



Jeremy, Martha, Luke and Andrew Smith

MISSION TO THE MAKUA

Cultivating Christian Communities

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Half way around the world in 90 days

We are back in Mozambique now but we sure did enjoy our time in the States. So much happened in the short three months we were there.

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We spent a total of three weeks in California with Jeremy's family. While there Luke got to know his grandparents and Uncle Nathan. That was a lot of fun to see. They even took him to Disneyland and the March Air Force Base. We were also able to spend quite a bit of time with members of the Redlands Church of Christ who is one of our main supporters.



Andrew was born in the very middle of our trip. He has been such a

blessing to our family. We had a great experience with our midwife and having a home birth. It was great to introduce him to everyone in our family.



The majority of our time in the U.S. was spent in Fort Worth, Texas where most of Martha's family lives. While there we spent time with all of Martha's siblings, her parents, and other family

members. After Andrew was born we had a big family reunion in Abilene, Texas. It was good to see lots of Aunts and Uncles that we hadn't seen in a while. Martha's parents, Fielden and Janet Allison, were there as well since they had come back from Kenya to meet their two new grandbabies. Kathryn Green, Martha's sister had her baby exactly three weeks after Andrew was born. The same midwife delivered her baby in the same house. Both babies were also born on their due dates. It was special to be able to share in that experience with them. Finally, we were able to attend Martha's little brother, Chris', wedding. He was married to Casey Hanson on Feb. 13. We were so glad to be there for that.



We were glad to be able to travel around a little bit to see churches and friends. We visited Pleasant Valley Church of Christ, our sponsoring church in Little Rock, as well as Southwest Church of Christ, another one of our major supporters. While on this trip we were able to get together with other friends and family, as well.

It has been a busy 3 months but we enjoyed it immensely. We made lots of memories for ourselves and especially for Luke. We will miss those we left in the U.S., but we are also glad to be back in Mozambique.



Luke enjoying his first trip to Disneyland.

Prayers for Montepuez

Our hearts continue to be called to the town and people of Montepuez but as of yet the government has not allowed us to go back.

March 15th marked our second year abroad and many of you joined us in fasting and praying that the government would allow us to return to Montepuez. We thank you for that support.

Toward the end of March we will be traveling to speak to the government in Pemba about our documents regarding Montepuez. Please pray that this meeting would be the fruit of all our prayers, and that permission will be granted that day for our return.

Praise God and Thank You!

During our time in the U.S. we were so thankful that God provided a home for us to stay in, a car to drive, car seats for our boys, a place to have our baby and so many other blessings.

Thank you to Martha's brother Jeff and his wife Gretchen for opening their home to us for over two months! What a sacrifice on their part. Thank you also for arranging for us to have a car and car seats during the time we were there.

Thank you to Martha's sister Kathryn and her husband David for allowing us to be in their home for Andrew's delivery and for taking care of us afterwards.

The Lord provided all we needed and so much more during our time in the U.S. Thank you to those who helped us out.

Babies, Babies Everywhere!!!

The most difficult part of our trip from the U.S. to Mozambique is the last leg from Johannesburg, South Africa, to Nampula. There are several options of how to make that trip, but none of them are easy. This time we decided to take a bus part of the way and catch a ride with a fellow missionary for the rest of the way to Maputo. From there we flew up north on the local airlines, having to leave half of our bags behind to be shipped later, due to lower luggage allowances.



Ann and Hallie Caldwell

Although we dislike the tediousness of this last leg, we had some fun things to look forward to in both Johannesburg and Maputo which made the lay-overs well worth it. We got to meet three new babies that were born within our Good News For Africa organization while we were gone. In Maputo we met Josiah, our teammates, the Roland's, little boy. He is 2 weeks older than Andrew and a real cutie! In Jo'burg we met Hallie Caldwell and Olivia Gardner, both beautiful little girls. We praise God for all these healthy little babies.

It was also a blessing to see the Howells and Westerholms the day we arrived in Nampula. We have missed them and are glad to be back together. Luke is thrilled to be around little Abby again. We also got to introduce Andrew to them as the youngest teammate to date.



Andrew with Josiah Roland



The Gardner family with their new addition, Olivia