

Jeremy, Martha, Luke and Andrew Smith

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#### **Prayer Requests**

- 1. Open doors to Montepuez.
- 2. Clarity and understanding as the team learns Makua
- 3. The Westerholms and Holtons, our teammates, in the U.S.
- 4. Health and safety for everyone, especially the children, on the team.
- 5. That God's light will shine among the Makua-Metto people.

#### MISSION TO THE MAKUA

**Cultivating Christian Communities** 

To see more pictures... go to www.makuateam.org

# Luke's Look on Life



It's my turn to tell what life is like here in our new home. We live with a lot of Priests and Nuns. I like it because I am always the center of attention. There are no other kids living here besides babies, so I get to show off a lot. People also give me lots of cookies for snacks.

Mama and Daddy go to Makua class everyday. While they are gone I play with Karina or Madelena. At first

I didn't like it, but now I have lots of fun. Several boys from the community come and play with me too. They are teaching me Portuguese and Makua. I like to play ball and Frisbee with them. I taught them how to march around the yard singing "peanut butter, jelly".



We eat in a cafeteria with all the other people who live here. Before each meal my job is to ring the little bell to let people know it's time to eat. Then we sit at little tables and eat all



kinds of yummy food. I stay away from the fish, though, because one time I bit off a head and choked on it. Mama told me not to eat it yet, but I didn't know better. After each meal I scrape off my plate while the others do the dishes.

In the afternoons I have more play time before I have to take my bucket bath. Mama heats water up on the stove for me and Andrew. I have been a good big brother to Andrew. I snuggle with him and give him lots of kisses. I love to make him laugh.

I really like my new home. Come visit me sometime and I'll show you around.



### FOR GOODNESS SAKE...WATCH OUT FOR

A couple of weeks ago Martha called me from outside with a sense of urgency and pointed to a stick on our porch. Then the stick slithered away!

We have tried to be vigilant about snakes especially because of our kids but we have not seen any near our house. That day was different.

I ran quickly to the car where the machete is kept and by the time I had retrieved it the snake

had disappeared while Martha was watching it. Upon further inspection we found it in a small hole under the porch with part of its tail sticking out. I took my chance and

took a swing but missed. The children

that had gathered started reaching for its tail in order to pull it out but they failed. I took another swing and cut off about six inches of the snake before it emerged to reveal the full head of a spitting cobra. It started striking at everyone around but we were out of range. The children started sending a barrage of rocks its way and I took a few more swings before we killed it.

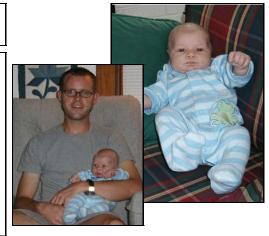
It definitely left me shaky, but I left it in four pieces. It has, however, made me think twice about where we walk –especially at night.

# Teammates Reproduce Like Wildfire!

Do you ever wonder how so many babies can be born to one group of missionaries in so short a time? We are starting to test the water and see if there is something we are not filtering out (ha ha). In the past 7 months 5 babies have been born in our group!

Eli Holton is our youngest member weighing in at over 10 lbs! He is Kyle and Ginger Holton's second son and was born in the USA while they were on their furlough.

If you want to read more about them and their work you can go to: www.vaomission.org.





## Andrew's Angle

I'm 5½ months now, so I can't talk yet, but I'll give you a look into what I'm thinking. I'm pretty content with just about everything right now. People always tell Mama and Daddy what a happy baby I am. So many things make me laugh

and smile, especially when people make faces at me.

Since we live with so many friends I get passed around a lot. I don't mind. Since I'm so little I get to go to Makua class with Mama and



Daddy. It's pretty boring, but they seem to like it. I'm starting to make more and more noise so I'm a bigger distraction now. The other students are good sports, though.

Sometimes little kids come to our house just to hold me. That's so sweet. My

friend Josiah Roland lives right next door so I get to see him a lot. My big brother Luke is my hero. He cracks me up all the time. He's a little rough with

me sometimes, but I don't think he means to be. Mostly he just loves on me and plays with me.

I haven't started eating solid food, but don't worry, it's not hurting my health any. I am already 20 lbs. Mama and Daddy are getting big muscles carrying me around. They say I'm built just like Luke. That's about all that's in my mind right now. I'm getting kind of sleepy......

