



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

# Westerholm Family News

## Ministry in Mozambique

It isn't every newsletter that I get to write in the comfort of a Dunkin' Donuts! For those of you who were wondering, our monthly newsletter will continue to be sent out despite my temporary hiatus from writing. The past few months have been one of the busiest and most transient times for our family in our ministry.

In May our team suddenly became more intelligent when three of us (Aaron, Alan, and I) graduated from Harding Graduate School in Memphis. For those who are keeping count, that means the women on our team average 2 years to complete a master's degree while the men average 7.5 years. Our experience at the Harding Graduate School has been formative and extremely helpful for reflecting on how we minister to the Makua-Metto. As I graduated I found myself desiring to continue learning and growing in many areas. That is the blessing of learning; we are reminded of our inadequacies as we humbly trust God to lead us by his Spirit, implementing the limited knowledge that we do have.

The past few months have been focused on fundraising. As many of you know, we lost a significant portion of our support (over 25%) and we have been faced with a gradual but significant inflation rate in Mozambique. Over the past five years, inflation has been 45%; prices continually go up and our dollars buy less than they did when we first arrived in the country. This equates to a cut in pay for each year that we remain in Mozambique. Thankfully four new churches have stepped forward and committed to supporting our ministry, The Central Church of Christ in Little Rock, AR, the National Park Church in Hot Springs, AR, the Groton Church of Christ in Groton, CT, and the Danbury Church of Christ in Danbury, CT as well as two new commitments from individuals. It is humbling to see how God has connected us to these people and churches that we knew very little about just six months ago. Other churches such as Cordova Community Church (Cordova, TN) and Northwest Church (Shoreline, WA) continue to support our ministry as they have for over six years. We have enjoyed visiting with

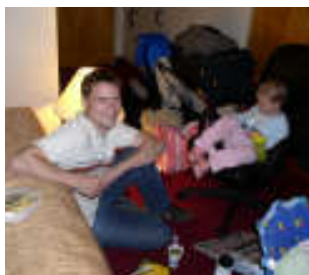
## Volume 8, Issue 3-6 June 2009



Celebrating Chad's completion of his M.Div.

### Praise God For:

- ◆ The meeting of the Nanjua, Nanhupo, Marimano, and Mesa churches.
- ◆ Providing four new supporting churches
- ◆ Providing many speaking opportunities
- ◆ Safety and health in our travels
- ◆ Time with family in the States.



Enjoying a Microwave Dinner at a Hotel During our Travels

our brothers and sisters in these congregations, and our time with them always seems too short.

While we are greatly encouraged to see these churches and individuals partner with us in serving the Makua-Metto, we are still looking for others to join in our mission. We are still trying to raise commitments for about \$15,000 a year to cover the high inflation in Mozambique. Thankfully the Lord has provided many opportunities for us to speak to various churches in the past month. I have been able to share at two minister meetings in Connecticut and New Jersey, speak briefly at a men's retreat in Connecticut, and do a number of presentations for churches in Connecticut (Danbury, Windsor, and Groton), New Jersey (Princeton, Bridgewater, Newark, Westfield, New Brunswick, Pitman, Freehold, and New Egypt) and Delaware (Wilmington). Other church visits are lined up in the coming weeks in Maryland, South Carolina, and Ohio. Our visits with these congregations have been great experiences, but one especially deserves mention. I was able to visit the Portuguese speaking congregation in Newark, NJ and enjoyed the opportunity to share about our work while speaking in Portuguese. The congregation, comprised mostly of Brazilians, was greatly encouraged hearing about work in another Portuguese speaking country.

Meanwhile I heard a very encouraging report from my teammate Alan Howell, who recently visited the church in Marimano. The churches in Nanjua, Nanhupo, Mesa, and Marimano have decided to organize an area meeting of their four churches. This is especially significant because Nanhupo is located 20 miles from Nanjua, which would require the church members to either walk for hours or spend some of the little money they have to ride to Nanjua. This is precisely the type of activity we pray for. The Mozambican churches are meeting and initiating their own programs apart from the presence of the missionaries. Praise God for the way he is working in these churches!

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



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## Margarita e Isabel



Jane & Maggie

In Mozambique, Maggie (which is short for Margaret) is known by her Portuguese name, Margarita; Jane Elizabeth will also go by the Portuguese for her middle name, Isabel. (From now on the kid section of the newsletter will include updates from both Margarita and Isabel.) Recently Maggie's favorite question is, "Where are we going tomorrow?"

The reason being, most days we get in the car and drive to a new destination! Another favorite question is "Are we going to see my cousins?" It has been great to see Maggie get to know her cousins who she rarely has opportunity to visit. She also asks, "Are we going to church today?" We usually have to explain that we are going to *another* church which is different from the previous one we went to. For Maggie and Jane they won't grow up knowing one church, but rather knowing the *one* church, the universal community of Christ's followers. Home is still in Mozambique though. Whenever I pick Maggie up and give her an "airplane ride" she always tells me she wants to fly

to Montepuez. I tell her we'll be going soon. Sometimes she looks up and sees airplanes flying over. She often asks, "Is that our plane?". Maggie also loves and dotes on her little sister. Jane is growing so fast, at 4 1/2 months she is already almost 20lbs. and growing! She has the cutest dimples and smiles. She is kicking, cooing, rolling from side to side and starting to giggle. She is a very laid back baby and loves to travel



Maggie and Cousin Braden:  
Two Peas in a pod

which has been a huge blessing!

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Maggie and Jane with their Cousins  
Alisa, Ethan, Justin, and Sierra

### Please Pray For:

- ◆ Continued safety as we travel
- ◆ More financial commitments to our ministry
- ◆ The growth and development of the churches in Mozambique
- ◆ Our family as we wrap up final details before we leave the USA
- ◆ Our families as we prepare to leave for another term in Mozambique.

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