



**Jeremy, Martha, Luke,
Andrew and Joshua Smith**

MISSION TO THE MAKUA

Cultivating Christian Communities

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Interns in Mozambique

This summer our team hosted two interns from Harding University. Whitney Norris and Hannah Valls spent a total of five weeks following us around and seeing what it is like to live in Mozambique. The internship included cultural and language studies, a survey of an area of Mozambique in need of missionaries, and a weekend stay alone in a village in what we like to call "Bonding".



Whitney and Hannah

Hosting interns is a great joy for us because of the relationships we build with them. Our children grew quite attached to "Miss Whitney and Miss Hannah" and our kids never tired of asking them to read books. Hannah and Whitney also got a chance at cooking in Mozambique. Seeing how missionary families live in Africa gave the interns a chance to see if this was the sort of thing for them.

I asked Hannah and Whitney to describe the internship in their own words and relate a few words of wisdom for those who wish to spend some time in Mozambique.

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Prayer Requests

1. Physical health and safety for everyone on our team.
2. That all of us on the team would walk closely with the Lord, daily.
3. Renewed purpose and vision.
4. The churches of Upaco, Ntivira, and Merupe.
5. For the hope, joy, and peace of the Lord to be real to people here.
6. That many women will accept and love Jesus.
7. That new development projects we do will go over well and provide open doors to people's hearts.



"This internship for me was definitely a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I learned more about myself than I every thought I would or could in such a short period of time."
— Whitney

“Everything that I have experienced through this internship has impacted my life in such a way that I know has forever changed me. God has opened my eyes and my heart to so much since I have been here and I have truly seen a reflection of him in the lives of the people here in Mozambique as well as the families we have worked with and grown to love so much.”
— Hannah



According to the Interns you SHOULD...

- ALWAYS bring toilet paper with you to the villages!
- ALWAYS go before leaving home.
- Sit outside the church if you are claustrophobic – There’s always room for one more.
- Laugh at yourself.
- If someone doesn’t understand the language... shout louder!
- Don’t get prideful... If you think you are doing it right... your NOT!



Germindo Jaime, the Mozambican missionary from the south with whom we have been working, recently married off his oldest daughter. This was the first wedding ceremony celebrated in the churches of Christ in our province. And what a celebration it was. Over three hundred people showed up and ate a wonderful meal. Can you guess who preformed the ceremony? Yours truly! I pray that the church will be more and more involved in marriage ceremonies here in the north as the churches learn how important faithful marriage is. JS

Wedding Bells



Merupe



We recently started a new church plant in the village of Merupe. It is located just six kilometers from Upacho (where we have been working for some time). The leaders at Upacho chose Merupe as the next location for their church plant. Since this is their second time (The village of Ntivira was their first), I asked them to do the teaching while I sat in on the studies. They agreed and have taken off on the old testament stories. The pictures on the right shows the villages leaders we met with and whose permission we asked to be able to work in Merupe. Lord willing a new church will meet together soon. JS

This year I had the *great* idea of taking several women from here to a big women's conference 10 hours south of Montepuez. It was quite humorous to see their reactions to things since they'd barely even been out of their own district. First, they were shocked by how long they had to be in the car. Then they "oohed and aahed" over the big cities and markets. It was fun to watch that.

The actual conference went well. There were a total of about 175 women. We had fun singing and learning together. They asked me to speak so I spoke in Makua-Metto and my friend translated into Lomwe since that's the primary dialect down there. We had a good time. I was very glad to have Robin Been, a fellow missionary, along since I'd left Jeremy and the boys in Nampula. We had lots of time to visit and enjoy being together. MS

National Women's Conference



Lichinga – Vacation or Education?



Martha and Ginger Holton visit in the village of Nomba

At the end of June our family took a trip to visit our dear friends the Holtons and Caldwells who are working in the next province over from ours. For those of you that have forgotten, these two families originally came to Mozambique with our current team. They felt the call to go and

work in Lichinga, Mozambique soon after our arrival into the country.

We had a wonderful visit with them! They live and work on a development farm in a highly Muslim community. They have tried many different projects and several of them have taken off with the Yao people in the surrounding area. It was good to see what their lives are like and to get development ideas from their farm. Of course we also really enjoyed just catching up with each other and the kids had such a fun time together.



Andrew gets to know some new kids.



Kyle teaches some boys how to plant vegetable gardens.

Although there were many development projects on the farm, a few stood out to us as something we are interested in trying here in Montepuez. The main one we are interested in is the Lorena stove.

We will be experimenting with that and will tell you more about that in the months to come. We were also interested in trying to promote moringa (for great nutrition) and artemesia (to cure malaria) plants. People can easily grow these around their houses.



Jeremy, Kyle and Rusty build a Lorena stove



We try out the Lichinga team's new Massey Ferguson 440.



Martha, Eden Holton, and Ann Caldwell take a pose.