

Jane Edwards

Prayer letter, July 2018

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Dear all

I am very glad to start this newsletter by saying that I will be coming back for my first home assignment at the end of this year. I plan to spend Christmas with family, and then visit partner churches January-February.

Land rights

In my last prayer letter, I said that the first few months of this year would be spent researching land rights here in Mozambique, not just from a theoretical point of view but also to see what happens on the ground and how people here consider land. This has been absolutely fascinating so far for me personally, and the more I read/talk to people the more I see how much of a problem land rights are here. Something that in the UK we could see as a bit materialistic, but here secure land means a secure home, a secure field in which to grow crops to feed the family. And that losing their home is at best a fear and at worst a fact that people here do have to live with.



AMAC fellowships

One of the ministries of AMAC (Mozambican Association of Christian Lawyers) is to strengthen and encourage Mozambican Christian lawyers and law students in their faith. We do this through fellowships on the first Saturday of every month, where we have a Bible study together and then share some refreshments (see photo). We are currently looking at a series of

Bible studies called "Law and Justice", which reveal how God's heart for justice is expressed throughout the Bible. These are studies that were originally written for the Lawyers' Christian Fellowship in the UK, and translated into Portuguese to be used here. I have gone through these studies before, but doing them here helps me personally gain an insight into the way people see justice issues here in Mozambique.

Some of you may know that we moved office recently. Although the new office is much better in terms of attending clients and having sufficient space to work in, since we moved we have not had many regular attendees at the fellowships.

Blood donations, bank accounts and legal advice

These were some of the aspects of a church fayre that we as AMAC had the opportunity to participate in recently (see photo). The church was in the centre of town and a way for the church to provide practical help to the community. As well as the services mentioned above, there were health checks and a chance to obtain identity documents.

The AMAC stand had many visitors throughout the day. Some were for specific advice, and we obtained a few new clients as a result of these consultations. Others were simply to see who we are and what we do, hopefully they will pass on our details if they know someone who could benefit from our services.

BMS team changes

The BMS team here in Mozambique has gone through some changes in the last few months. We said hello to Mark, Susanna and Lizzie Barrell in January; Mark will be joining the AMAC team in Maputo, Susanna will be teaching sewing skills to help people generate an income, and Lizzie will be continuing her secondary school studies.

We said goodbye to the Action Team in March, three eighteen-year olds who had been with us for six months. And we said hello and goodbye to a team of seven who visited us from Bristol Baptist College for two weeks in April.

Please pray:

- For wisdom for the research into land rights, and how to translate this into practical support;
- That the fellowships would continue to enrich the local lawyers and students and equip them to model true justice in their workplaces and universities;

- For the day-to-day running of AMAC and that we can provide a high level of service to the people we assist;
- My parents will visit me in August, please pray for a restful time while they are here.

Once again, thank you for all your support for me and the work of AMAC out here in Mozambique.

Jane

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



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