammates had each begun to work with three struggling churches: one to the north, one to the south, and one to the west. At this point we heard about a small church in Nanjua (non-joo-ah), an hour's drive east from Montepuez.

The church in Nanjua began in 2002 when Christians from the church in Montepuez evangelized the area. Over thirty people joined the church, but over time most abandoned. When I first visited I only found five members who regularly worshipped together. Even among these five, it was common for a week or two to pass without gathering as a church. Amy, Maggie, and I began to spend all day Saturday in the village, sleeping there and then worshipping with the church each Sunday. I began by preaching through Jonah and then through the Gospel of Mark. After preaching through Jonah in Portuguese, I soon realized the many problems this created. Sometimes the translator would take two minutes to translate one sentence! I began to preach in Mark and decided to use Metto. My language was extremely limited, but each week as I prepared a lesson, I grew in my language abilities.

In those days the church met in the kitchen veranda of a man named Africa. Like many Metto people, Africa had been raised in a Muslim family but was not very devout. When he was youth he was chosen by the communist government for a special program. He was a part of a group that spent ten years in East Germany working. When he returned to Mozambique, he returned to Nanjua where he became a Christian. As the church began to dwindle from its original group, he remained faithful. When a series of leaders abandoned the church or moved away, he became the new leader.

## Volume 8, Issue 2 February 2009



Gilito Stands Outside the Church Building  
in Nanjua

### Praise God For:

- ◆ The safe arrival of Jane!
- ◆ Opening the doors for Chad to come back to Memphis in time for Jane's Birth
- ◆ The lives changed through the ministry of the church in Nanjua
- ◆ Raising up Africa, Antinane, and Gilito as leaders in Nanjua
- ◆ The sweet big sister that Maggie has been to Jane



Africa and his Family Serving  
the Lord in Nanjua

One day when our family arrived in Nanjua we found Africa completely drunk. We decided the church could not continue to meet at his house while he was living in blatant sin. Over the next few months we saw Africa change his ways. When his wife saw the way he had quit his drinking, she too decided to become a Christian. That month seven people gave their lives to the Lord in baptism. Soon a young man, named Antinane (an-tee-non-ay) began to come to the church. He had been baptized years ago, but wanted to renew his commitment to the Lord. Several others wanted to join the church. Just as the church was growing, I had to leave for several months for a back surgery. In the time I was gone, the church continued to meet together every Sunday.

I continued to preach in Nanjua when I returned and in 2007 the church decided it was time to build a church building. This was significant in that it was a large effort which required all the people helping out. While I don't believe it is necessary for a church to have a building, in Africa when a church builds a building it is a testimony to their ability to work together and makes a statement to their community that they are taking their faith seriously.

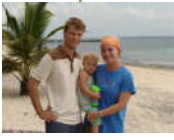
At about this time, a young man Gilito (ji-lee-too) moved to Nanjua. He had previously lived there and was a leader in the church but moved away to go to school. He moved back to Nanjua and began working immediately to encourage the Christians there. In early 2008 the church began praying about how to evangelize the area and we decided to begin working in a neighboring village, Marimano. Africa, Antinane, and Gilito began working together, sharing responsibilities in Nanjua. Once the church in Marimano was established they began to take turns visiting Marimano. In the middle of 2008 these three men began to study through the Train & Multiply program and have been working to help the church grow in their faith. This one church has now 'given birth' to two new churches in neighboring villages. We rejoice as we celebrate the growth of the family of God in Mozambique.

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

Cordova Community Church  
2964 Ole Bartlett Ct.  
Suite #5  
Bartlett, TN 38134

**PLEASE NOTE THE ABOVE  
ADDRESS CHANGE**

Our Cell Phone in the States:  
901-581-6599



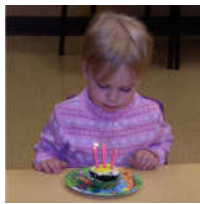
# Westerholm Family News

## Jane Elizabeth's Birth



Shortly after my last newsletter was sent out, I flew to Seattle to attend the memorial service of my niece Jenna. I arrived on Friday planning to leave on Sunday. Early Saturday morning, Amy called me with news. She was in labor! I spoke with her on the phone throughout the morning. At 10:00 I attended the memorial service and immediately after I was offered a ride from someone leaving for the airport to catch a flight. I decided to take advantage of the ride and left immediately!

When I got to the airport, I found that there were few afternoon flights going east, since the time zone is earlier. A flight that left at 3:30 would let me get into Memphis at 7:30 Sunday morning! Thankfully, there was one plane flying to Detroit that was supposed to leave at noon. It was delayed and I was able to get on the plane around 1:00 (3:00 Memphis time). When I paid, I had a problem with my credit card, and they told me I would need to pay over the phone. This all worked out because over the phone I was able to get a discount for a medical emergency! After arriving in Detroit, there was a connecting flight to Memphis and I was able to make it home by 10:00pm. Amy was still having contractions when I arrived in Memphis. As I was coming back from the airport, Amy was beginning to have more regular contractions, so we ended up meeting at the hospital.



Maggie Turns Three

At 6:30 Sunday morning February 1, Jane Elizabeth Westerholm was born weighing 8lbs 11oz.; she was 21" long. I was thankful to have been there! God opened the doors for me to be able to catch all the right flights at just the right time. Amy has done well recovering from the delivery and was out and about shortly afterward. Maggie has also been excited to have a new baby sister who came just in time to celebrate her third birthday on February 3rd.

## Volume 8, Issue 2 February 2009



Jane Just Took a Bath

### Please Pray For:

- ◆ The Westerholm family as they continue to mourn the loss of Jenna.
- ◆ Our fundraising to go well
- ◆ A good harvest in Nanjua this year
- ◆ Jane to continue to grow healthy
- ◆ Our teammates as they travel to an annual missionary meeting.

amywesterholm@hotmail.com [www.makuateam.org](http://www.makuateam.org) cawesterholm@hotmail.com

Our cell phones: 011-258-82-6448670 011-258-82-5661484 Our home phone: 011-258-272-51033