



## LePoidevin Prayer Release

**Dear Family and Friends,**

**A MONTH UNLIKE ANY OTHER**

**JULY 2014**

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Hours flown the month of July: 0. Nil, nothing. Our aircraft never left the ground, though there were plenty of flights to do.

On the very first day of the month, as I mentioned briefly in the previous prayer letter, an inspector from the Civil Aviation Authorities came to check on our legal documents and found them lacking. The verbal agreement we received some time ago, that allowed us to continue to operate while going through the process of receiving our operator certificate, was no longer honored. Indeed, it was not even recognized. This grounded us immediately, and all flying came to a screeching halt. This, of course, caused no little inconvenience for those scheduled to fly with us in the near future, especially since there are no other operator in Nampula.

Dave flew to Maputo the same day and met with the second in command of Civil Aviation. The meetings were rather unpleasant. The assistant to the director was very strict, not willing to consider the mess his office has been in for a long time and how we have tried to work within that messy system. On an encouraging note, he did urge his staff to speed up the certification process for us. All we still need is for our facilities and aircraft to be inspected, and once that's done and any issues dealt with, we should have the certificate. Four weeks later, no one from Civil Aviation has yet contacted us about an inspection date.

On returning to Mozambique after some traveling (more on that below), Dave made another quick trip to Maputo to meet with the same man. He went with trembling, but the Lord was clearly working in the situation. The guy was like a different person, pleasant, helpful, kind, and understanding. He again called on his staff to urge them to make the license happen, and he even promised to see about getting us a special flight authorization while we wait for the final step for our license. Here are Dave's words about the end of the meeting: "*The meeting ended with a warm handshake, smiles shared, and him expressing that he wants to see us licensed quickly.*"

Though the waiting time is somewhat stressful, we know Who is in control. He can do amazing things, and what we are facing is not something He has no clue what to do about. He already proved that.

- **Please be in prayer for Dave who shoulders the majority of the responsibility to see this process through**
- **Pray for the Lord to continue to intervene and help and encourage in ways only He can**
- **Praise God for how He has been gracious to us so far**

### TRAVELING

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Dave returned home from his first trip to Maputo in time for me to leave for Minnesota on July 4<sup>th</sup> (this in order to get my passport stamped, to keep my Green Card current). I had about 10 wonderful days there, being with Dave's parents and brother, and spending time with Thomas, who is staying with them for the summer. An added bonus on this trip was the great privilege of being at a niece's wedding and seeing more extended family.



While I enjoyed family in Minnesota, Dave and Annie spent some days in Nampula before flying to South Africa. There, they shopped and swam (heated pool) and ate ice cream. They didn't consider it a good day unless it contained ice cream, one of Annie's favorite foods. ☺ Annie did great with Daddy while Mama was away.

Arriving in Johannesburg, South Africa, late on evening, I was greeted and hugged by Dave and Annie. Annie looked older than I remembered. ☺ It was great to be together again! We spent a day in Johannesburg before we headed south-east for the Durban area, where our MAF conference was to be held.

Our fellow Lesotho MAF'ers and our Mozambique team were treated to the care and love given by a group from a church in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The theme for the conference

was “Overcome”. Adult morning sessions with worship and Bible teaching, children’s VBS mornings and part of the afternoons, spa options, a visit to a local beach, an evening BBQ, and a game night were on the schedule. Not scheduled was a visit by several horses that wanted to check on us adults as we had one of our sessions (the sessions were held outside under a roof, but there were basically no walls, just a fence partway around). A staff member finally came and chased them off. ☺ We also had unscheduled visits to our lodge by giraffes, nyalas (there are some in the picture, by the tree in the background), impalas, and ostriches. An electrified enclosure held two caracals. They looked like they wanted to be petted. ☺



- **Praise the Lord for safe travels for us all**
- **Also praise for great time with family and colleagues**

## WHAT WE MISSED

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As we had all been looking forward to participating in the special event in Mueda, the dedication of a Makonde Bible portion book, it was very disappointing to have to forego it. We just didn’t have the authorization to use our aircraft to ferry visitors up there and back. But the participants and the visitors were still able to go, both by road and by the help of another aircraft based in Pemba. The reports from the dedication are glowing! About 800 people came to celebrate, and about 2000 Bible books were sold. Knowing the power of God’s Word, can you imagine what impact this can have on the area?!

- **Praise for all that God did during the dedication**
- **Please pray that His Word would go out and transform the people**

## FAMILY UPDATE

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Karina, Robbie, Sylvia, and Thomas are all finishing up their summer internships/jobs this month and into August. That is, Sylvia’s job will continue, as her internship turned into a fulltime job. Her hours will be reduced from 40 to 20 during the fall semester to accommodate her schooling needs at Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, California. Karina and Robbie are doing well. Karina has sent out applications for various vet assistant jobs, and she’ll have an interview for one of them once she gets back to Berea College, Berea, Kentucky. She has one semester left of school and will graduate in December. Thomas has thoroughly enjoyed his grounds keeping job and spending time with his extended family in Minnesota. He will return to LeTourneau University in Texas for his second year of mechanical engineering studies.

Annie didn’t want to finish her cereal one morning. Dave tried to explain the concept of wasting, and Annie wanted to know what that meant. Dave told her that it means we have to throw away the cereal she didn’t want to eat. “Mama, can you waste my cereal, please?” was her response. ☺

- ***Praise the Lord for providing good internships/jobs for the kids for the summer***
- ***Please pray for them as they transition back into a hectic school schedule***

“...the most effective means for bolstering our confidence in the Bible is to spend time in the Bible. The Holy Spirit is committed to working through the word. God promises to bless the reading and the teaching of his word. The sheep will hear their Master’s voice speaking to them in the word. In other words, the word of God is more than enough to accomplish the work of God in the people of God. There is no better way to understand and come to embrace a biblical doctrine of Scripture than to open the cage and let Scripture out.” (From “Taking God At His Word” by Kevin DeYoung)

We’re so grateful that you care and pray for us!

Gerd, for the LePoidevins

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