

Annet Ttendo Miller and Damien Miller

Prayer letter, December 2017

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Dear friends, it is our pleasure to inform you that we are planning our next home assignment in the UK, and hope to be with you next summer – date overleaf. It will be a particularly exciting time for the Miller family, as it will be Patience's first visit to the UK and her first time to meet Damien's side of the family in person. Damien is also excited because his father is returning to the UK in May, having lived in Belize since 2010. It has been five years since they last saw each other, and Damien's father has never met Annet and Patience. Of course we are also eager to visit the churches that support the work God is doing through the Mozambican Christian lawyers, to meet those who have been praying for us and to talk with you about our experiences in Mozambique. In the meantime, below is an update on our activities since we last wrote to you in September.

Sign up for your rights

We have recently been part of an exciting new initiative to put justice in the hands of the deaf community within Beira. The deaf find themselves particularly isolated from the community and culture that surrounds them, often lacking anything more than basic communication skills with other people, including their own family members. In these circumstances, it is very difficult for them to acquire information, to learn the word of God, and to know and protect their own rights.

AMAC has been working with a young pastor named Rachid to change this situation. Rachid is the pastor of Hope Church for the Deaf, and he conducts weekly church services for the deaf, communicating Biblical messages to them using sign language. He is also passionate about helping deaf young people to be more empowered within society, with a greater awareness of their own value and respect for themselves and each other as God's creations, made in His own image. As a result, AMAC and Hope Church have recently joined together to provide a series of legal education seminars for these young people to become aware of the law and that each of them has both fundamental rights and a loving God.

In September the first seminar was a great success. Collaboration between AMAC and Hope Church has the potential to transform lives within Beira's deaf community. Further seminars are planned for November and December and AMAC is also following up the issues brought in the first seminar. Please pray for the continuation of this work, that AMAC and Hope Church can help to place justice in the hands of the deaf young people of Beira and that in turn AMAC will grow in understanding of the lives of the people we seek to help.



Pastor Rachid at AMAC seminar

Other AMAC work

AMAC continues to conduct seminars with other churches and organisations, and our campaign to raise awareness about gender based violence has reached four secondary schools over 2017, with 886 students attending the seminars. In response to the needs raised during seminars, AMAC also continues to provide free legal advice and assistance. Our monthly fellowships provide the opportunity for Christian legal professionals and law students to pray, study the Bible together and to share testimonies and challenges. Since Andrew and Lindsay Caplen visited us in June this year, the number of students attending our fellowships has increased.

There have also been several comings and goings. We visited Maputo as a family in October, driving the 2400km round trip from Beira. It was a long and tiresome journey, undertaken over two days. However, it was also an opportunity to see the varied landscapes of the country we live in, scenes that portray a rich tapestry of the Mozambican experience. We passed through coastal plains around Beira, rolling hills punctuated by menacing granite domes in Manica, dry bush littered with the rusting hulks of burned out vehicles as we traversed the once conflict-riven country near the River Save. We proceeded through Inhambane Province, its arid landscape peppered with swollen baobab trees before reaching the palm-lined beaches of Gaza, crossing the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River at Xai-xai. We finally arrived at Mozambique's capital city after driving for a total of 18 hours.

The week in Maputo was valuable for building upon our relationship with AMAC's Executive Director (ED), who started his role earlier this year, and for our colleague Jane, who arrived in May. Annet returned to Maputo with Jane in November and attended AMAC's Annual General Meeting, while Damien stayed at home in Beira to look after Patience.

We thank God...

- For AMAC's Executive Director, Luis Generoso, and the AMAC personnel in Maputo, for their hard work and the hospitality shown to us during our visits.
- That the work of AMAC has continued to grow, and that God continues to provide opportunities for AMAC to work with new groups of people.

- For the first year of Patience's life, she turned one on 25th August and is happy and healthy.
- For your continued prayers and support.



Patience's first birthday

Please pray...

- For Patience's application for a British passport. Damien is due to attend an interview in Harare, Zimbabwe on 18th December as part of this process, but recent political developments in Zimbabwe have made this uncertain.
- For the health and security of our family, for our preparations for home assignment, and that there will be no barriers to us all entering the UK as a family.

Annet, Damien and Patience

If you would like to support Annet and Damien by prayer and committed regular giving, visit bmsworldmission.org/partners or call 01235 517617 for a 24:7 Partners leaflet.



Annet and Damien will be on home assignment in the UK and available to request as BMS Speakers from 29 May to 24 June and from 9 July to 30 July 2018. Churches wishing to request Annet and Damien as BMS Speakers should use the online speaker request form at bmsworldmission.org/get-involved/request-a-speaker or call the Church Relations Team on 01235 517600. Please submit your request by 8 January 2018.



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