



THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF ADVENTIST WORLD AVIATION

Airways

25TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION - THIRD QUARTER 2020

HOPE IN THE SKY

25th Anniversary - see page 16



A Great Celebration

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MISSION STATEMENT

Adventist World Aviation exists to
provide aviation and communication
support to those serving the physical,
mental, and spiritual needs of the
unreached and forgotten peoples of
the earth.

ADVENTIST WORLD AVIATION

AWA is a 501 c3 non-profit missionary-
sending agency. Funded by private
contributions, AWA enables missionaries
to reach the unreached around the world.

SUBSCRIPTION

Your gift of any size this year will
ensure support for those in great need
around the world. Please donate \$20
to offset the printing and mailing costs
annually. Thank you!

It's exciting to celebrate anniversaries! Everyone at AWA was looking forward to this milestone anniversary. We had plans for a wonderful get-together where we could not only look back on twenty-five amazing years, but also look ahead to continuing the work toward hastening the return of our Savior.

Our commitment to GO remains constant.

With the passing of another 25 years, the phrase continues to be heard, "they've been saying Christ is coming for decades and He still hasn't returned."

Twenty-five years ago some of the headlines were:

- Dolly the Sheep (the clone) was born on July 5th, and lived for seven years.
- Windows 95 was released by Microsoft.
- Jeff Bezos founds Amazon.
- The STS-71 Space Shuttle mission launched on June 27th of 1995. The mission was to dock the Space Shuttle Atlantis at the Russian Mir Space Station. This was the first time that a space shuttle attempted to dock with the Mir Space Station.
- Steve Fossett becomes the first person to make a solo flight across the Pacific Ocean in a hot air balloon.
- Federal workers were sent home when there was no money to pay them during a budget deadlock.
- Nelson Mandela is inaugurated as South Africa's first black president.
- The Ebola virus killed 244 Africans in Kikwit, Zaire in Central Africa.

*And this gospel of
the kingdom will
be preached in the
whole world as a
testimony to all
nations, and then
the end will come.*

Matthew 24:14

The year 2020 has seen its fair share of major historic events — including the acquittal of President Donald Trump in an impeachment trial and the rapid spread of the coronavirus pandemic. Our lives have been turned upside down since Covid 19 has prompted schools to shut down, employees to work remotely and people to remain inside their homes as advised in order to minimize the spread of the disease.

Also in the news we saw:

- Deadly wildfires in New South Wales, Australia prompted cities to evacuate and burned tens of millions of acres.
- The 2020 Summer Olympics, which were supposed to take place in Tokyo, were postponed until 2021.
- Peaceful protests, violent rioting and random looting and killing become regular headlines.

What's next?

Are these the days before the second coming? Are we entering the small time of trouble? How do we prepare for what lies ahead? Do we have another 25 years? There are so many questions that invoke such serious answers. Are we truly searching, seeking, sensing God's Spirit for the days ahead?

We cannot be ready to meet the Lord by waking when the cry is heard, "Behold, the Bridegroom!" and then gathering up our empty lamps to have them replenished. We cannot keep Christ apart from our lives here, and yet be fitted for His companionship in heaven. COL 413.2

As an evangelist pastor, I've been privileged to baptize many into the kingdom of God and what a joy it is to step into the water with a soul that has set their eyes on Jesus! I know that all the preparation and study does not compare with that one thing - the heart's awakening to the love of Jesus. Once Jesus is beheld in His beauty and majesty nothing else ever comes close to that connection. Then, as we desire to grow in His likeness, we will do the things that He did. We won't be caught sleeping without a supply of oil to meet the Bridegroom. We will rise up gladly with our lamps trimmed and be ready to enter into the marriage hall. But unless we fool ourselves into thinking that we do these things on our own, we are reminded by Christ's words just before He was taken up into the clouds.

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 1:8

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are not only to be witnesses, but we are to relieve suffering as Jesus did while on earth. In providing food, clothing and shelter, we open the door to the heart to receive the Savior.

Practical work will have far more effect than mere sermonizing. We are to give food to the hungry, clothing to the naked, and shelter to the homeless. And we are called to do more than this. The wants of the soul, only the love of Christ can satisfy. If Christ is abiding in us, our hearts will be full of divine sympathy. The sealed fountains of earnest, Christlike love will be unsealed. COL 417.4

Do we have another 25 years? Do we even have 25 days? Tomorrow is not promised. We only have today to act. Reach out while there is time. Join AWA today as we reach out. Pray with us and support the work. I don't have all the answers, but Jesus does.

Then at last, the greatest celebration ever will take place and we will rejoice over souls that were rescued from darkness. We will bow before our King and thank Him for the privilege of serving Him by serving His children.

In His Service,
Pastor Ric Swaningson
President / CEO



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ABOUT THE COVER:

For people in remote villages around the world, seeing an AWA mission plane overhead means help in emergency situations and hope as the good news of the gospel is shared.



To Give is to Live

by Monique Wilkerson

Our involvement with AWA began in 1998 when the Brooks family were preparing to launch as missionaries to the Philippines. They visited the church we were attending and we instantly became prayer and monthly financial supporters. Thus, AWA has been a part of lives for over 20 years!

In 2012 we were called to serve as missionaries for the Guyana Project. In 2015 we headed to Guyana. Over five years in the mission field and our lives have forever changed. We've had missteps along the way, but God is faithful to bring us back to His fold. Our biggest lesson learned is that, "to give is to live," Desire of Ages 623.6. Lesson 1: the real blessing is on the giver. In Matthew 25:36-40 it states, "I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to

Me. Then the righteous will answer Him saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'"

In Guyana, God revealed Himself through the years with numerous sharing activities in our surrounding communities; in the river communities and at the Venezuelan Warao refugee camps. Now over 11,000 miles away in the Philippines God once again reveals His love for humanity as we were blessed with opportunities to share clothes and simple provisions like bread,

noodles and sardines with people in our local barangay. Connecting with people during acts of kindness is a way for the Holy Spirit to communicate His message to the giver and receiver and thus a blessing is received by all.

During our most recent outreach we met a blended family with a 31-year old son who is suffering from polio and epilepsy since he was 2-years old. This young man lives in excruciating pain but is overwhelmed with joy when someone visits him. A picture of Jesus rests above his bamboo platform (bed) he is confined to. He knows that Jesus loves him. The step-father undeniably loves this son, but the burden has been overwhelming for this family of humble means. We also met a man whose wife and daughter left him after he suffered a stroke which left him with a slight paralysis on his left side. He lives alone now. He too is happy that someone visits him. We also met a 23-year old young lady who was given away as a child by her mother when the father died. Despite being adopted by a loving family, she is searching for her biological mother—a desire to reconnect. The people we encounter are all children of God. He arranged for us to meet each of these searching souls through acts of sharing and kindness. When we prayerfully share with those that have physical, social and emotional needs and are obedient to His call, witnessing of God's love, we experience His blessings in a special way.

Throughout the world there is an expressed need to find a cure for Covid19; however, Ministry of Healing 257.1 points us to something different. Instead of social distancing, we are to draw closer to our neighbors—people. It says, *“Good deeds are twice a blessing, benefiting both the giver and the receiver of the kindness. The consciousness of right-doing is one of the best medicines for diseased bodies and minds.”*

Current worldview is to distance ourselves from each other and use less personalized ways to communicate and connect. Yes, taking proper health precautions is wise, but let us not overlook our mission Christ gave us as Christians—that is the command to GO and share the message of Hope. We can be part of that “movement” to provide Hope by being a part of one of our AWA support teams that is sharing the message into all parts of the world and then He will come. Hope is found in the promises God has given us—promises of freedom from sin. We can find so much hope in scripture through the gift of eternal life made possible through His Son, Jesus Christ. No matter what trials, temptations or pain we may suffer, we can always hold onto the hope God extends to each of us through a relationship with his Son, Jesus.



1 John 3:23: “This is [God’s] command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another.” This verse is the message of salvation with just two points: believe on Christ, and love others.

MEET THE AUTHOR...



Monique Wilkerson, and her husband, Bruce, are your AWA Mission Family stationed at the Palawan Mission Project



Pulse of a Plane

by Kyle Stevenson

Maintenance is sometimes an overlooked under-appreciated aspect of missionary aviation. Most of the focus lies in the “work done” with the tools we use. I’m fine with that focus as God’s work is truly inspiring and is the reason I’m working as the Chief of Maintenance for AWA. However, if there ever were unsung heroes of the mission aviation world it would be the people behind maintaining the aircraft and vehicles that are used to accomplish God’s work.

AWA’s aircraft maintenance department is crucial for keeping pilots and passengers safe and the airplanes operating in a reliable manner. The best part of my job is not just doing what I love to do, but doing it knowing God is behind me at every step. One such example

I can share of that recently was while I was doing a scheduled annual inspection of the Nicaragua Cessna 182, N8764X. This plane will soon be deployed to Nicaragua. I had started to get the paperwork together for the inspection and noticed that a recommended inspection for the engine magnetos was coming due soon, but not due at that time. I was considering doing the inspection early and as God kept quietly nudging me, I found it hard to fight that growing urge. I needed to verify the integrity of the magnetos.

For those that don’t know airplane mechanics, a magneto is a very important part of the aircraft engine. It is solely responsible for the ignition spark that ignites the fuel-air mixture in the engine which



prompted. This is not the first time and I am sure it won't be the last that, beyond my human understanding, God is working behind the scenes and using me as a tool to keep our pilots and our planes safe.

We are in dire need of two magnetos before the plane is deployed; as well as a new windshield as the current one is too cloudy for good visibility. If you'd like to support the Nicaragua Cessna, N8764X, please contact us at our office at 919-938-2920, or go to our website (flyawa.org) to set up a monthly donation for Aircraft Support. Please continue to pray for our missionaries, mechanics and our planes that God continues to work through us to carry out His work and to keep us safe while doing it.



makes the whole engine run. It's the heart of the plane which keeps the engine pulse strong. Without the magnetos the engine will not run; and that is why there are two of them for redundant backup. The inspection is recommended every 500 flight hours and is not required, but highly recommended.

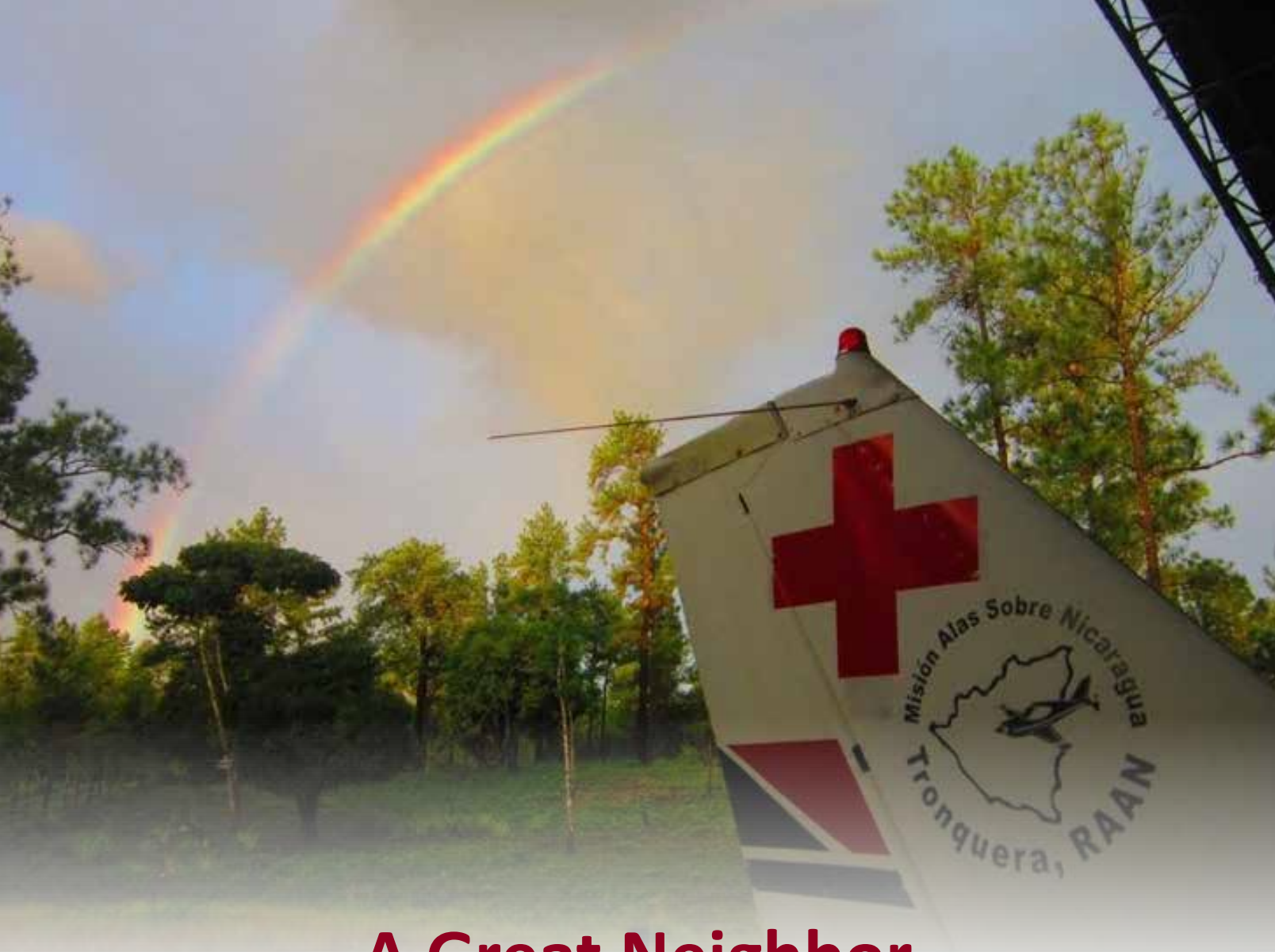
I stopped fighting and started listening to that "still small voice." I would pull the magnetos off and at least verify their internal condition. I was working with Josh Fix, AWA missionary pilot & mechanic, and showed him how to do an internal inspection of the magnetos. We pulled the magnetos apart and inspected them to find the grease inside the bearings in both magnetos was dry! It had started to wear metal to metal causing damage to the bearings. It was not close to failure yet... but the damage had begun and if left much longer, those magnetos might have failed.

I am so very thankful that I serve an all-knowing God and that I have the ability to listen to Him when

MEET THE AUTHOR...



Kyle Stevenson is the AWA Chief of Maintenance. He and his wife, Rebecca, Administrative Assistant to Pastor Ric, and their daughter, Hadahsa, are stationed at AWA Headquarters in Smithfield, NC.



A Great Neighbor

by Julie Young

The Miskito community of La Tronquera, and surrounding regions of Waspan and Puerto Cabezas have been welcoming Enrique for 7 months now. While working for AWA as the Project Manager in training, one of the many outreaches for him is meeting the new neighbors.

Medical transports and general maintenance work on the base keep Enrique very busy.

Daily meals are shared with Ervin, the base's loyal employee, who has tirelessly worked on the AWA mission base for over 12 years! Sometimes they share a well prepared simple meal with local families.

When Enrique does head out in the trusty Toyota Hilux, he greets people along the way; some are walking, some biking, all are out doing daily chores. While

shopping, he has the opportunity to witness to many staff at the local bakery, the market stands, and the grocery stores. Often as he leaves town he sees a senior in need of the extra gesture of a small financial contribution and Enrique is very happy to share his spare change with them. Being such a positive outgoing personality, I'm sure his notebook is bursting with names and phone numbers.



One day while traveling down the dusty road back from town Enrique came across a stranded driver whose truck had broken down. Not hesitating, he hooked up the truck by rope to the Toyota and towed it back to the man's home... miles down the road. Witnessing in this way - of lending a helping hand when one is in need, is not forgotten, as the driver would have had to walk many miles home, leaving his vehicle behind till it could be repaired another day.

By being a good neighbor Enrique has been fortunate to meet with many people including the local magistrate which allows him to find out what the community's other needs and concerns are. This is of high importance as AWA works closely with the Miskito community and not all are converted to being Christians or Seventh-day Adventists.

How do you become a great neighbor? By witnessing for the Lord, being generous of one's time and having compassionate concern for others' needs - in willingness to sacrifice personal material gain, to be fair and judge all things and people honestly, in being kind, always smiling and being peaceful in all situations; these all are ways to share the love of Jesus.

Nicaragua Mission Project Blessings:

- We have a functioning truck that continues to amaze us even though repairs are always needed.
- The soon arrival of pilot and A&P mechanic, Josh Fix, and his family (*potential need for a second truck*)
- A tight knit SDA Miskito community and supportive friendships



MEET THE PROJECT MANAGER...



Enrique Olgin-Sanjuan is the AWA project manager stationed at AWA's Mission Base in Nicaragua



Awaiting the Resurrection

by Jim Kincaid

The diversity of traditions among indigenous people groups regarding care of the deceased and interment are an interesting study. In Alaska, great care is taken with funeral preparations, casket making, grave digging, and after care of the gravesite.

Due to the high cost of shipping, few ready-made coffins are sold to the villages of rural Alaska. When an individual dies, immediately a standing committee of casket makers goes to work.

Each village has a casket blueprint whether it be written on paper or is lodged in the minds of the elder casket makers and passed down generation to generation. Of course, the casket-making tradition utilizing plywood we observe today is only as old as the contacts with outsiders in the late 19th century. Although plywood was reportedly used in ancient Egypt, it didn't make its way to the US until the first third of the 19th

century. Now it has become the building material of choice for many, many applications, including the making of caskets in rural Alaska.

A native Alaskan graveyard can be a symphony of color and scenic beauty. The widespread use of colorful plastic flowers and the wood crosses make an impressive contribution to the landscape.

Across Alaska associated with each of the some 230 plus villages is to be found a graveyard. In some places the ground is so frozen or so rocky that caskets are placed on top of the ground and rocks are piled on top and around each casket. Many other places, the use of motorized augers supplements the challenges of grave-digging in permanently frozen ground.

The bible foretells the coming kingdom of Jesus Christ in the clouds with great glory and with myriads of angels. It says that Jesus is worthy of worship because, “**thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.**”

Revelation 5: 9, 10.

The day is soon coming when from under millions of headstones, crosses, and from the depths of the sea, the resurrected representatives of Christ’s kingdom will rise in newness of life to meet their Redeemer, Who they have waited for.



Then all the sacrifices people have made to preach the gospel in the far-flung corners of the earth will meet their fruition.

Until then, we carry on. One day at a time, one person at a time, with prayer and sacrifice, the blessing of God will see the journey completed.

From Alaska, we thank those who support the endeavors with prayer and finances. As the earth seems to totter into chaos, we can’t quit, we must not stop, until the day of deliverance.

MEET THE AUTHOR...



Jim Kincaid, and his wife, Linda, are your AWA Missionaries stationed at AWA’s Alaska Mission Base



Answered Prayer—Then and Now

by Julie Young

*Most assuredly,
I say unto you,
he who believes in
me, the works that
I do he will do also;
and greater works
than these he will do,
because I go to
the Father.*

—John 14:12

AWA changes lives! Through God's Spirit, AWA changes the lives of those in remote mission fields. It has changed our lives dramatically as well!

Then -

In July 2014, Raymond and I were asked to volunteer to represent AWA at the EAA Oshkosh AirVenture. We were excited to be a part of one of the world's largest air shows and to

share the mission of AWA with as many folks as possible.

While there, we further committed to going to the AWA headquarters in Sullivan, Wisconsin for a few weeks as volunteers to work on the Cessna 182 8838X, Pathfinder plane.

At the time, the plane had been touched by many talented volunteer hands, but it still needed to be fully stripped of paint, painted, assembled,

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and inspected so that it could be flown down to Mabaruma, Guyana. The missionaries there were in desperate need of a plane to carry on the safe medical transports and to reach the indigenous people in the region with the good news of Jesus' love.

The days were long, but rewarding. Supported by many faithful volunteers the plane slowly came together. Ray put the final touches on by painting his unique design in a yellow, blue and grey paint scheme which has become recognized in villages in several different countries. The Pathfinder plane colors were chosen to represent the plane that Pathfinder groups throughout the US had helped make possible through their donations.

At last, in early October the plane was completed. Everyone was overjoyed! We celebrated with praises to God.

Now we had the challenge of facing hurricane season. Serious decisions were needed to map out a safe path for each of the several 3-4 hour legs of our journey.

Gloria Murphy, AWA's media director and the "Off the Grid" film producer, accompanied Ray and I to Guyana in order to capture the journey in pictures. The first leg of the flight led us down through the USA. Dismally, we encountered the first of fast moving weather conditions and were forced to land. Weather was proving to be unpredictable as we were forced to land repeatedly.

Taking off into very dicey conditions, Ray pointed to an area on the map that had better weather and said, "Find me an airport in this area as an emergency backup in case the weather ahead gets too bad to fly in." I quickly began to look for a suitable spot on the map on my iPad. Quickly identifying one I said, "Here, this one will work, I think." All the while praying for God's guidance in this stressful moment. Ray looked at it and approved my choice. Then he said, "Look it up and give me its name so I can divert if needed." When I pulled up the info for that airport, it said the airport name: Answered Prayer 1GE3.

Can you imagine the airport I randomly chose was called "Answered Prayer" located in



Franklin, Georgia. I knew then that every leg of our journey was truly blessed by God and He had us in His hands all along.

My short private prayers throughout the journey when I became nervous were, "angels wings around us, God's hands below us, carry us all the way." I named the plane Answered Prayer and if you ever get the chance to see 8838X you may just find those two words scribbled secretly somewhere!

Finally, with sunshine and scattered clouds, and the last 6 hour flight, we flew in to Eustis, Florida, arriving at sunset. We weathered out a major hurricane for a few days at Gloria's family's home before we could fly across multiple islands into Guyana.



Now -

Ray and I continued to actively volunteer for AWA after our Guyana trip. We strongly believed in the great global work that God has commissioned for AWA.

Our lives were kept busy with family and work commitments back in Canada, but there was always the desire to fully serve again.

In May 2019, we were struggling with direction in our careers and lives. We reached out in deep earnest prayer for help in making the right decision in Ray's career. God, as always was listening, and He heard our pleaful prayer. That very same day, Ray received a call from AWA president, Ric Swaningson. Would Ray be interested in the position of Global Operations Manager and Canadian Project Manager? I too was offered the position of Administrative Assistant to Ray which was a good fit, as we have always been a package deal. :-)

We knew this was the "answered prayer" we were waiting for. That call set in motion a whirlwind year of travel to Smithfield, NC for training at head office, along with traveling to promote AWA in

British Columbia and throughout the USA.

Since then, we have flown to do site visits to the established projects in Guyana, Nicaragua, and the Philippines, meeting with team members, missionaries and checking out each base.

We ask that you keep us in your prayers because "Prayers are Answered."

Keep in touch with us by continuing to receive and read AWA's Airways magazine and monthly Mission Reports. Please email me at julie@flyawa.org if you would like me to join in prayer for you and with you.



MEET THE AUTHOR...



Julie Young, Administrative Assistant in Canada, and her husband, Ray, AWA's Global Operations Manager are stationed at the AWA Canada Headquarters in Kelowna, BC.

*** For the full trip in 2014,
check in out on YouTube,
Off the Grid,
"8838X Arriving in Guyana."
Off the Grid is a weekly show
that also airs on
3ABN on Mondays.
Check your local listings.**

FREELY YE HAVE RECEIVED, FREELY GIVE. MATTHEW 10:8

Donate Today to Save Lives

AWA strives to meet the needs of those who have so little.
With your support we can make a difference.



To donate,
scan here with
compatible smartphone



or go to

<https://flyawa.org/donate/#donate>

**Thank you for
supporting the
work of Adventist
World Aviation!**

JOIN THE AWA TEAM!

You don't need to be a pilot to be a mission worker for Adventist World Aviation. Mission pilots and other missionaries are urgently needed. Do you have a desire to share Jesus with others, to live in another country, and learn a different culture? Adventist World Aviation is expanding into other parts of the world and urgently needs pilots, A&P mechanics, A&P inspection authorities, certified flight instructors (CFI) project managers, Bible workers, and medical personnel. Pilots must have instrument ratings, commercial ratings, and high performance ratings.

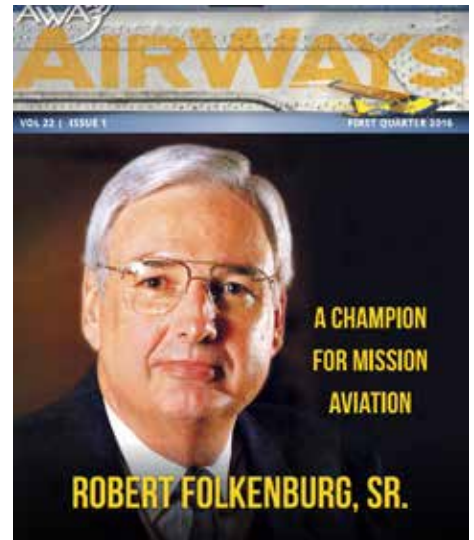
Anyone interested should also have a strong desire to share the message of Jesus. Please send resume to Adventist World Aviation, 3457 Swift Creek Rd., Smithfield, NC 27577, or by email to info@flyawa.org.



AWA's Flight Plan 1995 - 2020

by Sharon Williams

"Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples." Psalm 96:3



Years quickly fly by and the only constant is that there is little that is constant - except our God. At Adventist World Aviation, God's constant care has been experienced in miraculous ways. People emptied of self have responded to His call to serve, and while their time serving varies, lives are metamorphosed; whether their own or those they touch.





The requirement of God from those who claim to be His children is that they be doers of His word, that they follow His example, represent the life of Christ in tender, pitying love to the world; that they reflect His image. Jesus says, "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father which is in heaven is merciful." ST June 13, 1892



You, our faithful supporters, have lifted us in prayer and our heavenly Father has responded with safety for our pilots and missionaries, and hope and health for the people we serve.

Our mission projects have been sustained through your sacrificial giving. No price can be determined for the souls who have reached out in response to God's Spirit.





And he saith unto them, Follow me,
and I will make you fishers of men. Matthew 4:19



Pathfinder Camporee,
Aviation Honor



Medevac, Ground Transport



Young Eagle Program

We reminisce about the good times and move away from the bad. Through growth there is renewed commitment and energy and we return always to the guidance that the Holy Spirit imparts. We are graced with relationships that develop and as they grow deeper roots, the blessings are fully recognized as His doing. (James 1:17)





For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Jeremiah 29:11



Looking ahead, we press forward to that mark (Philippians 3:13-15) eagerly looking to the return of our Lord Jesus. Soon... very soon, we will meet those with whom we have prayed for and shared with and rejoiced and wept with. Onward and upward!



MEET THE AUTHOR...



Sharon Williams is the AWA Development Director and Publications Manager located at the Smithfield headquarters in North Carolina.



Sharing the Love of Jesus

by Edgar Espinosa

The year was 2007 and the island of Palawan was in the middle of a malaria infestation. People were getting bit by mosquitos and dying in large numbers. We had chosen to join AWA as local missionaries, and despite the outbreak, I moved my family from where we lived in Cavite, near Manila on the large island, to the much smaller island of Palawan. Before we left Cavite we prayed and put our trust in the Lord. We believed that this was His work and that we were called to do His will. We were willing to go, no matter the cost.

We arrived at the place that would become the AWA base. It was rather

discouraging. Our home was to be a small bamboo hut with coconut leaves for the roof. Our two children were small at the time, Von was 10 years old, and Earyl was only 4 years old. Raylene made the hut a home, but even still, the flimsy coconut leaves were no match for the strong winds that blew or the rain that fell in torrents. Often, we would have to move all our things when it would rain in order to keep them from getting wet. At night when it rained, we would move our things and ourselves to the small dry area and would have to try and sleep standing up. There just wasn't enough dry space. Those were

long nights and stressful days! Our nearest neighbors were 1/2 a mile away and we worried about the safety of our things because there were many thieves in the area. We worried that if something should happen to us that no one would even know....yet, we trusted God. And we were also thankful to Him for all He was providing! The property had young mango trees that were knee-high. Cashew trees also grew and provided us with shade, fruit and nuts. There was a water tank and a well with a hand pump. God was providing for all of our needs, even though sometimes it was uncomfortable!



After a year of staying in the hut, we were blessed with enough finances to build a concrete house. And we are still in the same home today! It's now safe against rain and thieves, although we have been broken into a couple of times. We have since added steel doors.

That same year, the Board Chairman for AWA Philippines, Nemy Marcelo, decided to hold evangelistic meetings in our small village of Saggangan, 1/2 a mile away. Praise God that 53 souls were baptized as a result! Many of those people had to move away in search of jobs. There is no work in Saggangan. For those who remained, we had to tackle a new problem; we needed a church to worship in! We met in someone's small home until Nemy was able to raise enough money to buy a piece of land in the village and a few supplies. We went to work and built a church with bamboo walls. We were SO happy to have a place to meet.

One day a man came to the property, holding a gun and threatening us! We were so scared. He claimed that we were encroaching on his land. He said that if we weren't gone by the time he returned, he would shoot us all! We immediately went to God with our problem. Then we went to the local police and asked them to help guard us. They guarded us for a month and the man never returned. To this day

we have never seen him again and do not know what happened! But God does. He took care of the problem that was bigger than we could handle. That is what is so amazing about God. We just need to trust in Him.

Missionaries from the States have come and gone, but we still stay and "hold down the fort". We love doing God's work. The mission has taken on different forms over the years, but all of it is centered on letting people know about God. We have gone to homes visiting and reaching out to the community. We have started children's programs and hosted medical and dental groups when they come from the U.S. and Canada. We are now very busy building the airstrip so the plane that is here is ready to fly when a pilot arrives. We know that God has that all planned out too!

AWA helped build the local school and we have hosted many VBS programs for the children in the school and donate supplies whenever possible. We do whatever we can to SHOW the love of God, and reach out to those who are hurting.

Now the hut where we stayed in is gone and the property now has dorms that can sleep up to 50 people when groups come to volunteer. It also has another mission house where



other missionary families can stay. What used to be a large grass field is now a beautiful airstrip. Also, a big beautiful concrete church has replaced the bamboo one. It is still under construction, but we are using it now to worship in.

AWA is celebrating its 25th anniversary. SO many changes have happened in those 25 years. We feel it is a blessing to have been a part of it from the beginning. We have been amazed at how God has led us in the past and look forward to continue to follow Him as he leads us in the future.

MEET THE AUTHOR...



**Edgar Espinosa,
and his wife, Raylene,
are your AWA Missionaries
stationed at AWA's Philippines -
Palawan Mission Base**



Guyana, the Land of Living Waters

by Bruce Wilkerson

Water is a living presence in Guyana from which life flows. From its fertile coastal areas to its lush jungle inland area and to the sierra plains in the far south, water is almost always present. It feeds the plants, the many species of exotic wildlife, and yes it supports the livelihood of nearly all people who live in Guyana. Water is life. Without the water Guyana would cease to be the land we know and love.

One day while Jesus was sitting by Jacob's well in a town called Sychar, He encountered a woman whom he sought to share light with concerning water, but this water was much different - it was living water and the Source of life for all. Just as He offered the woman of Sychar life through His living water, Jesus offers to every soul however sinful, the opportunity to come and to drink from the well that will never run dry.

John 4:14 says, "but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

The Gospel message and the living water is for all people. The Holy Spirit is preparing hearts and minds to receive the Gospel message of the living water. For over a decade, Adventist World Aviation missionaries have

labored in His Guyana vineyard. Blood, sweat, and tears have been shed for souls. Our desire is for all to drink of "the Living Water." Many in the interior of Region 1 are now believers that have consumed the living water that Jesus offered the woman at the well. The water is free to all, but who will carry the message of the living water to the people that thirst? While the Holy Spirit to this day continues to prepare hearts and minds to receive the message of hope someone must share the water and ask the people to drink from the well that never runs dry.

Since 2007, AWA missionaries have carried the message of living water in Guyana Region 1. About 3 years ago, one family consumed the living water and now they are followers of Christ and help care for the mission base grounds. Others have experienced a changed life and are active and growing in Christ. They are serving in many supportive roles for our AWA Center that is influencing lives for eternity. Once a desolate piece of ground... by God's grace and inspiration, it was transformed into a thriving worship center on Sabbath and a Center that serves many needs of the community the remaining 6 days of the week. AWA missionaries have mentored people that are now serving as leaders in the Center. One man who once did not come to church for many years is now serving as the worship leader and



head elder. Another young lady is the treasurer, and another is leading out as the youth leader. A mother is serving as the Center clerk and Sabbath School leader. An elderly couple cleans the center each week. Others are waiting for baptism as the Center resumes activities after months of closure during the worldwide pandemic. We are excited that lives are being transformed even though AWA personnel are not able to travel to Guyana yet...

The COVID pandemic curtailed the Center's activities beginning in March, but by August social distancing measures were established with hand washing stations, masks and other government mandates in place for worship and Center activities to resume. As services resume, please pray for the people of Guyana's interior where there are many more hearts and minds that the Holy Spirit is preparing to accept the living water. Pray for the new believers that are preparing for baptism and marriage. Turbulence, strife, and unrest is everywhere in

the world. Natural disasters and pandemics abound, but the command of Jesus to "GO" and share the living water has never changed - and never will until He comes.

Travel restrictions to and from Guyana may limit our physical ability to travel to Guyana, but no pandemic can ever halt the power of intercessory prayer and faithful giving for our loving Guyanese friends and family who faithfully labor in God's vineyard. We pray our maintenance team and new missionaries can soon travel to Guyana carrying the living water forward. Will you join us and be a part of a living water movement that is changing lives for eternity?

MEET THE AUTHOR...



Bruce Wilkerson, AWA's Executive Vice President, and his wife, Monique, Guyana Project Manager, are stationed at the Palawan Mission Project.





Good News in the Sanctuary

by Josh Fix

In a time when the world is being divided into groups of people on this side and that side of so many issues, and it seems we're being thrown around and being told we should care about or stand against this issue or that, it makes one wonder what we should really care about and where our priorities should lie. I'm not the wisest man in the world but I know I can ask for guidance from a heavenly Father that loves me and a Great High Priest that is a partaker in flesh and blood and took on our very nature and knows our struggles (Hebrews 2:14-18). I can kneel down in humble prayer and ask for help in every situation and the answer will come. Sometimes there will be a struggle to surrender to whatever God's will is, but in the end, His way is the answer.

So in this world of ideas and proposed solutions to the many problems that exist, what is the right way? What is God's way? It says in Psalm 77:13 "Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary." The sanctuary is referenced many times in the both the old and new testaments, but what kind of guidance can we find there for us in these troublesome times? How can we be made good people or hope to help others to be good people? I propose to you it is through the sanctuary. We see how God is dealing with sin through the sanctuary and we see a picture of the workings of the heavenly courts.

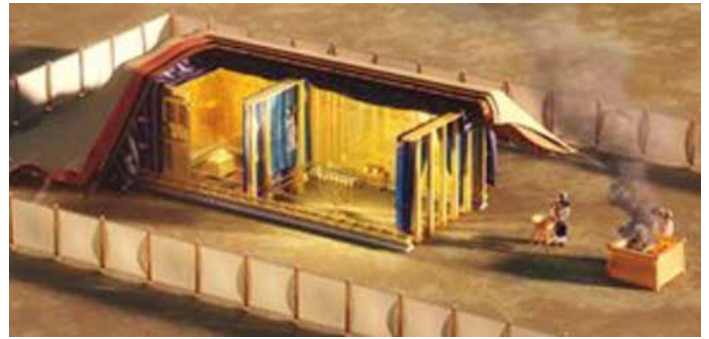
In the outer court of the sanctuary we can see the sacrifice of the pure lamb that represents our Savior who died in our place (John 1:36). Next we

have a basin of water reflecting the cleansing or sanctification process where we put off the deeds of the old man and rise to new life, not serving sin anymore (Romans 6:6) but becoming slaves to righteousness. Inside the tabernacle, the table of showbread shows us that we are sustained through God's power spiritually and physically. Jesus is the Bread of Life (John 6:35) come down from the Father, also called the Word. It is through the Word of God that we are sustained. And then we have the golden candlesticks which are burning continuously as we keep them trimmed and burning, but the oil comes from God which is the Holy Spirit. Surely as we keep surrendered and connected (trimmed and burning) we can be lights for Him, because truly it's not by our might, or by our power, but by His Spirit (Zechariah 4:6) that we can be anything but darkness and adding to the confusion.

The alter of incense represents the prayers of the saints rising to the throne of God, mixed with incense (Revelation 8:3,4). Our prayers are tainted. We're so sinful that our most eloquent prayer needs to be mixed with incense so they don't stink. Praise God that through Christ's righteous intercession we have a connection to heaven and to the very throne of God!

And for the grand finish we have the ark of the covenant in which the law of God was placed; which is His law of love. Love to God first and also to others (Matthew 22:37-40). On these two principles God's government rests. We talk about having God dwell within us, but where He reins, His law will be the governing rule of operation. We are the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19) and if this is true and we have Christ in us, the Hope of Glory (Colossians 1:27), we will experience the new covenant where God, puts His laws into our hearts and minds (Hebrews 8:10).

This is Good News folks! If you think that people are acting crazy and you feel like you're catching the crazy bug as well, there is hope for you and everyone who puts faith in Christ and what is going



on in the sanctuary to accomplish our salvation. So as the love of many is waxing cold (Matthew 24:12) we can become partakers of the divine nature (2 Peter 1:4). There is hope, you all! It is critical that we understand the sanctuary though. God spoke through Ellen White when she said, "The correct understanding of the ministration in the heavenly sanctuary is the foundation of our faith." 21LtMs, Lt 208, 1906, par. 4.

We have a precious message! As for me and my house we are seeking to use the gifts we've been given, one of those being the tool of aviation, to share the three angels messages of Revelation 14:6-12 to the people of Nicaragua. Won't you partner with us in taking up the banner of Christ. Time is of the essence! There is a time coming where Christ will close His work in the sanctuary (Daniel 12:1). Let's be ready for that day and take advantage of all that has been done and all that is being done on our behalf.

MEET THE AUTHOR...



Josh Fix, and his wife, Yosiday, and their children, Caleb and Isaac, are your soon-to-be AWA Missionaries stationed at AWA's Nicaragua Mission Base



Led by God

by Monique Wilkerson

With 25 years of student missionaries, there are too many to name. The AWA student missionary program encourages our college age young people to experience mission service firsthand. This experience could lead them to full-time mission service in the future as they seek God's will in their lives.

Nathanael Mandache is AWA's most recent student missionary. His service ran from January 14th

through June 15th; plus a few extra weeks due to Covid 19 limiting travel from the country. Nathanael was instrumental in many aspects of our Palawan Mission Base in the Philippines. He was the speaker extraordinaire during most of the Sabbath afternoon Adventist Youth Service (AYS) programs. He assisted in assembling the Pathfinder Plane and preparing it for operational service. As our resident videographer, he shot

wonderful video segments to educate and promote the ongoing work at our AWA airbase. He painted tires and more tires that will serve as markers for the runway edges and other aerodrome markings. Nathanael assisted in constructing a windsock and the signal area for the airstrip. He created irrigation berms (a strip of land), weeded, dug canals and a multitude of other support for the project. What a huge help he was!



Nathanael lived in a kubo (hut) on his own and prepared most of his meals. This was the first time he was truly on his own. He was 18 years old when he landed in Puerto Princesa and left as a more mature 19-year-old. He spent his first birthday away from home with strangers - now new friends for a lifetime.

From an early age, Nathanael was involved in mission service. Sometime between 10 and 13 years of age, he started working with a local church school organizing a once a week collaboration--he and other homeschool families would colporteur in the surrounding community as well as participate in a choir and chimes group. Later, they switched to a discipleship program which focused on Bible study, practical skills and mission training. As he grew older, Nathanael's interests started to focus on aviation and flying. Through his homeschool charter he began volunteering at a nearby airport. In 2017 a good friend told him about Heritage Academy's aviation program. Nathanael applied to the academy and was

accepted. He spent a summer faithfully serving as a colporteur to raise support for his academy education. While there, Nathanael had the opportunity to be a part of the school's disaster relief program and was able to help in the relief efforts for Hurricane Florence and Hurricane Michael. In addition to the aviation program, Nathanael was able to participate in Heritage Academy's video production program which is his other keen interest. God eventually led him to finish his private pilot's license and through another line of miraculous events, he was able to join Adventist World Aviation in the Philippines as a student missionary. Nathanael feels very blessed and led in his life and he is excited to see where God leads next.

Nathanael's next adventure will take him to Andrews University where he will pursue a degree in Aviation. Godspeed Nathanael. All of AWA sends you with our blessings and love.



MEET THE AUTHOR...



Monique Wilkerson, and her husband, Bruce, are your AWA Mission Family stationed at the Palawan Mission Project



Tom Johnston

Training the Servants

by Rebecca Stevenson

Life is changeable. It moves and breathes. When it connects with the lives of others there is change. This effect and the ripples continue their outreach.

When Kyle and I picked up the torch for tending the maintenance needs for Adventist World Aviation (AWA), our lives changed dramatically. That happens when God calls and you answer. However, before that massive, God-glorifying life shift, we witnessed the change, blessing and enrichment in other's lives because of our involvement with AWA.

Before we traveled across the country to our own "Land of Canaan," we had begun flight training at a local flight school out west called Servant Wings. Through a work colleague of Kyle's we learned about this flight school across the Willamette River in Vancouver, Washington; about 45 minutes to an hour from us.

We wanted to get involved. Once we did, we found that quite frankly, everyone there is amazing! They are a missionary flight school that works hard to keep their costs down so that their students can keep their costs down and still reach the field without huge debt. Their instructors are well experienced pilots who volunteer their time. They're dedicated to helping students of all ages accomplish their dream of flying Christ's mission for soul winning.

Servant Wings wasn't too familiar with Seventh-day Adventist Christians and they knew nothing about AWA. Once they spoke with us and Pastor Ric a wonderful relationship was born. They brought us on—and still love us like family. In turn we were so touched by them we would tell everyone how amazing Servant Wings was, *and is*, to anyone we met with a desire to fly on God's mission.



Tom Johnston, a fellow Oregonian church friend, had a great desire to fly. He was intrigued by AWA, as well as other mission aviation opportunities, but he had no flight experience. We told him about Servant Wings so he could get the process started. The next thing we knew, he was flying with one of their instructors and working towards his license! We would often cross paths. Just as Tom was coming back from a lesson as he was walking out the door, we would be heading in for our lessons. Yep, we even flew the same Cessna 172. In September of 2019, Tom achieved his Private Pilot License! What a blessing!

Servant Wings made our experience flying a memorable one. They continue to grow and train today. They need another CFI, even mechanics, just like AWA could use some wrench-turning help, but it's a good need to have. It opens the door to get people excited about serving the hard to reach and forgotten peoples of the world. Servant Wings understands the need for capable pilots flying in the field to reach others for Christ. They have the pleasure of preparing missionaries who come to them, then watch as they deploy with whatever missionary platform they've chosen. They help to change lives daily. They impacted us, Tom too, and in return we all impacted them with our presence and comradery.

Changing lives for Christ isn't always ministering to the hard to reach, sometimes it's the power of preparation to accomplish that goal. It's bringing change to the life of the missionary in training so they can continue the ripple of Christ's transforming power in our lives. Servant Wings does this, and so do we at Adventist World Aviation. How far do your ripples extend?



MEET THE AUTHOR...



Rebecca Stevenson, and her husband Kyle, and daughter Hadahsa are stationed at AWA Headquarters in Smithfield, NC. Rebecca and Kyle are in training to become pilots.

A student in a light blue t-shirt and dark pants is kneeling on the floor of an airplane hangar, working on the engine of a small aircraft. The engine is a complex assembly of metal parts, hoses, and a red battery. The student is focused on the task, with his hands on the engine. The background shows the interior of the hangar with various tools and equipment.

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“When John in his mortal state beheld the glory of God, he fell as one dead; he was not able to endure the sight. But when the children of God shall have put on immortality, they will ‘see him as he is.’ They will stand before the throne, accepted in the Beloved. All their sins have been blotted out, all their transgressions borne away. Now they can look upon the undimmed glory of the throne of God.”

—Maranatha, p. 349

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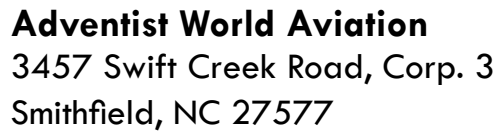
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