



### Gregory's turn to write

This past month has been tough. It started badly with one of our church leaders losing his wife to cancer. Then the child of one of our senior pastors died suddenly. A short time later one of our church members went into hospital to have her baby, only to be treated abysmally by the nursing staff resulting in the death of her newborn child and the woman contracting a nasty infection. In the midst of all this our whole family succumbed to a bad dose of malaria that pinned us to our beds. Josiah wasn't immune to these trials either even though he was at boarding school up in Blantyre. He took ill (thankfully not with malaria) and collapsed in a faint on the floor of the school office. And then to top it all off, I picked up our car from the garage where a mechanic had been working on the brakes, only to discover belatedly that his assistant hadn't bothered to tighten the lug nuts properly. I was halfway down the highway when my rear wheel bounced across the road by itself and the rest of the car came to an unexpected halt. Not good. Decidedly a frustrating month.

Of course there have been some positive developments. Two of our executive members received brand new motorcycles that will aid them greatly in visiting our Elim churches. It has been great to see the joy on their faces, although I was somewhat alarmed to discover that one of the pastors had been driving his motorbike without having any idea how the clutch or the choke worked! You can see a photo of one of these bikes on our website at <http://kane.elim-moz.org/> alongside some great family photos of our growing boys.

Digressing for a moment into the world of multimedia, one of the videos on our *YouTube* channel passed a landmark this month when it chalked up more than 1000 views. I don't quite know what to think of the fact that the least watched video on our channel has to do with how people can contribute financially to our ministry here in Mozambique. Perhaps you should pop over to <http://uk.youtube.com/user/ElimMoz> and have a look for yourself. While you're there, do take a look at the brand new video we have posted of last year's open air Nativity Play. See Mary and Joseph as never before. And, yes, I do know that the donkey isn't actually mentioned in the Gospel narratives, but it sure made for some great street theatre!

One of the big demands on our time is the home schooling of our children. Sharon does a first class job with this, working every morning with Samuel, Nathanael and Daniel, and ensuring that they are ably prepared for the future. I also help with Daniel, tutoring him in maths, science and church history. Josiah, as you all know, is safely up in Blantyre and so is spared the tension of having to work out whether he's dealing with his father, his teacher, or his pastor. A little while ago we took our boys on a field trip to observe the work of an African blacksmith. You can see the fun our boys had by clicking [here](#) and watching a short video from [their YouTube](#) channel.

Easter will soon be upon us and I have been very straight with our city churches, saying that I am not prepared to organise any of the evangelistic extravaganzas that have characterised our celebration of Christmas and Easter in recent years. It would be very easy for us to fall into the routine of making everything happen ourselves. But our role as missionaries is to facilitate and to equip, and as such I have challenged our district leaders as well as my youth evangelists to come up with an evangelistic Easter programme. I understand that their plans are proceeding well and

it is with a mixture of excitement and apprehension that I am looking forward to the Easter weekend. Most churches in Mozambique just meet together in a three-day holy huddle from Friday to Sunday; I thank God that in Elim we're waking up to the imperative to proclaim the meaning of the cross to those many Mozambicans for whom the church is still largely irrelevant.

Let me finish with a tribute to Daniel, our new teenager. A couple of weeks ago many of the young people from our district churches gathered together on a Saturday for a day-long youth celebration. I wasn't involved in the programme but I stopped by just to show my support. And there was our Daniel, the only white face in a sea of jubilant, worshipping Africans. The entire day was conducted in Portuguese but Daniel held his own, contributing to the discussions and joining in all the activities. At the end of the afternoon he walked down to the main road and caught one of the crowded commuter minibuses that took him into Tete city centre. We had arranged to screen another of our popular Christian movies at our international church and Daniel was keen not to miss it. The following morning in church, drum sticks in hand, he banged away on two goatskin drums before going out to teach Sunday School. It's great seeing our lads growing up, developing socially as well as spiritually. And did I mention that he's already taller than his mother? Do make sure you check out those photos of our thirteen-year-old on our website at <http://kane.elim-moz.org/>

Grace to you

**Gregory and Sharon Kane**

Elim International Missions

#### Prayer Requests

- We never tire of asking for prayer for our health and safety. We read this month of a missionary doctor in Pakistan who died recently of malaria. Likewise, when the wheel fell off of our car, it could easily have resulted in a nasty accident. So while we thank God for watching over us, we are constantly aware that we need strength and good health to operate effectively in this part of the world.
- Pray for the ongoing home schooling of our children, for wisdom and flexibility for their parents, and enthusiasm and understanding for our boys.
- Pray for the preparations under way for Easter that our people would be bold in their witness to the work of the cross
- We tried something new at our international church this past month, offering free lessons in conversational English to secondary school students. Unfortunately the uptake was abysmal, so we have albeit reluctantly dropped the scheme. Pray that we would continue to be creative in searching out ways to impact our wider community.
- Now that the rainy season is at an end, Sharon's ready to restart weekly women's teachings in one of our rural churches. Please pray that everything would fall into place for this. Pray also that our car would take her there and back without anything else falling off!
- As a church we have made a formal complaint about the way the woman who lost her baby was treated. Please pray that the authorities would take this seriously and that the standard of care in the hospital would start to improve.
- Our international church currently rents an old cinema, but we really need to buy our own land and build a premises. It is proving extremely difficult to find a plot in a suitable location for a reasonable price, partly because buying land always becomes a political issue. Pray that God opens the door for us.
- Pray that we keep our eyes on Jesus during times of discouragement, and don't lose heart.

## Boring but Important

Would you like to contribute financially to our work in Mozambique? Send your cheque or debit instructions to Elim International Missions, Elim International Centre, De Walden Road, West Malvern, WR14 4DF, or as appropriate to the Irish Missions Director at 1-3 Old Cross St, Newtownards, N. Ireland, BT23 7NW. However - and this is very important - you need to make it clear that your gift is for the "*Kanes in Mozambique*." Your generosity will enable us to continue our different training and development programmes. Elim's charity number is 251549 in England and SC037754 in Scotland.

If you would like to make regular gifts towards our support, you can obtain forms for standing orders and direct debits on the Downloads page of our web site or by contacting Elim Missions on [missions@elimhq.net](mailto:missions@elimhq.net) You can also view a YouTube video on how to support us financially by clicking [here](#) .

If you no longer wish to receive this monthly update, please send a blank email to [kane@elim-moz.org](mailto:kane@elim-moz.org) with "*Please remove*" in the subject line.

Our mobile telephone number in Mozambique is +258 82 5167173 and our land line is +258 252 20045.

For cheaper calls from a UK land line, check out Telediscount at <http://www.telediscount.co.uk/> Alternatively you can use Skype to call us over the Internet. Our Skype name is *kanes\_in\_moz* although bear in mind that we don't keep Skype connected 24/7 owing to bandwidth restrictions.

Postal address for letters, magazines and packages: Caixa 21, Tete, Mozambique. Please note that any packages MUST be sent as either registered or recorded delivery so as to prevent postal theft. Letters and cards can be sent as normal mail.

Further information on our life and ministry here in Mozambique can be found on our web site at <http://kane.elim-moz.org/> If you have difficulty in printing out this newsletter, you can find a narrower version in the Archives section of our web site.

## Sharon's Joke of the Month

### Crossing The River

Three men were hiking through a forest when they came upon a large, raging violent river. Needing to get on the other side, the first man prayed, "Lord, please give me the strength to cross the river."

Poof! Lord gave him big arms and strong legs and he was able to swim across in about 2 hours, having almost drowned twice.

After witnessing that, the second man prayed, "Lord, please give me strength and the tools to cross the river."

Poof! Lord gave him a rowing boat and strong arms and strong legs and he was able to row across in about an hour after almost capsizing once.

Seeing what happened to the first two men, the third man prayed, "Lord, please give me the strength, the tools and the intelligence to cross this river."

Poof! He was turned into a woman. She checked the map, hiked one hundred yards upstream and walked across the bridge.

## Gregory's Quote of the Month

"Satan may build a hedge about us and fence us in and hinder our movements, but he cannot roof us in and prevent our looking up." - *Hudson Taylor*