

# Praying for Mozambique



**Arie de Kruijff, country leader for Mozambique, has identified the following prayer and praise requests for 2012:**

- Give thanks for the growth in number of self-care groups over the past year; pray that this will continue throughout the country and be truly owned by people affected by leprosy.
- ALEMO, the leprosy patient association in Mozambique, needs to develop and become self-supporting to maximise benefit to its members. Ask for the Lord's blessing and inspiration for them as they seek to redefine their role and impact.
- Many people across the country have undiagnosed leprosy. Lift them to the Lord, and pray that they will quickly access the treatment and care that they need, so the number of new cases declines.
- Ask the Lord to open doors and provide new opportunities to bring the Good News of Jesus to people affected by leprosy.



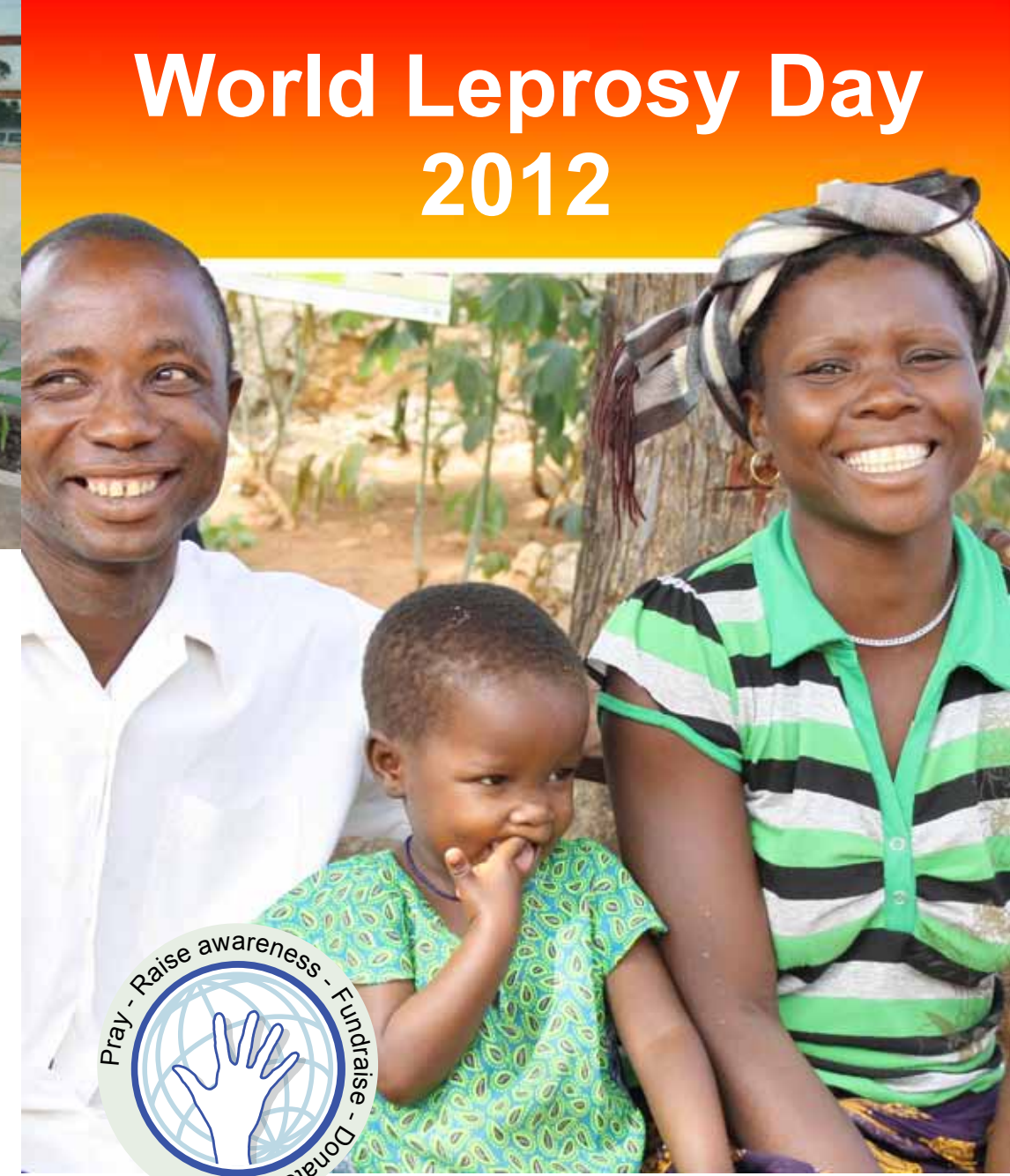
## Equipping the Church

L-R. Pastor Malolo, Pastor Albez, Joana, Daniel, Pastor William.

**The Bible College in Pemba is supported financially by The Leprosy Mission. The head, Pastor William who also teaches at the college, explains his vision for it.**

‘The college and library resource exist to serve the churches. Our vision is that the school would reach the whole of the province of Cabo Delgado and unite the churches. We run classes on theology, seminars for the pastors and other groups each month.

‘It’s a place for the churches to come and study. At the moment there are 19 students, from different churches and denominations. This year we want to record all the histories of all the different churches and denominations in Pemba, so the next generations would know the story.’



## Transformation

**But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! 1 Cor 15:51 NLT**

### I'd like to support the work in Mozambique

I enclose my donation of £  (Please make cheques payable to The Leprosy Mission) 12WLD03

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 For personal gifts only, not group donations. If you are a UK taxpayer, The Leprosy Mission can reclaim at least 25p for every £1 you give. Just sign and date this declaration.

I want The Leprosy Mission to treat all donations I have made for this tax year and the four years prior to the year of this declaration, and all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid donations.

You must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the appropriate tax year (currently 25p for each £1 you give).

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**For fundraising ideas visit [www.worldleprosyday.org.uk](http://www.worldleprosyday.org.uk)**



**The Leprosy Mission**  
 England, Wales, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man  
 Goldhay Way, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough PE2 5GZ  
 Reg.charity no. 1050327 A company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales no. 3140347

t. 01733 370505

e. [post@lmew.org.uk](mailto:post@lmew.org.uk)



## Diagnosis and treatment

Lisorio is a small boy living in Ntele village. The Leprosy Mission was asked to visit him as his father recently took him to the local health post because he had large discoloured patches on his arms, chest and back.

By feeling the nerves on his elbows and behind his knees the team discovered that he does have the disease and started to arrange treatment with multidrug therapy - the cure for leprosy. They did sensation tests on the patches, to see where he has lost feeling, and where leprosy has already damaged his nerves.

Lisorio is in the first year at school and his father, Alberto, is a maize and cotton farmer. Alberto says: 'When we saw Lisorio's elbow we decided to take him to the hospital and they told us to meet you here. I didn't realise it was leprosy.'

With treatment hopefully Lisorio will not have any permanent sensation loss. Without the Mission's work many like him would go undiagnosed and untreated, leaving them vulnerable to developing leprosy-related disabilities that cannot be reversed.

Below: Lisorio's sensation is tested in his feet



## The way forward

Sadly there are many people who did not receive the complete course of treatment early enough, either because of lack of knowledge about the symptoms or displacement through war. This has left some with permanent and progressive disabilities caused by sensation loss, particularly in the hands and feet.

To help people manage this and avoid further disabilities, The Leprosy Mission has established self-care groups. Participants soak their hands and feet and rub oil into them to keep the skin supple. This can dramatically reduce further disability. They also check each other for wounds and encourage each other. In 2010, 492 people accessed self-care training and support in this way.

**'When I moved to Mantipani I started losing fingers. I still work but when I cook I wear gloves. With treatment and self-care the wounds can heal,' says Asiana, a self-care member.**

The Leprosy Mission also sets up self-help groups. In these groups members work together on income generation schemes, starting with seed money from The Leprosy Mission. In this way many of them can increase their income and their sense of dignity and self-worth. In 2010 a total of 971 people participated in self-help activities, all of whom had been affected by leprosy.

Top right: a self-care member soaking her feet. Centre right: growing fruit trees for income generation. Bottom right: this group works together making brushes and stools



Left: Leprosy Mission and Government staff work together to ensure leprosy medication is delivered to remote health posts. Right: The president of ALEMO shows the organisation's logo - branches of new life growing from leprosy-affected hands

## Reaching Mozambique

In Mozambique The Leprosy Mission's work is focused in the northern province of Cabo Delgado. It has a population of about 1.6 million and has one of the highest prevalences of leprosy in Africa.

An evaluation done in 2006 by The Leprosy Mission showed that the local health network was struggling to deliver adequate leprosy services, especially to the outlying areas where leprosy continues to spread.

The Leprosy Mission works with and through Government health posts to reach people affected by leprosy in the most remote areas. In 2010 one hundred Government health units received supervision or support from The Leprosy Mission<sup>1</sup>.

The Mission also funds and works with the Association of People Affected by Leprosy in Mozambique (ALEMO) to equip people affected by leprosy to lead the way in advocacy and development.

<sup>1</sup>. Statistical Report 2010, published by The Leprosy Mission International in April 2011



On the cover Ernesto and Fatema met through a self-care group at the ALEMO centre in Cabo Delgado. Ernesto has a job operating milling equipment at the centre, but he has also joined a Government-run school for adults and would like to become a teacher.