

SAM Ministries

Loving God and Loving people so they have a chance to Love God and Love people

JUNE, 2011

Points of Interest

- *Andy (our new pilot) made his maiden solo flight to pick up short-term volunteers*
- *Delinda and Bruna, two ladies from Brazil visited and shared Christ with many children in a number of communities.*
- *Rick Cogbill and Bob Denesiuk visited and helped get started on a maintenance workshop for vocational training.*

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A Perspective Influenced by His Presence

Let's face it, when more than one person looks at the same situation or circumstance, most often there is more than one opinion about what is being seen.

Besides the differences in personalities, background, education, or experience, there is our perspective as well.

Oh how much better we see things when we are viewing things from a position of strength rather than weakness. How much nicer it is to face things when we have someone on our side, who is cheering for us!

As Andy and I flew to Beira to pick up Dawson and Winona Winsor who were visiting us and representing McMurray Gospel Assembly (a key sponsoring church), we saw our little aircraft encircled by a rainbow (or "glory") pictured above.



Winona with some of the orphans

Now I am aware that we could explain what we were seeing in natural terms. But our perspective, oriented by our confidence in a loving God who has promised to be with us always, made this experience special.

During Dawson and Winona's visit, they brought gifts and warm wishes to orphans and children from sponsors. In doing so they helped reinforce the truth to these children that "they are not alone".

In reality, this is the message of the gospel that brings amazing hope in hopeless situations. It is

what so many of us have drawn courage from time and again as we face the uncertainties of life.

"Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God **will be with you** wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9). At this encouragement Joshua led the Israelites into one of the defining challenges of their history!

Faith is what enables a perspective that recognizes what God has promised us. But while we grow in faith, we need people who will come alongside us and represent His presence in a very personal and practical way.



A letter from a sponsor

The Caçador project starts to take shape

Among the rolling hills of rural Brazil lies the little town of Caçador. And although Brazil will take fifth place as one of the world's strongest economies, the residents of this little community survive on less than \$1.50 per day.

Besides the poverty, we have shared the need over the past few years for a multi-purpose facility.

As you can see from these pictures this facility is well on the way and although more help is needed to complete it, the progress represents a great encouragement for the community.

Once completed the building will provide space for



- 1. A Christian School.** Besides the three 'R's the children are taught to plant a garden, a necessary skill if they are to survive on their land.
- 2. Agricultural training** and help for the farmers in the region to help them generate

income for their families.
3. Medical Centre to provide medical and dental care to local families.

4. A large gathering room for church services and community meetings.

Thank you for your involvement, both in prayer and support, to see this project move forward.



Two new health posts now open in rural Mozambique

We rejoice because in the months of April and May, we saw the opening of not only one health post, but two! Chitundo health post had a well-attended official opening complete with ribbon cutting ceremony and all. The community is so thankful to finally have its own basic health facility!



and windows were in place and the paint was on the walls.

We are thankful that Andrew and Suzanne were here to help get things up and ready. Ernesto (the health worker) is now very busy with regular school child health checks as well as tending to the community's health needs.



The mission school's health post was the second one to open, although it hasn't had its official opening complete with ribbon cutting ceremony just yet. We want to have all the final touches in place before that happens. But because the community and school needed the health post as soon as possible, it opened "for business" as soon as doors



Preparing to feed hungry children

The Global Care-A-Thon is a fund-raising “walk” which raises the lion’s share of the funds we need to feed children thousands of meals each year. As some of you are preparing for the walk, we are working hard to find, purchase, and store the food needed for the year ahead.



This year we will be purchasing over 48 tons of maize and will also need more than 5 tons of beans. We have already purchased more than 20 tons of that maize, but it has been a challenge to find beans. We finally purchased about a third of our bean needs and with our drip irrigation, we are producing the remainder ourselves. As Pastor Mariano carefully measures out the precious pro-

Although it is not impossible to find the food, finding it at the right price is difficult.



tein, Rick loads bags on the new mission trailer.

Each year we become better equipped to feed more tummies. In this way we develop healthy little lives ready to love God and love others with their full potential.

Thank you for your help!

Pots with a Purpose

written for Amadeu Fernando

Amadeu Fernando has worked with the mission here in Mozambique for more than 10 years now, and his simple faith and transparency has humored and challenged us all at different times.

Soon after Delinda and Bruna’s arrival from Brazil to engage in sharing Christ with children in our programs, they ran into an elderly lady who was selling clay pots she had made. Amadeu, always desiring to help, translated from local dialect into Portuguese for them. When Delinda paid (partly by mistake) ten times the asking price, Amadeu was faced with a temptation. Amadeu immediately felt he deserved a share of the profits since it was he, after all, who was translating and “that was work

too!” So Amadeu told the elderly widow that he wanted what would have been 25% of her takings (about \$4). Immediately he felt in his heart that this was wrong, and so before taking the money, he told the old lady to please keep it herself.



As happens from time to time when guests are here, Delinda started to feel a special burden for

Amadeu and shared that with us. She asked if he may want to raise goats and after taking Amadeu aside, we found out that he really wanted to but never had the chance.

So the morning before Delinda left, we called Amadeu before the group and shared with him about the gift of two goats that he was being given (value \$60).

Amadeu was beside himself with excitement and shared the story of how he almost missed this blessing. As he started to tell on himself and how tempted he was, the rest of us howled in laughter. But how awesome it is when people learn to do what is right and become a channel of God’s blessing.

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ONLINE NEWS

CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR LINKS TO BLOGS FROM TEAM MEMBERS.

FOR PROJECTS CHECK OUT:

WWW.SAMMINISTRIESPROJECTS.BLOGSPOT.COM

Men before machines but machines help!

After months of waiting and praying, **our ship finally came in!** That is, the ship that carried the container from the U.S.A with the donated back-hoe, tractor and other implements.

Ron with Barb Wayners' support and encouragement fixed up the equipment, loaded it, and sent it off to Mozambique wondering if it would ever be seen again! Well Ron had the privilege to accompany Dwight to the port in Beira for the customs clearing and

then the joy of driving the equipment out of the container onto mission property in Mozambique. Already the backhoe and tractor have done work that would have taken us months!



Ron and Barb are making good progress on their house and have been blessed with a team from Mercy Air along with other qualified

people who have given time to put in electrics and build window frames.

Keep them in your prayers as they serve here in so many ways.

A Home and a House

Heather Neufeld

One of the things we have struggled with over the past few months in Canada was talking about "home". You see, for us home is pretty much wherever we sleep it seems. When we are here in Mozambique .this is home. And yet we miss our home in Canada. When we are in Canada we miss home in Mozambique! Even after a month in South Africa last year we referred to the little guesthouse we were staying in as "home".

We have come to realize in the past few months that although we will always have a home in Canada, our true earthly home is where our hearts are—in Africa! It is so good to be home after 7 months of travel in Canada. We spoke at a different church nearly every Sunday

(sometimes, even three different churches on the same Sunday!) While it was a good time of fellowship and being able to connect with supporters and prayer warriors- it was also very tiring. We are so happy to be back here, enjoying a no less busy but slightly different pace of life.

Since arriving back at the mission we have nearly completed the storage



Gabriel installing a door

room portion of our new garage and have been able to get the foundation trenches started for our house. Praise the Lord, things have gone very well and we are hoping and praying that the construction of our house will go quickly...by Mozambican standards that is.

We are currently raising funds for the construction of our house and so far we have about 20% of our projected goal. As soon as the foundation trenches are all dug properly we will begin with pouring foundations and building the foundation walls. We appreciate your prayers for this project since the small cottage we are currently in is needed by short term visitors and we desperately need more space for our family.