



KAPASSENI CALLING



ISSUE 21

AN UPDATE ON THE KAPASSENI PROJECT

May 2010

12th ANNUAL BENEFIT CONCERT FOR MOZAMBIQUE - *The Golden Apples of the Sun*

The GETTIN' HIGHER CHOIR directed by Shivon Robinsong and Denis Donnelly will perform our 12th annual benefit concert on Friday and Saturday, June 4 & 5 - 7:30pm at the Alix Goolden Performance Hall, 907 Pandora Street in Victoria. The choir will be joined by special guest **Gina Sala**, an enchanting singer of international renown. Net concert proceeds will go to the **Kapasseni Project** and the **Kuwangisana Project**. Greetings from Kapasseni will be brought personally by Perpetua Alfazema! Our last few concerts have sold out, so get your tickets early. Tickets are \$20/\$15, on sale at Munro's Books, Ivy's Bookshop, James Bay Coffee and Books, Larsen Music and Dig This (Broadmead). For more information and for out-of-town tickets, contact Gloria at (250) 995-8731 or gloria@gettinhigherchoir.ca



Going On to High School!

Maria, Isabel, Dolica, Regina and Rosa are the Kapasseni girls who have gone on to further studies at high school in Murraca, 35 km away. In this picture, they are visiting Joseph and Perpetua in Sena on their break from school. They walked from Kapasseni to Sena before breakfast, and arrived tired and hungry. The Alfazemas really enjoyed having them come to visit.

Thank you for your ongoing donations to support scholarships for these wonderful role models for other village girls.

Greeting

by Joseph Alfazema

Thank you for your continued support of the Kapasseni Project. Joyfully, 2010 will mark the Kapasseni Project's eleventh year. Your support has helped continue many great developments in Mozambique.

I would like to thank the Gettin' Higher Choir for its support over these many years. Perpetua will be able to join your concert in Victoria on June 4th and 5th and tell you more about the progress in Kapasseni and Kuwangisana. The projects you have supported this year have really helped these communities.

The Letz Sing Choir has also helped us with the traditional music program in Kapasseni and Kuwangisana, and we send our thanks to them for this gift of music.

Our thanks to Eric Dozier and the One Human Family Gospel Choir and to everyone who attended their January 24 concert, which raised \$2,000 for Pastor Joseph's mission work.

Kapasseni School Bigger Than Ever!

The school year began in February 2010 and now has classes to Grade 7. There are 435 students and nine teachers. The new teachers' housing is being built, and we also plan to build another one or two classrooms if we have enough funding. The building project will provide needed income for local people, who are facing food shortages again this year due to drought.

The building project was delayed a few weeks as some of the workers had cholera. Things are progressing now. The breakfast and lunch programs continue to ensure that students are not hungry when they come to class and that they will be able to learn. Ten dollars can feed a child breakfast for one year. Donations will be needed to keep up the important food support and building projects.

The sewing program has eight students enrolled and is specifically helping older students who would like to learn a trade and are at risk of dropping out of school.

Your donations to the Kapasseni Project "general funds" provide assistance to Kapasseni School, including the breakfast program, sewing program, gardening, agriculture (trees/seeds), the traditional music program, scholarships and building projects. You can specifically designate your donation for one of these areas, or let us put it where the need is considered greatest.



Antonio, Quembo, Elias, Abdul, Emilio, Amois, Samuel, and Chate are the Kapasseni boys in this picture attending Murraca High School with scholarships funds. Temotio and Manuel are absent. Temotio would like to attend the seminary training and be a Pastor

Food Security Plans

A new community development officer has been hired to work specifically on food security issues with the Community Development Committee (CDC) in Kapasseni. His name is Christiano Niquice and he has experience forming and working with farmer's cooperatives and teaching best farming practices, including crop diversification. Christiano will help with several ideas to stimulate the economy and reduce food shortages.

Agriculture and Food

Malnutrition and food scarcity are major issues in Kapasseni. There was huge crop failure in 2009 and 2010. One way forward is to increase agricultural output. This can be achieved by arranging demonstration plots that showcase beneficial farming techniques. Group and community plots are not only educational but also bring in community funds and can support a grain bank. Trained staff will educate the community about sustainable farming practices such as organic production and water management. Investments like terracing, roads, fish ponds, granaries and irrigation can play a crucial role in boosting agricultural capacity and output. The project officer will work with Mozambique's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to develop a demonstration community plot and irrigation plan. Food will also be provided to families that help with work projects related to the community plots and irrigation, as well as cooking and cleaning at the school, and helping in the school garden and orchard. One person per family may participate to give more people a chance to work and learn.

Natural resource and environmental protection

Deforestation is a problem in many developing nations because people cut down trees to get wood for cooking fuel, shelter construction and other uses. A lot of the natural forest was destroyed during Mozambique's civil war and it has led to soil erosion and poor soil quality for growing crops. Our project officer will work with the government to develop a reforestation plan for the Kapasseni area. Identifying trees that grow quickly would be beneficial to the community for fire wood and trade, as well as providing sources of food. The Kapasseni project will purchase seeds, soil, bags and any equipment needed. Two nursery workers will be hired for three months.

Micro Finance

The Community Development Committee will create community based savings groups with initial funds from the Kapasseni Project, that pool and record small savings. Together, these people collect enough to issue group members loans that can be used to launch small businesses other than farming. Some examples include salt sales, soap making, bee keeping, sewing, and oil pressing. These types of micro-financed projects will generate other income for the area, and when the loans are paid back then more funds can be issued.

Building Projects

The Kapasseni School building projects will create jobs for many local people, stimulating the economy and providing an income that can be used to purchase food.

You can sign up to receive project newsletters by email, which will help to save paper and mailing costs. Go to www.kapasseni.org to learn more about the project. Our email address is kapasseniproject@gmail.com

A Terrible Drought

What can be done when there is a major drought and extreme food shortages? It is very difficult to be heard when you are poor and in a remote area. Perpetua and Joseph have been instrumental in being advocates for the poor and insisting that government officials report on the food shortages and assess the situation. After they met with the Sena Administrator, the government did an official assessment of the drought situation and recommended six months worth of food distribution for the Kapasseni/Sena area. This is a huge undertaking and it took a long time to plan how this would be done. Food distribution has to be done by government agencies as it is a dangerous and difficult job to distribute food to hungry crowds. However, Joseph and Perpetua may have to play an important leadership role in disaster relief efforts once again. The recognition that food is needed is good news but it has taken several months to see any food distribution started. The last report from Manuel Miandica (nephew of the Alfazemas) is that the World Food Program began distribution in May. The home-based care programs are also suffering from less distribution from aid agencies. It is hard to say if it is because of the global recession (fewer donations) or if it is from diversion of food to other disaster areas in the world, such as Haiti. We must continue to advocate for these people and be a voice to make governments act. Pastor Joseph and Perpetua will continue to speak out to get the help that is needed.



Tender loving care has produced a good crop of oranges, lemons, limes, and cashews in Kapasseni this year!

Orchard Harvest

There is good news about the fruit trees that were planted several years ago: a good harvest of oranges and citrus fruit was gathered this year for the first time! The cashew trees also produced a good crop. The people from Kapasseni will benefit from these nutritious fruits and nuts and some will be sold at the market to help the community. It would be great to add to the orchard and keep growing trees that will help with soil erosion and provide food support for the community. The Kapasseni Project pays someone from the village to care for these trees and make sure they are watered. The students help, and when school is out for a break the Murraca students help, as do the breakfast program cooks.



Pastor Joseph and villagers in front of the new Lutheran church in Murrema

Mission Work Update

by Pastor Joseph

It has been very encouraging to see so many people come to services, sing in the choirs and attend youth activities in the nine communities that I serve. I have nine laymen working with me, one in each community and they are wanting further education to become pastors.

We have been constructing three church buildings. The church in Murrema is finished and is now being used. The church in Sena is a bit larger and is also completed. It looks so beautiful and the people came and planted trees and flowers around the outside of the building. The communities have helped in the construction. The last church in Chemba is nearing completion. We need more funds for cement and the last finishing touches. We have no furniture so we would like to raise some funds to build benches and tables.

There has been a shortage of food this year due to drought conditions. It has been bad at times every year, but usually in January people are able to eat some of the green shoots from plants. There are none this year, and the food shortage is very bad.

I returned to Edmonton at the end of January for medical leave and I have just recently come back to Mozambique. I pray that I will remain physically strong as I return to work.

I was able to attend a mission symposium in Edmonton, had several meetings with the Kapasseni committee and had many discussions with the seminary in Edmonton and Brazil and our LCC mission board about training possibilities.

Our children are in Edmonton and they are doing well. Sarah will graduate from high school this year. Perpetua will attend the graduation on May 22 and then go to Victoria for the Gettin' Higher Choir concerts on June 4 and June 5, before returning to Mozambique.

Training Local Leaders

Pastor Joseph needs more help in the field, but it is difficult to bring in people who don't know the local dialect to teach and communicate. The official language of Mozambique is Portuguese, but you would only learn it if you went to school. The rural villages speak their local language and for this area it is called Sena.

Nine men and one student from Murraca have asked to be trained as pastors, and it seems easier and more effective to train the local people to work in their own communities as they know the people and the language.

A plan has been discussed with the Lutheran Church of Brazil, as they have textbooks and training materials in Portuguese. They are willing to work with these first participants and provide the books and materials needed to get started with training. Next steps would be to discuss bringing in a teacher to start the lessons and then assign homework for several months. There is a pastor stationed in Africa who is willing to help with the training sessions. Further discussions will take place with several groups soon to begin this training.

This is so exciting for everyone, especially Pastor Joseph, to see the possibilities of these local laymen eventually becoming pastors and serving as shepherds for their people. Thank you for supporting this work and training.

Donations can be made to the Kapasseni Project specifically for "Mission Work". Funds are needed to build furniture for the churches, to complete the Chemba church building, to support training of local lay leaders, provide "Food For Work" funds during this drought and to support Pastor Alfazema as he works with the people of Sofala Province of Mozambique.



Perpetua in her office at Kuwangisana, in Sena

Health Care Programs

The government provides a nurse and a trained midwife to the Health Centre in Kapasseni. The new midwife also cleans, does laundry and assists the nurse as needed. This is a big step, as the local midwives had been providing a good service but were not trained and officially recognized by the Ministry of Health. The Kapasseni Project will not have to pay for a midwife now but may continue to pay an assistant if needed.

The biggest health problems in the Kapasseni area are still caused by cholera or dysentery.

In 2006 the [Kuwangisana](#) project, managed by Perpetua Alfazema, started by helping 20 clients and had a small budget and staff. For three years the project grew and began helping orphans as well as people with AIDS. In 2009, Kuwangisana began to scale-up successful home-based care services to 357 clients, provided support to 212 orphans and starting prevention efforts in rural and remote underserved areas of Caia District like Kapasseni. Clients have gone from being bedridden to getting treatment and returning to productive lives and being able to care for their children. People are able to go off the support services once



they are stabilized and new clients can be enrolled. There are over 200 people and orphans on the waiting list to be enrolled in the program and they are working as fast as they can to help as many people as possible. It is making a huge difference in people's lives and bringing hope where there was none.

In Kapasseni, most of the services from Kuwangisana are directed at helping the orphans. One of our former students, Juanita (pictured), has been trained by Kuwangisana and is now in charge of the orphan program in Kapasseni. Juanita went to Murraca High School and is a great role model for the local girls to stay in school.

For more information and updates about Kuwangisana go to www.caiaconnection.com

2010 Budget

Projected General Funds

Balance forward	\$ 63,000
Donations	8,000
GHC spring concerts	8,000
Music program donations	1,000
Scholarships donations	2,000
Jan Grier Fund	6,000
Total general funds	\$ 88,000

Projected General Expenditures

Kapasseni School	salaries	6,500
	breakfast program	2,000
	school supplies	500
	music program	1,200
	uniforms	1,000
	maintenance	500
	ceremonies	500
Transportation		2,300
Community development	agriculture	11,000
Canada contact travel		4,000
Moz. bank fees /communication/audit		5,000
Office/supplies/maintenance		1,700
Scholarships		4,800
Health Centre	salaries & training	4,240
	supplies	1,000
Mozambique contact people		1,000
Newsletters/stamps/Canada admin		2,000
Teacher's housing project		15,000
Building project – classrooms		15,000
Total projected expenditures		\$ 87,240

Projected Mission Work Funds

Balance forward	16,968
Donations	10,000
Grants	10,000
January fundraising concert	2,000
Total funds for mission work	\$ 38,968

Projected Mission Expenditures

Salary, benefits, housing, fees	28,842
Office/supplies	2,000
Training	1,000
Transportation/security driver	4,200
Building funds/furniture	2,000
Total projected expenditures	\$ 38,042

Notes: (1) The Kapasseni Project in Canada is run completely by volunteers. (2) Separate accounts are kept for "general" development work and for Joseph's mission work. General donations do not go to mission work, mission work funds do not go to other work. (3) For mission work, the building fund and training amounts will be increased if more funds are raised.

Making Donations

- **Kapasseni Project – General Donations:** for the school, music program, scholarships, sewing/tailoring, orphan support in Kapasseni, health care, food security, teacher's housing and community development work.
- **Kapasseni Project – Mission Work Donations:** to support Joseph Alfazema's work in Sofala province, which includes his salary, benefits, housing, training, transportation, supplies and the church building project.
- Make cheques out and mail to: Redeemer Lutheran Church, 911 Jenkins Ave, Victoria, BC, V9B 2N8. Charitable tax donation receipts will be issued. Specify if your donation is for "general work" or for "mission work". For more info contact Carol Kerr at (250) 478-9296.