

# THE BEECK BRIEF, APRIL - 2019

## Such a weird life!

I love sitting down to write a newsletter. I always have a look back over the previous few months and am reminded just how much has happened - both good and bad - and just marvel at what a weird and wonderful life we get to live here. Some of the events from the start of this year include: watching a baby being born, taking a 3 hour detour through the bush because our national highway was washed out, attending the funeral of our friends' one year old daughter, driving over an hour into the bush to meet a man who had reportedly been performing miracles in the name of Jesus - getting bogged for three hours in the middle of nowhere, seeing Akumassangano and two of his wives make the decision to follow Jesus, sitting with a skeletal, hopeless young lady suffering from HIV and TB, learning to crochet, multiple mountain hikes, waiting all morning in the rain for a malaria test, building a house and having the privilege of being part of a group of 5 more men starting out on their journey to follow Jesus. There really never is a dull moment! Even though much of it is heartbreaking and just plain hard, we're so thankful to be here and to be a part of what God is doing in our area and so thankful to you for your prayers and support!

## Cyclone Idai

Many of you will have seen on the news and social media that Mozambique was hit by a massive cyclone in March. Thankfully for us, it was a long way further south and we were not in any danger from the storm or subsequent flooding. In other parts of Mozambique though, there is complete and utter devastation - entire villages wiped out, hundreds of people lost, survivors left with nothing - no homes, food, crops and family. We have been working on a small scale with our local partners, the Baptist Convention of Mozambique, to offer emergency relief support as part of the global Baptist response to the crisis. For those of you who would like to assist families in need, the best way to donate is through our Australian partner organisation - Baptist World Aid. They have an appeal set up on their website and are working closely with local organisations to ensure that your support will be used wisely. Thank you for your concern for us and for your generous support of those in need. The stories we've heard have just been heartbreaking.

<https://baptistworldaid.org.au/give/>

## Empowering Communities...

There has been a bit of a flood of new followers of Jesus just lately! Each week, Cam has been faithfully visiting his friend Akumassangano in a village about 20km away. They've been hanging out, learning from each other and Cam has been sharing bible stories. After hearing the good news, Akumassangano made the decision to follow Jesus! The next week Cam went back and found out his two wives had also joined him on the path of Jesus. Then just yesterday, he brought five more men from his village who wanted to hear the stories and who also have made a decision to follow Jesus! Cam spent four hours sitting with the six men and his nurturer (also a fairly recently decided follower of Jesus), going through an overview of the bible. It was almost as if they'd heard the stories previously and made up their minds already that they wanted to follow Jesus. At the end, they asked Cam to take a photo and write all of their names down and asked us to pass that information on to you! We told them that there would be many happy people back in Australia who would love to pray for them.



From left to right: Akumassangano (chief of his village), Cam - looking pretty chuffed, Adimark Bulambela, Abas Mbwana, Mwendo Kamwana, Janetu Mamadi, Steven Mbelaso & Nikiss (Cam's nurturer) \*I feel like most of our photos like this need a disclaimer... people don't smile for photos here, not ever. Photo taking is serious business!

So please pray for these guys and the many more they say are also keen to hear God's word. Pray too for Cam as he makes disciples and for me too... there are incredible opportunities out there to talk to their wives and other women in the community.

Read More: <https://beeckbrief.com/2019/04/09/akumassangano/> AND <https://beeckbrief.com/2019/04/13/akumassangano-pt2/>

## Team Retreat...

We've been working pretty hard this last little while - Cam's been building Sally's new house, trying to keep up with some language lessons and visiting people in our community, as well as helping out with school. I've been trying to fit in as many language lessons as possible, finishing Term 1 with the kids and visiting various people too. It's been really great and we're feeling pretty energised by it all and a little reluctant to be heading "home" soon when things are taking off so well right now. But we know that God has good things in store for us and it's always good to rest, reflect and recharge for the next season.

We'll be doing just that as a team next month as we head off for a few days of team retreat! We have some visiting guest speakers, Ruth and Simon Warwick from Lesmurdie Baptist Church, who will lead us in some sessions looking at mental health first aid and marriage!

Our team, along with Ruth and Simon, are currently raising some funds to help cover the costs of the retreat. If you'd like to partner with us in that - click on the link below.

<http://www.globalinteraction.org.au/support/projects/yawo/team-team-retreat-may-2019>

## Sally's house

We have an amazing group of local guys who have been hard at work for the last couple of months building Sally's house. Cam and I have been joking that if this cross cultural worker gig doesn't work out, perhaps we could start a building company here. It's really been quite good fun! It's going up really quickly and looking great! We have an electrician coming to help with some wiring and a team from Ellenbrook later in the year to help with some plumbing and fit out. The support and interest has been very encouraging - thank you! We're getting ready to put the roof on in the next couple of weeks! If you're interested in coming here - please get in touch with us or Sally. If you'd like to help out with a donation please click the link below.

**<http://www.globalinteraction.org.au/support/projects/yawo/team-sally-s-new-house>**

## 'Home' Assignment

We're heading back to Perth in July for our home assignment! We're pretty stoked to have a place to live, a car to drive and some church visits booked in already! The kids are going to be going to Carey Baptist College... well Jack is enrolled and we're hoping it's going to work out for the girls :-). We'd love to see you! If you'd like to catch up for a coffee and a chat, or better still a walk and a chat - please be in touch. We'll be available to speak at churches / home groups / any other gathering you might have during August, September, October & November. Book in early - seems Australians actually like planning things advance - crazy! We're on the lookout for some bicycles to use while we're back and if anyone has spare uniforms, please let me know! Can't wait to see you all!

Love, The Beecks