

MISSION TO THE MAKUA

Cultivating Christian Communities

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The Interns



Jeremy, Martha, Luke and Andrew Smith

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Contact

Information:

Write to:

C.P. 140, Pemba,
Mozambique, Africa

Phone:

(011) 258-82-028-8800 -cell
(011) 258-272-51119- home

Email:

smithsinmoz@hotmail.com

Web site:

www.makuateam.org

Prayer Requests

Please keep the following things in your prayers:

1. The upcoming new church plants in Ntivira and Napela.
2. Strong leadership in the churches here.
3. For the interns' time here in Mozambique.
4. Spiritual and physical health for everyone on the team.
5. That many women here in the area will come to know Jesus.
6. For our guesthouse construction project.
7. Fluency in Makua.

Even before I dreamed of going to Africa I was asked to be a missionary intern in Kenya. I saw it as an opportunity to go to a continent I had never been to... and would probably never go to again.

Now ten years later our family and team are hosting five interns from Harding University and the University of Alabama. These five college students have decided they want to see what missionary life is like in Mozambique. They stay in our homes, eat our food and go where we go. Our town of Montepuez is their classroom. They are expected to take language classes in Makua. They will stay a few nights with some nationals at a village where we have friends. And, of course they will eat all kinds of new foods.



Aaron and Michael dig in with their hands in the traditional Makua way.

“What is the purpose of this?” you might ask. It is to raise up a new generation of people who have a heart for the mission of God to save the lost. All of our teammates have gone through an internship and look where we ended up! Now we will do our part by hosting these eager college students.

You would think that exposing college students to such a different atmosphere would make them wish they were taking a whole semester's worth of final exams, but in fact it is quite the opposite.

Just today I was pleasantly surprised as a Makua man went around the circle and greeted Sam, Michael, Aaron, Coulter, and Crystal. Each one of them responded in Makua to greet him back.

Please pray that the seed of mission will be eternally planted in their hearts as they experience this fascinating culture. **JS**

In our next edition we will hear directly from our interns about their experience.



A greeting of “Salaama” brings warm smiles to the Makua people.

A job description

“What exactly do you DO?” was the question posed by Sam our new intern as she hopped in our car on the way home from the airport. What Sam didn’t know was the internship she was now taking part in was going to answer that question to its fullest.



Sam and Crystal “talk” to the members of the Opacoo church .

In fact, our ministry is about starting a church planting movement. Our goal: to help churches plant other churches.

In four days Sam would find out that most of our efforts are with a small church about 15 miles from our home (a 45 minute drive). As we all sat in the church service she and Crystal, her roommate for the internship, sat in silence wishing they could hear the Makua songs and preaching that was going on about them.

Lord willing, our long term goals here will soon start taking shape as our Makua comes into focus and as the leaders of Opacoo, the church where we have been teaching and preaching, choose the place for their first church plant. The plan right now is that in June we will go with the leaders and start teaching at a place called Ntivira just 2 miles from Opacoo.

There is so much to be done here in many different areas. We have in mind: Women’s and children’s classes, leadership training, evangelism training, etc. Now the Lord is bringing us a step closer to seeing a dream unfold. This has become evident as the leaders of Ntivira have approached us asking, “When is it you are coming again?” and we happily reply, “Soon, very soon”.

Pray with us as we tackle this enormous goal. May God’s kingdom be enriched! JS

Sam and Crystal teach “If you’re happy and you know it” to the children at Opacoo



Caught on Film



Coulter shares a tender moment with Luke, Ellie and Josiah at a team night.



Luke and Andrew catch a ride on two passing elephants



Jeremy and Andrew get a few laughs and many stares as they walk through the village.