



# Airways

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**INSIDE:**

EXPECTATIONS VS REALITY 6

A MECHANIC'S BEST TOOL 22



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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 (c)3 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!

# **PRESIDENT'S WEATHER REPORT**

## **We Have This Hope**

“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.”

—John 14:1-3, NKJV

What a refreshing promise of hope, friends. Can you say amen? With the world in the state it is in with current events; it doesn’t take long to see the depravity and need of the hope of John 14.

The whole world is a mess. Gas prices are through the roof, recorded on an average of almost \$5.00 a gallon *or more* in some places. Political unrest from corrupt politicians to civil matters of lifestyle choices and identity, sexual and nonsexual. Rioting in the streets over the concern of the inability to kill a baby. The unrest in Russia and Eastern Europe, and above all, a growing moral famine and drought that has taken our world by storm. Friends, we live in a day and age where kids are being sued for exercising the “improper use” of pronouns, sometimes even arrested!

It’s times like these I often think, “As it was in the days of Noah,” –the moral, spiritual, and civil condition of Sodom and Gomorrah, how warning was given yet none would repent. None would restrain themselves, even to the point of seeking out divine beings in ignorance to satisfy their lusts at Lot’s door. How fitting that in their *blind condition*, they were physically struck as such.

Even now, friends, THIS is the world in which we live. What hope is there truly? The only thing to cling to is John 14. It is time for everyone to put their nose to the grinding stone and push even harder! We have a gospel message we’ve been divinely commissioned with what *must* be shared.

But “*How*,” you may ask, “when there’s so much vileness in the world?” One act of effort at a time. Recently AWA has made some humanitarian

flights to those affected by our sinful world. A precious baby impacted by the meth its mother had used while pregnant needed medical transport, and we were there to help. We also had the privilege of flying a young girl who battled cancer, this act showing that there is someone out there who cares.

Don't miss this: The most important thing is to bring hope to one another. Now I'm not talking about earthly hope. That's everywhere, and it's toxic. It's like high fructose corn syrup. It tastes sweet, makes you want more, then fills you up without satisfying you. You repeat the process for fulfillment yet *never* achieve success, all the while being led astray into a spiritually ill condition.

The hope I'm talking about is heavenly. It's like honey. We know, depending on what pollen bees use in the making of their honey, that the flavor will vary, but nutritionally, it will be satisfying. It's not empty. And like God's word, no matter where the text is taken—Old Testament flower or New Testament flower, there is a promise of hope and assurance, like a sweet honey balm for all the issues we face in humanity.

Hope and faith go hand in hand. A little faith moves entire mountains. A little hope perseveres. Resting on Godly hope strengthens our faith. *"I go to prepare a place for you [...] and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, you may be also."*

Friends, hold fast to Jesus and the hope of His word, and you'll not be drawn away to the earthly form of powerless hope. He is preparing our dwelling place with Him for eternity. Let us be diligent in spreading the good news that the hopeless may be hope-filled. I'm so glad we serve a risen Savior, the author, and finisher of our faith!

Keep looking up,  
  
Pastor Ric Swaningson  
  
President / CEO



Pastor Ric with his granddaughter, Emma

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## Flight Log

by Rebecca Stevenson

Being a part of ministry is extraordinary. It's in perpetual motion and constantly in adventure mode. Sometimes it's a refining opportunity with humbling lessons along the way. Today we want to share with you some adventurous ministry high points. You never know who you'll meet, what impact you will have, or who will impact *you*.

As AWA just celebrated the move from Johnston Regional Airport to the Wilson Industrial Air Center Airport and nestled into the community, the community came to be a part of things as we established ourselves in the heart of Wilson. On June 23rd, the Wilson chamber came out along with some close AWA

friends and local church members to celebrate our new presence in Wilson. With a giant blue bow, ribbon, and the largest pair of real, functioning scissors we've ever seen, the Wilson Chamber and our supporters came round to celebrate our joy as we cut the ribbon. Yet before this moment happened, we had taken time for the chamber to say a few words of dedication and then give us the platform of who we are as a ministry and just what we do.

In case it isn't known, we are a group of people who love the Lord and have dedicated ourselves to His service in saving lives globally, in the community, and give people hope. We shared stories of our growing



PC: Captain Liz Dunster



PC: Captain Liz Dunster

disaster relief focus and how a veteran's life was saved. As we were first on the scene, we were able to help. Our response to basic human family needs of relocating a Covid survivor to be nearer to his daughter resulted in a changed life. Our Angelwings Flight Program also impacts children, even as drug-addicted infants or children that need placement once out of rehab. We are here to serve, and the Wilson Chamber members, the chamber president, included, after hearing about this tip of the iceberg, were deeply impressed.

What a joy to serve! So, a few days later, when the 26th rolled around, and the community came to our open house, we saw the joy of involving everyone like us that works hard to serve the needs of humanity. Present were the Wilson police, K-9 unit, fire department, and Civil Air Patrol, who came out to spend time learning more about us and aiding us in safety. The community got to know its service members better. Also, as a bridge event for evangelism in the fall, the team of canvassers that had handed out event fliers to the community weeks before brought those community members with them. People had opportunities for Bible studies, free flights, and more. Everyone had an awesome day. Our relationship with our local Wilson service members deepened with a greater appreciation and respect as they came to love what we do.

Mission work is inspiring! God has handpicked a new special mission family to serve in Guyana. The Hamombe family, Pumelela, Tali, and little Daniel

came all the way from Zambia. Pumelela gave up his Zambian Air Force and police officer career to be with AWA and serve in Guyana. They are an answer to prayer and a blessing to our office as they prepare for their record deployment of only six months. They have four months left and are working hard to gather supporters.

Please go to our website at [www.flyawa.org](http://www.flyawa.org) and prayerfully consider setting up a monthly contribution for the Hamombe family or call our office at 919-938-2920 for additional assistance to support the Hamombe's, whether one-time or monthly. Become a sponsor today; Jesus is coming soon!

## MEET THE AUTHOR...



**Rebecca Stevenson is the Executive Administrative Assistant to Pastor Ric. Her husband, Kyle, is the Chief of Maintenance. They, with their daughter, Hadahsa, are stationed at AWA Headquarters in Wilson, NC.**





# Expectations vs Reality

by Caleb Runne

We had been in the capital city of Managua for two weeks already, but our hearts were in La Tronquera, longing to get started in the real mission, of serving the Miskito people. Not that we didn't enjoy our visit with my Tia (Aunt) Linda. She and Tio (Uncle) Eddie were gracious hosts, taking us all over the city to be able to put my citizen papers in order. They



provided for all our needs, and we were comfortable, we even had AC in our bedroom! It was truly a miracle that we were able to accomplish so much in such a short period. Government offices mean long lines, multiple visits, and unexpected frustrations. With my "magic" cedula (official

citizenship document), we were ready to travel to the east side of Nicaragua where our adventure would begin.

We loaded the four heavy boxes of belongings, amazingly unopened by customs and intact, that we had previously shipped from the U.S., into the back of the mission's Toyota Hilux pickup truck. On top of that we put our overweight luggage and the extra food and supplies we had bought in Managua. The truck was maxed out, but we felt confident that it would take us to our destination because Brother Cezar, the Pathfinder director of the Managua SDA Church had changed the necessary fluids and greased up the new steering components we had just installed to be able to align the brand-new tires. What incredible scenery! We couldn't stop praising our Creator God for the vision before us. Each curve brought new views of volcanos, arid valleys, green hills, plains, quaint villages, people riding horseback, and women customarily dressed in red. After crossing the Wawa River on a ferry, and sharing space with passenger busses, semi-trucks, motorcyclists, and pedestrians, we found our way to the hotel in Rosita.

Up to this point, the highway was mostly paved and quite nice. Now, as we were going to head north, the road was dirt, riddled with potholes, some the size of kiddie-pools. The





scenery was now just as spectacular, but different. We were entering the pine savannah, expanses of newer-growth pine trees on what appeared to be the greens of an enormous golf course. The entire trip, excluding the overnight hotel stay, took 16hrs, plugging away on average at 45mph. A large sign that said “La Tronquera” let us know we had arrived, but the entrance to the mission base was camouflaged by overgrowth, so we had to call Ervin, our day watchman and maintenance man, to come on his motorcycle and show us the way.

Ervin, with an apologetic tone, said in Spanish, “You have taken us by surprise. We would have had someone clean up



if we knew you were coming.” Apparently, our message was not passed on, and there was still enough daylight to see the condition of the

mission house. Cobwebs, insect wings, and what we thought were mouse droppings, but were really from the lizards and geckos, covered both horizontal and vertical surfaces of the

barn-like structure that we were going to call home. Outside, a small, sick old dog that smelled like a dead animal and acted as a breeding ground for fleas and ticks, would growl at and chase Enoch whenever he happened to pass her. A large, screened porch on the second floor was the only place we felt that we could breathe, so we quickly set about cleaning the floor and putting up hammocks and a mattress on the floor. We prayed and thanked God, we had made it to our destination safely.

The next two weeks were devoted to deep cleaning. Glenda laundered all the sheets, mattress covers, and towels and hung them out to dry to get the mold smell out. All the kitchenware was hand washed and reorganized. We vacuumed every cubic inch of the living space and then sprayed it with bleach and vacuumed again. The bottom floor is made of concrete, the kind you would find in an old warehouse, porous, cracked, and eroded, so you really couldn’t distinguish it from a dirt floor. This is where the bathroom, kitchen, dining room, pantry, and small porch area are located. So that Glenda and the kids would be able to tolerate it, I started in the bathroom, which smelled like the urinal of a campground. On my hands



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and knees, I scrubbed with a brush, bucket of water, and bleach spray bottle until the water I squeegeed out was no longer brown. Only after a week of cleaning, we were able to unpack our belongings and make enough space to be able to hose down the concrete walls and floor of the lower level and scrub with bleach and brush, squeegeeing the brown water out the front and back door until the water was clear.

Electricity in the Miskito territories is regularly irregular. Several times a day it goes out, and normally, you cannot run the refrigerator, Shopvac, and washing machine at the same time without tripping a breaker... which is exactly what we did, all while the lights dimmed. Whenever there was electricity, we jumped at the opportunity to cook and do all the cleaning we could because we never knew when it would go out.

For the first week, God miraculously provided the wattage so we could make the mission house livable. After that, the breakers tripped often, and we learned what we were doing wrong. Then one afternoon a lightning bolt hit the old radio tower on the base and snaked its way over the wires that lead into the “electric room” in the house, where Jordana and Enoch saw it sparkle before continuing its way to the breaker box at the well house to fry the connection, so we were without power. The explosion was so loud that the house shook, and the truck alarm blared. The house is wired with a tangle of light-duty extension cords. It is hard to explain, but thanks to that “fire from heaven” and a phone call to my renaissance-man father in the U.S., I was able to “MacGyver” the connection and now we have more reliable power, at least until Jason, our friend from Nica Ministries, can install the hydroelectric generator and repair the house’s wiring.

We had illusions of arriving at the mission base and jumping into ministry and the things we felt God telling us to do while

still in the U.S., however, His plans were to give us a glimpse into what Jesus had done for humanity. King of the universe, yet He left behind all His glory and the comfort of home. He was born into poverty and lived in simplicity to be able to relate to those for whom He would minister. Maybe you have been on mission trips to developing countries like I have in the past, and it is easier when you know you will be going home. Now we are home in La Tronquera, and in His time, by His grace, we are acclimating to our new “normal.” Yet, we only look forward to a home in glory. May we all be there, and what a happy reunion that will be!

## MEET THE AUTHOR...



**Caleb Runne, his wife, Glenda, and their two children, Jordana and Enoch, are Missionaries to Nicaragua.**





# Instrument in God's Hands

by Julie Young

***Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.***

—Philippians 4:4

It has been three years now that Ray and I have officially been with AWA as humble instruments for God. We have traveled across Canada to Sioux Lookout, Ontario, and across oceans to the Philippines, Guyana, and Nicaragua, meeting many wonderful individuals, and families and working with dedicated missionaries.

AWA Canada recently purchased a 1975 Cessna 206. This aircraft can carry more and go faster than the floatplane. Floats were nice to have with all the water we fly over but they come with a cost. When the project was started it looked like the best choice but over the years there has been less and less of a need. This aircraft is much the same as the one that flew in Guyana for years. It is a wonderful fit for most of our projects.

In preparing for its delivery to Sioux Lookout, Ontario, we have been doing what we enjoy the most, restoring aircraft. We have been updating the radios and repairing any mechanical issues. We have been test-flying in the beautiful Okanagan valley from Oliver BC, up to Salmon Arm and Kelowna. We can't help but enjoy the gorgeous local scenery below. Soon we will be departing to Winnipeg to deliver the 206 to be available for the local Pastor in Sioux Lookout, Ontario. Always looking for better ways to meet the community's needs.

This summer will also be a busy one for us as we will be going to Guyana to repair the two planes there and check on the base, readying it for our new missionaries, the Hamombe family. Please keep us and them in your prayers as we prepare to start serving and raise the funds to do so. We are also excited to head back to La Tronquera, Nicaragua. We will visit with the Runnes who are now permanently making their

home there. We have some building projects to complete, get the aircraft up and flying, and make accommodations for new team members. With the right amount of support, we are set to do great things in this region.

## ***Insight***

*One day, a rich dad took his son on a trip to a village. He wanted to show him how poor someone can be. They spent time on the farm of a poor family.*

*On their return from the trip, the father asked his son, "How was the trip?" "It was great, Dad."*

*"Did you see how poor people live?" the father asked. "Oh yes," said the son. "So, tell me, what did you learn from the trip?" asked the father.*

*The son answered: We have one dog, they have four, we have a pool, they have rivers, We have lights at night, they have stars, We buy food, they grow theirs, We have walls to protect us, they have friends. We have television, they spend time with family and relatives.*

*The boy's father was speechless. Then his son added: "Thanks, Dad for showing how poor we are."*

## ***Moral of the story:***

*It is not about the money that makes us rich, it's simplicity, love, compassion, friendship, values, and family that makes our lives rich.*

***This is how I want to conduct my life as an instrument in God's hands.***

~~~~~  
*Go to [flyawa.org](http://flyawa.org) to read more stories. If you feel inspired, we are thankful for your donations to Northern Ontario, Where needed, or ourselves. God bless you greatly so that from your excess you may bless the little ones in need.*

*Therefore, you are His hands and feet too.*





# Various Methods as God's Instrument

## UNEXPECTED —by Edgar

The greatest mission God has given to all believers is to carry the good news of salvation to everyone; to offer the hope that only Jesus Christ can give. The hope of eternal life; an abundant, joyous, and peaceful life with families and loved ones in this earthly home and the heavenly home to come. This was the theme of the evangelistic meeting we held in our barangay (village) of Sagpangan led by Doctora Marvie Ramirez. At first, we were hesitant to hold the meetings inside the church instead of the public-covered basketball court because people might be biased against being inside a church. Logistically, the public basketball court had many issues: there were no benches or chairs, no sound system, and presented many distractions. Eventually, it was decided to have it at the church and surprisingly, people came unphased by the chosen venue.

The program consisted of health lectures, family interaction, singing, and gospel messages. A separate children's program consisted of songs, arts and crafts, Bible stories and verses, and games. Each night the program had two parts: the first was spiritual nourishment and the second part was physical nourishment. Many people initially attended the meetings because of the nightly physical nourishment which included rice. Some of the attendees do not have rice in their homes so attending the nightly meetings meant a sumptuous meal. They thanked God for the nightly meals and as the days went on, many enjoyed the spiritual messages.

The nightly evangelistic program meetings were planned for seven days. We had from 70 to 80 children and 40 to 50 adults attending those seven nights. Most of the attendees enjoyed the program so much that they asked to extend the meetings for another week and Doctora Marvie obliged. Sadly, after the topic of the Sabbath was presented, the number of attendees began dwindling for both adults and children.

One of the attendees is Rudy, Khia's father. Khia is the only Adventist in the family but attends church intermittently because her father, Rudy, was not allowing her to participate. However, her mother and ally, convinced Rudy that their children are safe with the Adventists and wanted all her children, to be Seventh-day Adventists because of what she witnessed as wonderful Christian values.

Astounded, every time there was an altar call to accept God's calling, Rudy was raising his hand. Did he understand what was being asked? Repeatedly, he raised his hands responding positively without a doubt in his heart. We never know who will accept the call because the Holy Spirit is working on people's hearts and minds. In contrast, Khia's mother has not taken the step of baptism due to family obligations and traditions, but I believe she and her daughter will eventually follow Rudy's example.

Thank you to all who supported this big event where 16 precious souls were baptized into the family of God. This harvest cannot happen without the presence of the Holy Spirit; without our loving God convicting His blessed children to partner with brothers and sisters in foreign lands to bring the message of salvation and hope. God bless you.





## BALELENG —by Betchie

One day my housemate, Grace, and I walked to the market to buy food for dinner. When we reached the market, there was a loud commotion. People were shouting and chasing a woman who responded obnoxiously. She held in her one hand a fish and in another, a whole chicken. She is known at the market as Baleleng, a beggar with a mental health condition.

I felt pity and sadness for this woman, a child of God so I asked for the Lord's guidance on how I could help her; to be able to talk to her and help her so that she didn't need to steal food and be chased at the market.

The next time Grace and I went to the market we looked for Baleleng. We purchased one kilo of fish to give her. We also brought with us detergent and donated clothes from our AWA supporters in North America. As I handed Baleleng the items I brought, I tried to talk to her. She responded that she was afraid of me. She shared that she has a brother who has a hearing problem and had been unable to speak since their parents died. She asked that I give her five pesos (Philippine currency equivalent to 20 cents) and leave. When I told her I did not have the money, she requested more clothes for her and her brother.

I felt compassion for Baleleng. She has a mental health issue while taking care of her physically disabled brother and being orphans. Grace and I decided to continue helping Baleleng and her brother. We are saving money to buy them food on an ongoing basis. Would you like to join Grace and me in our small mission project of helping Baleleng and her brother?

## SOCMED MINISTRY —by Christine

Last year, I started posting morning devotional readings on my social media whenever I feel prompted to bless others with the message of that day. My post's caption or tagline is usually: READ AND BE BLESSED! (with a praying hand at the end).

One morning, I read, "Attend My Words" from the book, "With God At Dawn" by Ellen G. White. After reading, I

didn't feel inspired to post on my social media, but I began to think that others may be blessed despite my human assessment. So, I posted the message on my Facebook newsfeed.

A few minutes later, a friend commented on my post. My heart was filled with joy and hope when I saw the comment from a non-Adventist friend. She asked how she could purchase the devotional book, "With God At Dawn" and I told her I would acquire it for her.

The English version was out of stock! Days and weeks passed, and I discovered that they canceled the order. I had to find another way to get a copy as my friend was frequently inquiring when she could have the book. I contacted a classmate who works at the Publishing House for help in acquiring this devotional book. A few days later, the book was delivered by courier. I was so happy to inform my friend that the book has arrived, and she too was delighted she can finally start reading the wonderful messages of Jesus' love, mercy, and grace.

Join me in praying that through this devotional book, this dear friend will come to know our God and have a deeper knowledge of His word and great love for mankind.

## MEET THE AUTHORS...

Your AWA Mission  
Families serving in the  
AWA Philippines - Palawan  
Mission Project:



Christine Cayetano



Edgar & Raylene Espinosa



Betchie Albaracin



# To Be God's Servants

by Pumelela Hamombe

God calls all believers to join Him in His work of pointing all to the source of everlasting life in His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. For those willing to serve Him, He takes care of His own. Just like the patriarch Abraham, my family of three answered the call of servanthood and began our faith journey. Leaving the comfort of our beautiful home and country of Zambia, we joined AWA and are now preparing to be God's missionaries in the village of Mabaruma and its surrounding communities in Guyana, South America.

In James 1:27, it says, "The worship that God wants is this: caring for the orphans or widows who need help and keeping yourself free from the world's evil influence. This is the kind of worship that God accepts as pure and good."

After about 30 hours of flying from Lusaka, Zambia, and two connecting flights in Doha, Qatar, and New York, we finally arrived in Wilson, North Carolina. Once at the AWA Headquarters, we were met by a loving and dedicated team of God's faithful servants who are committed and ready to support us in our calling to be in the Guyana mission field.

As part of the preparation for our service, I must convert my military flying experience and South African pilot's license to meet the standards of the Federal Aviation Administration. I am working closely with AWA's Chief Flight Instructor, Doug Pagliolo, to meet all the requirements.





Recently, as a crew, Doug and I flew little seven-year-old Sophie and her mother from Raleigh, North Carolina, to Eagle Creek airport in Indianapolis, Indiana. This was an Angelwing flight provided by AWA to Sophie, who underwent surgery in North Carolina and needed to return home. It is incredible to see the power of God through acts of kindness. A scary medical experience for a little girl was eclipsed by the adventure of flying in a small airplane. I also received the blessing of seeing Sophie reunited with her wonderful family.

Tali, Daniel, and I have settled in well here at the AWA Headquarters in Wilson, NC, because of God's loving people around us. Being away from our native continent of Africa for the first time was a bit frightening, but Daniel has made new friends, namely Hadahsa Stevenson and Cora Pagliolo. My heart is full every time he remembers to mention their names in his prayers. We hope that our son's love for Jesus Christ grows even more as we enter service in the mission field of Guyana.

We, the Hamombe Family, are excited to begin the work of spreading God's love to our brothers and sisters in the remote, indigenous areas of Region 1, Barima Waini, Guyana. In the meantime, we need a support team consisting of prayer and resource partners to help meet the cost of the medical evacuation flights, aircraft maintenance, and our living expenses. Will you prayerfully consider partnering with God and His support team for His mission in Guyana? May the Lord bless you and keep you always as we prepare and look forward to Christ's second coming.



## MEET THE AUTHOR...



**Pumelela, Tali and Daniel Hamombe are Missionaries-in-Training for Guyana**



## An Unlikely Project?

by Bruce Wilkerson

No truth is more clearly taught in the Bible than that God, by His Holy Spirit especially directs His servants on earth in the great movements to carry forward the work of salvation. Men are instruments in the hand of God, employed by Him to accomplish His purposes of grace and mercy. Each has his part to act; to each is granted a measure of light, adapted to the necessities of his time, and sufficient to enable him to perform the word which God has given him to do. (*Great Controversy*, page 343). How do we apply this concept to our everyday lives and decisions?

As I retrace my steps within the last year, I clearly see Haiti's physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. The most recent devastation was a 7.2 magnitude earthquake that rocked the small Caribbean country in August 2021. AWA responded with like-minded organizations to the disaster.

(*Airways Magazine* 4Q 2021). The experience in Haiti further revealed the great need, but I thought, what can we as AWA do to help?

The unresolved dilemma in my mind did not begin with my deployment to Haiti that year. Instead, it started when Pastor Edward St. Fleur contacted AWA in 2019 about his vision for his home country. He was interested in developing an aviation project in Haiti, where he had already started a mission on Tortuga Island. Then, in June 2021, while presenting AWA at the Evansville Church in Indiana, we met a sizable group of Adventist Haitians who expressed their needs in their homeland of Haiti. Were these events merely coincidences or unrecognized divine appointments? Unfortunately, it took an earthquake that August to get my attention.





Pastor St. Fleur and I continue to dialogue about his passion for an aviation project on Tortuga Island. He has moved forward, building a church, orphanage, and school. He is revitalizing a radio station and building a clinic. He is raising support to purchase a ferry for transporting patients to Cape Haitian. Still, he profoundly believes an aviation project will open the door for more ministry in his region. Am I listening? The impression in the back of my head continues-- we need a presence in Haiti!

I recall ten years earlier a piece of valuable advice. God is not asking us to solve all the issues or problems when He calls us; if he did, God would not receive the honor and glory He deserves for working in and through our willing hearts and minds to accomplish the impossible. What God is asking is for us to have a willing heart and to GO!

Earlier this year, I was invited to join a team of four to summit Mt. Whitney, the tallest mountain in the contiguous United States at over 14,505'. From the Whitney Portal Trailhead to the summit is a grueling 22-mile round trip with a high-altitude elevation gain of well over 6,000'. I accepted the challenge. Consequently, thanks to a friend, I received an opportunity to speak at the Mountain View SDA Church in Las Vegas, scheduled to occur the day immediately following our descent.

Months before the Mt Whitney experience and the Mountain View Church appointment, I began praying for my team members' safety and successful summit. Another petition I placed before God was for divine appointments. God blessed our team with no injuries, and on June 30<sup>th</sup>, just before noon, we crested the summit of Mt Whitney. I was the last man on the team (anchor), and unbeknownst to the others, I continued to pray for each team member throughout the entire journey.

During the ascent of the ninety-nine switchbacks, however, we came across a woman, Lexi, halfway struggling in her attempt to summit, so we absorbed her into our group. Most say the descent is more challenging than the ascent because of muscle fatigue during the climb. As we

descended, we came across three hikers, all low on water and one seriously dehydrated with low oxygen saturation and early signs of Acute Mountain Illness (AMS). Our "good Samaritan group" would not pass these souls needing help. During the descent, we acquired one additional hiker with a sprained ankle. I thought to myself as we looked like a group of walking wounded, "Lord, really? Were these divine appointments?" I included in my prayers each one of our new additions. God answered my prayers as all successfully made it back to Whitney Portal.

On Sabbath during my church visit, I felt God leading. After the service, much-expressed interests and questions ensued about AWA missions. However, the most striking appeal came when five families of Haitian Adventists approached me, expressing their desire to be involved in an AWA ministry in Haiti. Astonishingly, early that Sabbath morning, I read a text from Pastor St. Fleur: "Flying to Tortuga Island one day... is one of my dreams."

Is God directing AWA to start an aviation project in Haiti?

## MEET THE AUTHOR...



**Bruce Wilkerson is AWA's Vice President of Development and Midwest Project Manager. He and his wife, Monique, are currently stationed at the AWA Midwest in Belleville, Illinois.**



# Bite-Sized Donations

Bite-sized donations have been such a blessing to AWA's various ministries.

Thank you to all of you who have answered the many bite-sized requests.

Most recently, the Philippine Project was able to conduct a 2-week long crusade. A family from New Mexico answered the appeal to fund the one-week long crusade. But God always blesses more than we expect or anticipate because the one-week planned crusade became a 2-week long crusade due to the requests of the villagers. *Praise the Lord from Whom all blessings flow!*

---

## CANADA

Fuel costs to deliver the Cessna 206 from Kelowna, BC to Winnipeg, MB

**\$1200**



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## DISASTER RESPONSE

Search and rescue and cadaver dog, including training

**\$15,000**



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## GUYANA

Repair of old phones so they can be used by local Guyanese team members

**\$100**





## MAINTENANCE

Oil Filters \$27 each

Air Filter Element \$12 each

Brake Pads \$10 each

Shop Fans \$500-\$1,200



**\$27 • \$12 • \$10 • \$500-1,200**



## MIDWEST

Hangar Fee

\$200/month

\$2,400/year

**\$200 • \$2,400**



## NICARAGUA

Mission Vehicle Needs:

New Tires

Steering Components

Repairs

**\$1,500**

## PHILIPPINES

To provide monthly groceries for Baleleng and her brother (*see story on page 11*)

\$24/month or \$288/year

**\$24 • \$288**





## Special Appeal from Nicaragua

by Caleb & Glenda Runne

*Dear Family and Friends,*

*God is at work! We have been in La Tronquera for four Sabbaths now and we are so encouraged and pleased to share with you all that the Holy Spirit has been here ahead of us, preparing the hearts of the Miskito people for His Gospel. Both the church and the community at large are receptive to the vision God gave us before we arrived here, which is that through education and cultivation of the land, the health and prosperity of the community can be raised above the level of illness, malnutrition, and poverty where it now exists. With the Lord's blessing, these methods will also plant the seeds of*

*the gospel in fertile soil to blossom into souls for the Kingdom.*

*We do have some urgent needs, however, to bring the vision into the tangible; our 2006 Toyota Hilux is our most pressing challenge. The "lunar" road conditions, previous neglect of maintenance, and lack of qualified local mechanics have taken its toll on the little truck. Our family has been left stranded twice on the road, the first time waiting four hours to get help and then six hours more being pulled in the dark into Puerto Cabezas to be repaired. Before real help arrived, we had three "good Samaritans" who offered their help; one friendly motorcyclist who helped us push*







the car off the road, one drunk young man on a bicycle, and another drunk ambulance driver with a patient waiting in the rear of the ambulance. Now, again the truck is in for

repair in Puerto Cabezas, but it is no longer a reliable vehicle. In our extremely rural environment, being without a reliable vehicle puts us in a very vulnerable position. The vehicle is our only answer to emergencies, both for us and the community we are ministering to. It is also how we get supplies, cash, fuel, food, transport literature, and visit the surrounding communities. Our ministry is severely handicapped and therefore we are appealing to you, our partners in this mission, for help to get the mission "firing on all cylinders" both figuratively and literally.



A second appeal is for the improvement of our mission base. We have already been treating people with the medicine God provides in His natural pharmacy that is locally available and often free of cost. Charcoal, for example, is a product the Miskito people make themselves to cook with and sell. They have previously been unaware of its potent health benefits. One 9-year-old boy, Jaser, was carried to the base by his family, having taken a bus from a community 1.5 hours away.

He had kicked a piece of metal playing soccer and incurred a bad infection that left his foot badly swollen and too painful to walk on, with a gaping wound. We washed the wound with hydrogen peroxide and then used a charcoal bath to absorb the toxins. Then we instructed the family on how to continue treatment at home and sent him with a poultice and prayers for God's healing. A couple of days later, the family called us, and, through video chat, we were able to inspect the healing wound and see Jaser's smiling face as he walked without help. Praise God! This is just one example of the medical missionary work we are doing and will continue. Our facilities need an overhaul, however, to provide a safe and clean environment for both us and the patients. We want to convert the lower level into a community health and learning center and close off the upper level for our living space. The concrete walls and floor of the lower level of the base are cracked, worn, and a magnet for dirt and moisture, not to mention insects. This is also, by the way, where the kitchen and bathroom of the base are... not sanitary! To fix the downstairs, we first need to equip the upstairs with a kitchen and bathroom so we have somewhere to live while the lengthier concrete repairs are being done. Thankfully the cost of labor is inexpensive here, the lumber is essentially free, since the trees are on the base, and the pastor of the local Moravian church is a trusted, experienced builder we can employ for the job.

Most of all, we need your prayers! Can't you see how God is working?!! We send you our heartfelt appreciation for all the support you have already allowed the Holy Spirit to send through you, both financially and prayerfully. We are eager to see how God will provide and work out His will through His servants. Much love and prayers and blessings to you all as well!

Your Co-laborers-in-Christ,

Caleb, Glenda, Jordana, and Enoch



## NICARAGUA PROJECT URGENT NEEDS:

**#1 Toyota Truck ~ Low Mileage, Reliable, 4 wheel drive \$28,000-35,000**

**#2 Remodeling Mission Base into a Community Health & Learning Center \$7,000**

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Thank you for your support!**



# God is So Good

by Julie Young

On June 20th, Ray and I set out cross country to deliver the Cessna 206 to Winnipeg, Manitoba. Each leg of the journey was 3-4 hours long, with the first one taking us high above the majestic Rocky Mountain range at approximately 11,500 feet. The



first stop was in Lacombe, Alberta, where we were happy to stay overnight with family. On landing, we received a call from Mansfield Edwards, President of the Ontario Conference. He requested that we fly to Oshawa, Ontario, for a dedication of the airplane. We did not hesitate to agree to this request as we are flying God's asset for the Northern Ontario region of Sioux Lookout.

Departing Lacombe on the sunny morning of the 21st with a quick stop for fuel in Provost, Alberta, we set our navigational headings on the iPad and iPhone. Flying at the altitude of 3500-5500 feet, the views over the flat green prairies was stunning. Unfortunately, the flight soon turned bumpy, and with a thunderstorm ahead, we had to make an emergency divert to Brandon, Manitoba, for the night. While at the airport's FBO, we were approached by a young woman who took great interest in the 206 after seeing the AWA logo on the side, we explained our humanitarian work, and she shared that her husband was a pilot. We left her with a desire to learn more, and while we were in flight, she sent Ray both their resumes. More on that positive experience to come...

Early the following morning, we fueled up and set our course to Geraldton, Ontario, it was getting late, and the air was rough, but we made it and stayed overnight. The next day was repetitive flying over green forests, lakes, and wetlands. We again ran into thunderstorms and had to put down overnight in Timmins, Ontario, so close to our final destination of Oshawa.





Finally landing in Oshawa, Ontario, we were met with a warm welcome by President Mansfield Edwards, Executive Secretary Jakov Bibulovic, and his nephew Aaron, Treasurer Virene Meikle, and Videographer, Dwight Rey.

We had special prayer and a hands-on dedication for the plane. The laying of hands and blessing shows our personal connection and recognition that God will be doing something special for this unique humanitarian project.

The continued build-up and excitement abounded as Ray surprised them with a flight around Oshawa. We can't thank Mansfield Edwards and his wife Sharon enough for hosting us overnight, and we wished we could stay longer, but we needed to continue back to Winnipeg.

The last legs were very rough and bumpy. Due to weather, we made a few stops, Parry Sound, Chapleau, and on into Sioux Lookout to meet with the local Pastor, Ray Davis, and Physician Consultant in the region, Lloyd Douglas, and his beautiful family. They are a true blessing to this region.

While there, we shared a meal with Lloyd and his lovely family and developed a plan to start the season with humanitarian flights into this region. A surprise turn of events was an introduction to a local SDA pilot willing to help serve with AWA and start this season off with success.

You know God has been so good to us in the 30 hours plus flight, keeping us safe and with a clear head for flying such a long distance. We had many opportunities to share AWA stories as well as our own as missionaries and managers. As we soared above the Canadian landscape,



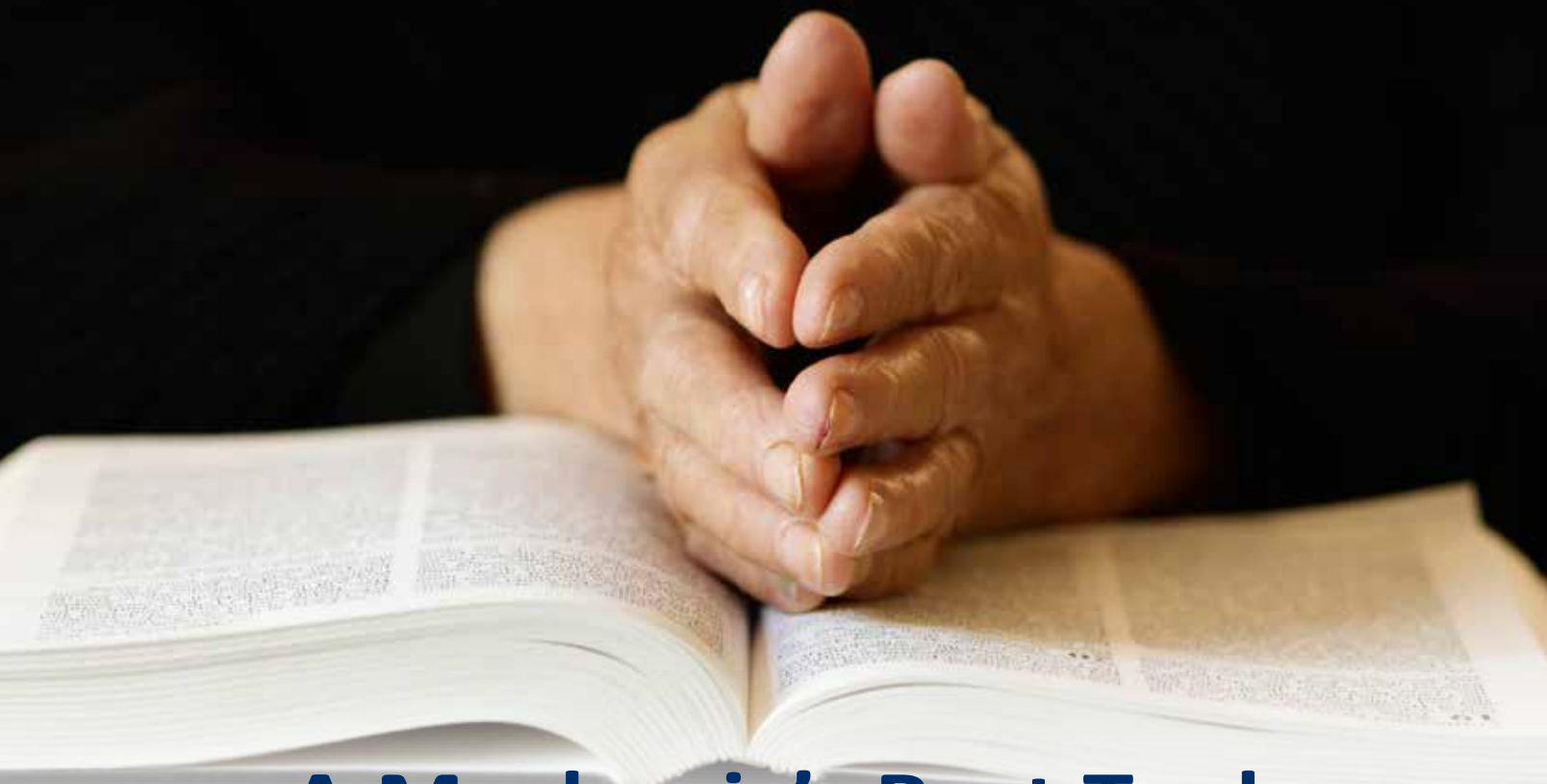
completing our journey to deliver this asset of God's, we sang together the hymn,

*God is so good;  
God is so good;  
God is so good;  
He's so good to me.*

## MEET THE AUTHOR...



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



# A Mechanic's Best Tool

by Kyle Stevenson

When life throws you lemons, you're supposed to make lemonade, right? So what happens when a bolt breaks off in an expensive aircraft engine and gets stuck inside the engine case?

While doing a routine inspection on one of our Cessna 172 aircraft, I noticed what looked like a loose bolt on the alternator bracket that attaches to the engine. This bolt is one we call "safety wire tied" or a "safetied" bolt. It's secured in place with wire, so it doesn't come loose. I wondered how this bolt came loose with the safety wire still attached. Proceeding to inspect the bolt, I cut off the safety wire with my side cutters and put a wrench on the bolt to remove it for inspection. Typically, a loose bolt gets damaged from vibrations or something we call "fretting," but when I put the wrench on the bolt head and turned, I realized something was very wrong.

The bolt didn't turn. Instead, the bolt head immediately snapped off. "*NO! No, no, no, this is not good,*" I thought. Not only was the bolt now broken, but the shank was also stuck in the engine case.

My only solution was to remove the propeller and flywheel from the front of the engine to access the bolt, then try drilling it out.

After removing the propeller and flywheel, I realized I had just enough room to get a drill bit in the bolt's space. This was both good and bad. While I could get the drill bit in the confined space, there was zero room for error. I was very nervous about my plan of action. If I was off by a fraction of an inch, I could damage the engine case or must do an even more impossible task in the tight space called a *Helicoil thread repair*. At this point, I understood the requirements and knew what I needed to do. I said a quick prayer and got to work.

I had never done this before. Equally, it's a somewhat uncommon occurrence. Using previous experience, I began to slowly drill out the center of the bolt to be as accurate as possible, and after drilling it to the proper depth, I tried my hand with a tool called an *easy out*. An *easy out* is a hardened steel tool used to insert into a hole drilled in a broken





bolt, having teeth that grab the shank, helping to turn out the bolt. Unfortunately, the bolt was very stuck!

After hours of trying different methods for removal, there was only one choice. I had to incrementally drill out the center of the bolt and hope that when I drilled my hole earlier, I was dead center! So I drilled slowly, increasing the one bit size at a time until I reached the size of the solid part of the bolt, minus the threads. All the while, I prayed--I was dead center and perfectly straight (an arduous task done by hand). Then, low and behold, after removing my drill and cleaning out the shavings, I saw exactly what I had been hoping for.

Only the threads of the bolt were left inside. I slowly picked out and removed them. The thread hole in the engine was clean. I checked the threads making sure they weren't damaged: not a single nick from the drill bit was seen.

Becoming the instrument in God's hands, I had achieved the impossible. He had done through me

an impossible task that saved a potentially costly repair to the engine case of His asset. The remedy was simple, *prayer*. So be encouraged; when life throws you lemons, *pray*.

## MEET THE AUTHOR...



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



## Manual del Usuario

¿Qué te parecería si alguien te diera un coche muy caro, que en cada aspecto estuviera a la vanguardia? Un coche con toda la tecnología que podrías desear: equipo de entretenimiento de primer nivel, GPS, asientos con calefacción, ¡todo último modelo! Este es el tipo de coche que querrás conservar durante muchos años.

Mientras lo estacionas a la entrada de tu casa, piensas que debes averiguar cómo mantenerlo adecuadamente para que te dure por mucho tiempo y te brinde muchos años de servicio. Así que vas a internet y comienzas a leer en un foro lo que los diferentes propietarios escribieron sobre este vehículo ¿qué hacer?

Me imagino que lo más natural para ti será mirar en el manual del usuario o incluso contactar al fabricante. También puedes hablar con otros propietarios y escuchar lo que dicen, pero si sus ideas están desviadas de lo recomendado por el fabricante, entonces sabrás que estaban equivocados.

Hace poco tuve una experiencia similar. Como he estado haciendo trabajo mas bien físico durante los

## Cheat Sheet

by Josh Fix

How would you like it if someone gave you an expensive car that was cutting edge? The car had all the technology you could want inside. Top-notch entertainment equipment, GPS, heated seats, the works! This thing is a car that you would want to keep for many years.

As you pull the car into your driveway you think to yourself that you should find out how to properly maintain it so it will last as long as possible and give you many years of service. You take to the internet and start reading what different owners wrote in an online owner's forum. Sadly, you find many conflicting opinions about how to care for your new vehicle. What to do?

The natural thing to do would be to get out the owner's manual or even contact the dealer. You could talk to other owners and listen to what they say.

I had a similar experience recently. As I have been doing more physical work through the last 6 months, I was wanting to do all I could to take care of this body I have been given. The main thing I was focusing on was fuel or food. I started listening to an audiobook called "Counsels on Diet and Foods" by Ellen White. She spoke of the various times diet was mentioned in the Bible



últimos 6 meses, quería hacer todo lo posible para cuidar el cuerpo que se me ha dado. Inicialmente me estaba enfocando en la gasolina, mejor dicho, la comida. Para una mejor referencia, empecé a escuchar un audiobook llamado “*Consejos sobre el Régimen Alimenticio*” de Elena G. White, que hablaba de las diferentes partes de la Biblia donde se menciona la dieta, así también como lo que se le mostró a ella personalmente. Al mismo tiempo, estaba leyendo material online y probando diferentes cosas. De acuerdo a las últimas fuentes mencionadas, si estaba activo físicamente iba a necesitar mucha más proteína (especialmente si quería desarrollar musculatura). Me ayudó un poco, pero me sentía con letargo y mis pensamientos no muy claros. Eventualmente me di cuenta que necesitaba más calorías, y yo sólo me estaba focalizando en obtenerlas a través de las grasas y proteínas, pero no estaba prestando mucha atención a los carbohidratos.

Mientras leía el libro “*Consejos sobre el Régimen Alimenticio*” y también lo que allí se dice en la Biblia sobre la dieta, especialmente en el libro de Daniel donde él menciona su dieta de legumbres y como tanto él como sus amigos terminaron viéndose más saludables y más robustos que los demás. La dieta original dada por Dios al hombre era muy rica en carbohidratos. Algunos podrían decir, vamos Josh, ¿no lo sabías? Sinceramente, nunca lo había pensado mucho hasta que quise mejorar mi rendimiento. En base a esta experiencia es que les quiero compartir lo que he aprendido: podría haber pasado años jugando con diferentes dietas y suplementos, o siguiendo los comentarios de las distintas personas. Y aquí estoy, sintiéndome muy bien a sólo unas semanas de haber puesto en práctica el consejo Divino (y por supuesto, seguir consumiendo una cantidad moderada de grasas y proteínas). Me ahorré una tonelada de frustrante experimentación al escuchar el sentido común de la palabra de Dios.

Te invito hoy a llevar tus problemas a Dios y ver lo que Él tiene para decirte en Su palabra. Es como un “manual del usuario” con todas las respuestas a las preguntas de esta vida. Dios te dará Su sabiduría si le das una verdadera oportunidad. Estarás feliz de haberlo hecho.

as well as what was shown to her personally. I was also reading content from online sources and trying various things. According to various online sources I need to get a lot more protein if I was physically active especially if I wanted to build muscle. It helped a bit, but I would have brain fog and not a ton of energy. I was also figuring I needed more calories, but I would get them from fats and proteins, and not focus on carbohydrates.

As I was going through the book “*Counsels on Diet and Foods*” as well as what is said in the Bible about diet, especially in the book of Daniel it talks about his diet of pulse and how he and his friends ended up looking fairer and fatter in flesh than the others. It then clicked in my head. The original diet given to man was very carbohydrate-rich. Even the food pyramid bottom is full of carbs! Complex carbs are the best. Some might say, “Come on Josh, you didn’t know that?” I could have spent years messing around with different diets and supplements that I found from my online research. Instead, here I am a few weeks after increasing my carb intake and consuming a moderate amount of fats and proteins, and I am feeling great. I was saved a ton of trial and error by listening to the common sense of God’s word.

I would invite you today to take your problems to God and see what He tells you in His Word. It is like a cheat sheet to the questions of life, and God will open its wisdom up to your mind if you give it an honest chance. In a time where wisdom and balance are needed, give it a shot. You will be glad you did.

## MEET THE AUTHORS...



**Josh Fix, and his wife, Yosiday,  
and their children, Caleb and Isaac,  
are Missionaries-in-Training for Nicaragua.**

# Using Every Means

by Jim Kincaid

In our quest to share the good news of a soon-coming Savior, we must utilize every possible avenue to reach people. Many of our Adventist churches in Alaska are investing in low-power FM radio stations to reach their communities for Christ. Typically, the stations reach out 15 to 20 miles depending on location and antenna height.

In a small village of 400 to 1,000 people a local station reaches everybody. If the signal is strong and clear it is a powerful witness that prepares a people for the coming of Jesus in places where funding is not available yet for an in-person presence in the community. To put a station in one of the 225 villages of Alaska requires an investment of \$25,000. It also requires a secure location and funding for ongoing electrical usage. A grass-roots organization called The Alaska Adventist Radio Network has been developed to facilitate this village-by-village outreach. It has facilitated the implementation of more than 7 local radio stations to date.

A heartening report from the Fairbanks area indicates that someone is listening. A local North Pole church member works at an equipment dealership. One recent day he had reason to drive a company work truck to run an errand. He found the truck radio tuned to one of the local Adventist Radio Network stations, of which there are two.

As this world advances rapidly toward its final chaos, more and more honest-hearted people are searching for a safe- haven in the revelations of God's Word. We are called to use every means, to let no opportunity pass, to reach everyone God has a message for today.

Those who feel impressed to support the development of more radio stations among the many villages of Alaska, please contact the AWA office at 919-938-2920.

## MEET THE AUTHOR...



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



# God Has Ownership; We Have Stewardship

by Thomas Hinrichs



**“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything  
in it, the world, and all who live in it;”**

—Psalm 24:1

God created us in His image to be His managers over the world He created. (Genesis 1:27-30) And Since God made everything, knows everything, and owns everything, His perspective of how we should manage our lives and resources is perfect. God can see how our choices and decisions will affect us today and how the consequences, good or bad, will affect us. Recognizing that everything comes from God must occur before we can fully submit our finances to Him.

*Our relationship with money will always impact our relationship with Jesus.*

Too often, we do not experience the full and abundant life the Bible promises because we’re ignoring what Jesus has asked of us. Jesus wants us to trust and put our hope and security in God, not our wallets. In Matthew 6:24 he says “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the

other or you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money”

Our attitude toward money is a good indicator of what’s important to us. If we want to see what is captivating our lives, look at where we are spending our money. The amount of money we earn is meant to meet our needs and the needs of others, how we manage our money will determine our ability to manage future blessings. “And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:19)

Generosity is a primary tenant of God’s character. He gave us the ultimate gift, His Son. (John 3:16) And as we are created in the image of God, we take on his characteristics. When we accept God’s gift, Jesus as our Savior, we inherit the Holy Spirit. We no longer live for ourselves, but for our generous God, who saved us. (2 Corinthians 5:15) As such it is impossible to be a follower of Christ and not put God first in our finances.

Our generosity makes tangible differences in the lives of God’s children. And when we bless others, we also receive God’s blessing. “a generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.” (Proverbs 11:25)

## MEET THE AUTHOR...



**Thomas Hinrichs  
is the AWA  
Comptroller. He is  
stationed at AWA  
Headquarters in  
Wilson, NC.**

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

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# Creamy Coconut Milk

by Jordana Runne

**Yields about 1 quart of milk**

## WHAT YOU NEED:

- 1 Mature Coconut  
(you can get it at Walmart)
- 1 1/2 quarts Pure Water
- Blender
- Medium-size Pitcher
- Fine Sieve, Colander, or Cheesecloth
- Spoon
- Small Container to store the flesh of the coconut

## INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Chop open your nut! Scoop the coconut meat out of the shell. Put the 1/2 flesh in the blender.
2. Add 1/2 quart water.
3. Start blending, beginning with a lower speed and then revving it up. Blend to a smooth consistency. The more you blend it the better.
4. Place your strainer on top of the jug. It helps a lot if your strainer fits snugly on the brim. Then pour your milk through, stirring and pressing

the spoon against the meat to squeeze out every drop of the delicious milk.

5. Repeat previous steps with the other half coconut. Add the milk into your jar. Make sure you're saving what's left on top of the strainer in a container, since you'll use it later.
6. Blend the leftover coconut with another 1/2 quart water. Repeat these steps again.
7. Pour your finished coconut milk into your glass jar. You're done!

## TIPS:

- Since this milk is organic and preservative-free it will last 3 days on the refrigerator. For bigger batches you could freeze it.
- Use this milk with your favorite cereal, baked goods, even curries, and soups!
- The nice thing is you can use it 1:1 ratio with milk.
- I didn't use the coconut water because it has a lot of probiotics that will turn your milk into a spiky drink in no time.



- Coconut milk is even medicinal. According to [www.ballerinichiropractic.com](http://www.ballerinichiropractic.com), the antioxidant-rich milk aids in weight loss, supports healthy skin, hair, and immune system, prevents anemia and heart disease, and provides you with electrolytes, to name a few.

## MEET THE AUTHOR...



**Jordana Runne is the 13-year-old daughter of Caleb and Glenda Runne. The Runne family are Missionaries to Nicaragua.**





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