



THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF ADVENTIST WORLD AVIATION

# *Airways*

2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER 2024



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# PRESIDENT'S WEATHER REPORT

## Why Be a Missionary

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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  
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around the world.

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

Why are we missionaries? Lots of times, I find myself asking this question. Usually, it is when I am under stress, and it all feels like my brain can't track any more details and solve all of the day's problems. Just because we feel called to this way of life doesn't mean we live free from all the day-to-day challenges everyone else faces; in fact, it increases. Some of us have given up great-paying jobs or careers. Some of us gave up businesses and the pursuit of worldly success to share God's love. You may not know this, but it usually comes with a pay cut. None of us are here for the money, but we do need enough to keep a roof over our heads and the bills paid so we can devote ourselves totally to the work of this ministry.

So why do it? What's in it for me? How will I prosper and get ahead?

The answers to "Why do it?" are too many to fully understand or explain in this article, but hopefully, it is for love. Let's focus on that one. Because he loved me first and allowed me to work in His garden and give back some of what He has given to me. This is what we call a "calling." It's a longing in your heart to give love back. Is it because I deserve it? NO. Is it because the ones I serve deserve it? Maybe.

Did I or will I earn it? No. Love is a free gift from my Maker for anyone who wants it. How do I show that I want it? Jesus said if you love Me, keep My commandments. What commandment is the greatest? That you love one another. Without love in our hearts, good deeds lose their power. Because I first give love, I will therefore receive love. Just like God, we give first with no requirement to get back or receive gratitude for our gifts.

The disciples one day asked Jesus to show them the Father, and He said, "If you have seen Me, you have seen the Father," because He was not doing His own will or pleasure but just what the Father sent Him to do. Therefore, He is the visual representation of Him who sent Him. So, as we humans go out into the world with our flaws and weaknesses, we must give up ourselves and what "we want to do". We must do what He gives us to do.

I find myself asking some days, Lord, why am I doing this role and not the one I can easily do that I trained myself to do? Surely, there is someone more qualified than I. The answer is yes, we can do easier things in life and

still help fill the Great Commission, but how will that make you grow and prepare you for what He has planned for you or me next? This life is short, and He has greater plans for us than we can even imagine or comprehend.

So after I have my small stress break, I surrender to Him. In my mind, I kneel at the cross and some days, hang on for dear life. I confess my lack of faith or doubt of where He has placed me in His garden to work. I pick up my tools and get back to work doing the best I can with what He gives me. Jesus says, “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.” Does this mean perfect? No, for none of us are perfect, and we will make mistakes. It means to put full effort in and let Him bless what you are doing. Do not defile it with grumbling, complaining, or wanting payment for everything we do. God is a great employer, and He will reward everyone for their deeds; whether good or bad. That is a promise, and He never breaks His promises.

So, when asked to give a little extra, never be exact with Him, and He will never be exact with you.

Although we work long, hard days with no worldly reward or gain, our treasure is stored up in heaven. God says where your treasure is, your heart will be also.

*Where is your treasure?*

May God bless you from today until eternity. May you experience His peace and love and blessing. If you already have, share some with others and multiply your blessings. Stand up and identify yourself as one of His. He said, “You will know them by how they love one another.”

Love and blessing to you, my reader,

*Ray Young*

President, AWA and Wings for Humanity



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**Cover:** The original Pathfinder plane, N81708, first served in Guyana before being repainted and relocated to the AWA mission base in the Philippines. 708, pictured on the AWA Philippine runway, now serves on the Island of Palawan.



## Flight Log - *Reflecting on Resolve*

by Rebecca Stevenson

Have you ever taken the time to sit back, relax, and reflect on how you arrived at your current stage in life and often the struggle it took you to get there? Many of the stories in this issue of Airways will touch on that very thought. Our missionaries and team members all have a story of how, why, or what things look like for them currently in their service. From Headquarters to the field, we all have a spirit of dedication and perseverance towards the work we do. We are the face of AWA and what keeps the work of AWA moving forward. You, our readers and supporters, are what keeps us going financially. So we can accomplish what we've set out to do and what God has called us to do. **Your prayers help us keep our resolve when things become difficult.**

There have been challenges at some of our bases, like Guyana and the Philippines, where water has suddenly become scarce, wells are drying up, and little to no rainfall. That's a huge problem. As a country girl who grew up in a 100-year-old house with a well that would give out (*when it did*) on Friday nights and Saturdays, sometimes we'd be without water for days. The burden of hauling water during those times (for cooking, flushing toilets, watering our horses) and searching out a reliable source from friends and neighbors was always an embarrassing hassle. But imagine if there weren't any options for hauling water from the neighbors because they were out too! That's not unlike the scenario at our bases.

While water can be purchased, that's not sustainable and becomes quite costly. We need a *deep* well in Guyana and the Philippines. Each location will cost upwards of about \$20,000. Now is when we need your help. Water is an essential part of life. It's so important, that even Isaiah 12:3 shares, "Therefore with joy, you will draw water from the wells of salvation." Salvation is life eternal, and when we have water at our projects, it helps us and even the communities taste salvation through water ministry. Will you be part of this initiative to help us achieve a reliable water source in our Guyana and Philippine communities? Will you be a part of the blessing and answer to prayer?

Water in the field isn't the only place water is featured in our world at AWA. At the 2024 International Pathfinder Camporee, August 5th—11th, the topic is Believing the Promise. It focuses on the story of Moses, who was drawn from the water and lived a life of great faith in the promises of God. This Camporee event happens once every 5



years. The last time it happened was in 2019 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. This time, the Camporee will be happening in Gillette, Wyoming. AWA will be participating again this Camporee as hosts for the Pathfinder Aviation Honor. It's always a great time to spend with the kids and teach them about a powerful form of service to bring hope into people's lives. How so? The aviation honor includes interviewing a mission pilot and how being a pilot can be used to tell people about Jesus.

Before we embark upon the adventure of Camporee, we will have been on a week-long adventure at EAA, July 22—July 28, called the *AirVenture* (international airshow) in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. There, we exhibit with other missionary aviation organizations in the IAMA tent next to Hangar C and aviation and non-aviation vendors inside Hangar D that are in support of the work we do globally. Church presentations are also a part of what we do while

at EAA, visiting our church families in Oxford (July 20), Fox Valley (July 20), and Fond du Lac (July 27), and now adding Sheboygan (July 27) to this list of programs for 2024. From Oshkosh, we will travel to Gillette, Wyoming for the Camporee. This is no small summer outing. It takes resolve, dedication, perseverance, and many willing hands to make it all work.

***There are two things we ask from you, our readers, and supporting AWA family:***

1. We ask you to pray for us during our event travels and work. Prayers keep us safe flying and driving, and they avail much.
2. *We need the extra financial generosity of the saints for this trip.* Travel is expensive, whether daily, going back and forth from our hotel in Bill, Wyoming, which is an hour outside of Gillette (the closest accommodations we found almost a year ago), or traveling from Wisconsin out to Wyoming. Cost-effective dining and other amenity options are limited while on this trip. We seek Aaron and Hur's hands to lift up ours for support in our season of travels this summer.

Help us raise \$60,000 for two wells and our US-based mission work this summer in getting to Gillette for Camporee. You have been with us in all our endeavors and we thank you. Thank you for your help with what we have coming up in the summer months and our projects in Guyana and the Philippines. God has a thousand ways to provide. Will you be one of the avenues of blessing He uses?

---

## MEET THE AUTHOR...



**Rebecca Stevenson is AWA's Executive Administrative Assistant. Her husband, Kyle, is the Chief of Maintenance. They, with their daughter, Hadahsa, are missionaries serving at the AWA Headquarters in Wilson, NC.**



The Washington Brazilian Capital SDA Church Welcomes AWA!

## The Missionary Message

### AWA Staff Contribution

What a wonderful Sabbath! It was a short trip of approximately 4 hours between the Adventist World Aviation headquarters in Wilson, NC, and the Brazilian Capital SDA Church in Washington. This was the distance that Rebecca, Kyle, and Dr. Deyvid traveled on Saturday, March 2nd. The Brazilian Capital Church can easily be described as a welcoming church, with its heart in missions and willingness to reach the lost. Pastor Marco Faria, a dedicated servant who loves the cause, his church, and his family, made us feel at home with his love and support.

Rebecca, Kyle, and Dr. Deyvid were not only prepared to share their experiences serving as missionaries but also willing to bring comfort and motivation to the church through their songs, instruments, and voices.

There were many highlights of the experience. One of them was the privilege of sharing what it means to be a missionary with a very special group; children.

During the time the church studied the Sabbath school lesson, Dr. Deyvid had the opportunity, for approximately 30 minutes, to share real experiences lived by AWA missionaries, as well as sing and pray with the children. But more than that, Dr. Deyvid had the privilege of encouraging them and telling them that there is a special call for them to serve as missionaries wherever they are: at school, home, in the neighborhood, among friends—everywhere!

Church Family Worship time came when everyone got together to sing, pray, and study the word of God.



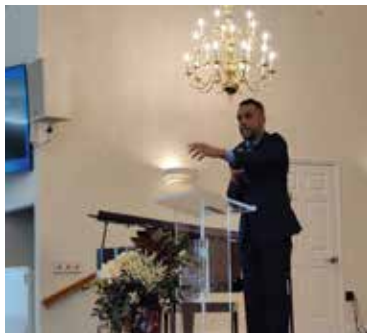
Rebecca and Kyle are not only missionaries with their hearts in the mission but also extremely talented with the musical gifts God has given them. Songs sung by Rebecca and the trumpet played by Kyle prepared minds

and hearts to be open to the word of God. The spoken message was given by Dr. Deyvid and divided into three parts.

First, the team made sure everyone understood the complexity of a ministry like AWA. For that reason, they talked a little about the mission AWA has as an institution and the logistical challenges faced.

Second, the message focused on sharing some experiences from the Project in Mabaruma, Guyana, the many blessings received there, and how many people are blessed by AWA.

Third, the message at the end focused on bringing motivation to everybody through the word of God and God's call when He says, "Go and make disciples," and promises such as, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you." It was more than clear



that those who were present were not only amazed by what they heard and saw but were also willing to get involved in the mission in some way, either through prayers or donations. Many certainly went home questioning themselves about how they could bless someone in the context in which they find themselves, as local missionaries.

AWA is immensely grateful for the support and love given to those who welcomed the team in March. If you or your church would like a team or representative from AWA to come and present our aviation ministry

at your church, AWA has experience in the following programs:

- Sabbath school mission spotlights
- Morning worship services
- Afternoon benefit/vespers concert
- Weekend evangelism program and aviation presentation (Young Eagle Flights on Sundays)
- Custom tailored programs

AWA is available at any time to bless all congregations, groups, companies, and fellowships that wish to welcome us.

To request a visit, please contact us via email at [info@flyawa.org](mailto:info@flyawa.org) or call us at 919-938-2920 and schedule a visit to your church.

### **Scheduled Visits for Summer and Early Fall:**

July 13th — Florence First SDA Church, South Carolina

July 20th — Oxford SDA Church, Wisconsin

July 20th — Fox Valley SDA Church, Wisconsin

July 27th — Fond du Lac SDA Church, Wisconsin

July 27th — Sheboygan SDA Church, Wisconsin

August 3rd — Casper SDA Church, Wyoming (Sabbath School program)

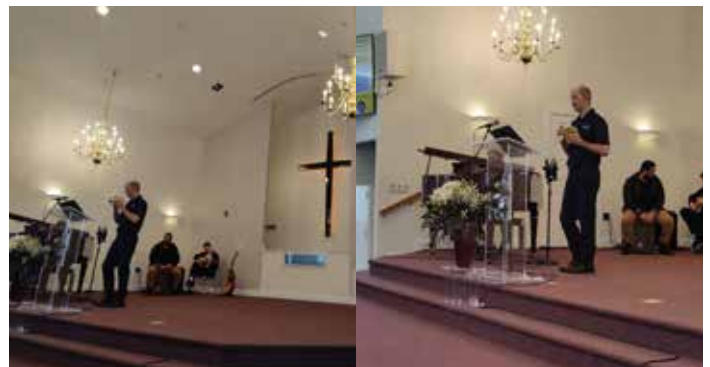
August 31st — Hillsborough SDA Church, North Carolina

September 7th — Laurel SDA Church, Mississippi  
(morning & afternoon program)

September 14th — Atlanta First Brazilian SDA Church  
(Primera Igr Adv. Brasileira de Atlanta), Georgia

September 28th — Raleigh Gethsemeny SDA Church, North Carolina

October 12th — Roanoke Rapids SDA Church, North Carolina





## Relationships

by Jim Kincaid

Our relationship as a community service organization began when I joined the State Massacre Taskforce as a representative of the Northern Alaska Regional VOAD, of which I was President at the time. The Massacre Taskforce meets once a month during “peacetime” (when no disaster is being worked) and as often as twice a week when a disaster response is being carried out.

It turned out to be strategic to be on the call when the issue of how to transport critical response material was discussed. To be able to offer a solution was a great place to start.

A few years ago, due to a failed salmon run in the Yukon River villages, the local people had no fish to feed their dogs through the winter. Their dogs are used for subsistence support. The dog teams are used for pulling sleds for fishing, wood cutting, and many other activities.

A collaborative effort between dog food suppliers, manufacturers, and air service operators went a long way in meeting the need.

The fact that the COVID-19 pandemic was in progress complicated the whole effort. Our involvement with dog food delivery led to our being asked to deliver hygienic

supplies to 13 interior villages without community water and sewer systems. The efforts delivered close to ten thousand pounds of health-related products.

That led to a relationship with the Rural Alaska Veterinary Service. This organization delivers vaccinations, health examinations, and other animal health services to rural communities. One of the side benefits of this relationship is that we are getting to know people in rural communities that we would not have had the opportunity before.

*Pictured are four veterinarians and their village hosts in the village of Nikolai, where we went to pick them up.*

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### MEET THE AUTHOR...



**Jim Kincaid, and his wife, Linda, are your AWA Missionaries serving at the Alaska Project**





# THE FIRE VICTIMS

by Betchie Albaracin

Fire disasters in the Philippines have become a major concern in recent years, particularly in residential structures. Fire disaster is classified as having both natural and man-made causes. February 07, 2024, it was just after 9 am when I looked at my social media account. I saw the fire incident in the news report. It stated that it started with a group of friends enjoying the place where a grilling machine was left that allegedly caused the fire that lasted for 3 hours. The local police have started the investigation and determined that the fire started due to a short circuit.

The nearby shop and apartments were destroyed and damaged because of the fire. On February 08, 2024, at 8 am, I asked one of my roommates if they could give me clothes they no longer use so that I could add them to the things I would give to those whose houses were burned. I thank God because I was not disappointed in how I approached them. My husband and I's clothes that can still be used were also included in the donation. We also handed over the groceries I saved from my stipends to Adventist World Aviation. It was so nice and interesting to think that while talking to them, they asked me the meaning of AWA that they saw on my T-shirt.

I am grateful and thankful to God because He will continue to bless me as I continue doing things for others.

After I gave them our help, we prayed to continue thanking the Lord. We also prayed that the government would support them until they have a proper home. Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others.



## JOIN THE AWA TEAM!

You don't need to be a pilot to be a mission worker for Adventist World Aviation. Both 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 IA's, 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 love of Jesus with others. Please send a resume to Adventist World Aviation, 4421 Airport Drive NW, Wilson, NC 27896, or by email to [info@flyawa.org](mailto:info@flyawa.org).



# “Walk With Me”

by Julie Young

**“Call unto me, and I will answer thee and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.”**

—Jeremiah 33:3, *ESV*

The question is often asked,

“Why are you a missionary?”

I did not set out to be a missionary; I came into AWA as a volunteer to assist my husband in his desire to fly and fix aircraft for AWA in 2009.

It was not a childhood dream like so many others can attest to. As a young child, I enjoyed listening to the stories in Sabbath school class about faraway missionaries, stories about families and children who had a different way of life.

When Ray received a more permanent call asking him to come be a part of AWA in 2018, it was at a time when we were struggling to make sense of what we could do

next that was more fulfilling. Even though I encouraged Ray to say yes to the position that was asked of him, I pondered, **what would I do?**

I remember the first few weeks before we left to go to head office in North Carolina, being unsure of my future, and when I’m undecided about a decision, I like to work in the garden. As I pulled weeds, I hummed to myself my favorite hymn, “I Come to the Garden Alone.\*” While deep in thought, I distinctly heard a whisper, **“Walk with me.”** I looked up to see who was speaking to me, but no one was there. Thinking to myself, “Was this HIS voice from above telling me to trust the calling and be involved in something bigger than us?” Could I trust the path we were being asked to follow? I had no idea where it may lead, but right then, I made the decision to follow. It did not matter **“what I would do”** in time, something would reveal itself.

I realized if I wanted to be fulfilled in God’s work, I better let go and let God lead me.



As you know, we left our family and life in Canada behind and dedicated our next chapter to AWA. While the burden was on Ray to look after Global Operations at the time, I volunteered for the first few years as the Canadian Office Administrator and traveled alongside him. But I was not yet in the mindset of a missionary. It was not until we went to the Nicaragua Project the second time in 2021, with the Fixes, that I felt I was truly committed to being a missionary.

Remember when I shared the story of witnessing through handing out teddy bears to the local children? How did I make the mistake of showing up without counting how many bears I actually had in my bag? I remember being surrounded by smiling faces, all waiting their turn to receive a bear. As I looked around, I saw more kids coming from surrounding homes. I remember my concern that I would not have enough bears to give out. One last little guy ran up to get a bear, but as I reached into my bag, I felt nothing inside. As I closed my eyes and sent up a silent whisper, I again reached in and saw a small blue bear.

The surprise that there was one bear left to hand out... That moment while handing out those precious bears was my fish and loaves experience. I knew right then and there what I would do. It still gives me goosebumps.

I would be a missionary for the children. Each time we go to a project, I gravitate towards the primary classes, sharing about AWA, talking about the planes, and singing songs. That is what brings me joy as a missionary.

How can we not trust the Lord and the path He has chosen for us when all the signs point in the right direction? You just have to listen when He calls you to walk with Him.

*I come to the garden alone,  
While the dew is still on the roses;  
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,  
The Son of God discloses...  
And He walks with me, and He talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His own,  
And the joy we share as we tarry there  
None other has ever known.*



**God Bless,  
Julie Young**

Ray and Julie continue to have a home in Kelowna, BC. They spend their time between Kelowna, BC, Wilson, NC, and each project. Please continue to send your donations to the Canada office to receive a tax receipt.



**MEET THE AUTHOR...**



**Julie Young, Canada Office Manager and Administrative Assistant to her husband, Ray, AWA's new President, formerly in service at the AWA Canada Headquarters in Kelowna, BC.**



# How Far I've Come

by Pastor Tenywa Livingston and AWA Staff

I was born in an Anglican family with both my mother's and my father's side being Anglican. I remember being presented to the church for water sprinkling at the age of six. My grandfather, Abednego, decided that I would be Meshach and my twin brother, Shadrach. He was a former police CID officer but was no longer taking alcohol, yet my father was a smoker, and this is what burnt his lungs to death. My mother also enjoyed local alcohol and beer. Therefore, we grew up drinking alcohol and smoking.

During the military regime of President Idi Amin, it was stylish to smoke tobacco and opium. As a youth who had dropped out of school and lived near a military detachment, interacting with military-age mates, I smoked everything that crossed my way. Nevertheless, every Sunday, we went to church, and the Bible was clear about alcohol and the body being a temple of God.

In the Anglican church, there is a time for confirmation where one has to confess (including other requirements) and receive another Christian name; this time for me had come. I was struggling between the Bible's truth and my family and friends' lifestyle. I always remembered I was Meshach and had an interest in reading the story of the Hebrew boys in Daniel,

chapters 1-3. I loved Dr. David Livingstone and his missionary endeavors. I therefore chose to be called Livingstone, Tenywa Meshach. However, I was still trapped by the lifestyle of that regime, friends, and family.

## *What led up to you becoming a missionary?*

There are three major incidents in my story; let me begin with one.

One evening I walked with friends the usual 8km to the bigger trading center for a drinking spree. We had just settled in our ancestral village in the homestead surrounded by forest. Our house was grass thatched with mud and wattle walls. Electricity was a dream but all that didn't matter when we got drunk. I came back home around 10:00 pm and opened the locally made door with hinges made from old car tires. My mattress was on the ground covered with a simple blanket as humble beginnings happen. I lit a match just to check where I was going to enter the mattress and make sure there was no snake. In no time, I was fast asleep.

Early in the morning, I heard some people digging around my room so I woke up and it was around 8:30 am. To my surprise my hands which I used as my pillow were tied onto

my head. With a rope crisscrossing around my neck and back to my hands and head. Opening my eyes wide I realized it was the skin of a long snake which it left on me while shedding its old self. I immediately closed my eyes and remembered to pray to God for forgiveness of all my sins. I was not sure it did not bite me. I was also in a dilemma because I was not sure where the snake was. I thought, "It may be near my head, in the blanket, or in one of the corners waiting to gain strength and move out."

Then, another idea told me to sit up and jump out of the room since I forgot to close the door the previous night when I entered. I immediately dashed out with my hands still tied to my neck and head. Those who were outside the room took off, seeing what was on me. I stretched my hands and broke the skin, which was almost two meters. Realizing my body was intact, I began asking God to help me give up smoking and alcohol and become a missionary like Dr. David Livingstone and Meshach. Change did not happen instantly, though.

### ***The second incident***

After a few months, I walked the 8 km again with my friends for drinking. I came back home drunk and passed out. In the next room over from mine, we kept goats and there was a door from my room to the goats' room. Early in the morning, around 6:00 am, I woke up. I quickly discovered a grizzly scene around me of what was left of some of our goats and thought a python had visited. But then going to the goat's room to check on them, I discovered thieves had slaughtered three goats and were making fun of the drunkard goat's owner. It was God's grace because they could have slaughtered me too. I again resolved to become a missionary like Dr. Livingstone and Meshach.

I left the village and came back to town. Again, my friends asked me to drive them to a drinking place. Lastly, I joined boxing and became good in the featherweight group. I was nominated to represent Uganda in Zambia. But something swelled on my right hand in my wrist. The doctors warned that if I went for an operation, I might bleed to death because it was on the main vein. I remembered my name Livingstone Meshach and boxing was not a good game for missionaries.

I prayed to God that if the swelling disappeared, I would go for some other jobs so as to serve God and reach His people. A few days before the final checkup and getting visas, the swelling had disappeared, so I left boxing and joined taxi driving. Then, I joined ministerial training and became

a pastor. I read about a missionary work that encouraged young pastors to train in aviation and work with the project in Tanzania. I joined the flying academy in 1993 but did not complete the course because my wife, at the time, was shot dead by a stray bullet from training government soldiers at the flying academy in Uganda. Since we had small children I could not continue with the Aviation studies.

After serving the church at different levels, I studied for a master's in disaster management. Now, I am a lecturer at Bugema University, a Seventh-day (Adventist) institution in the Uganda Union. I lectured near the flying academy where I was training, and whenever I meet my colleagues, the desire for missionary Aviation rises in me.

I am now married again. My wife, Betty, has a bachelor's of counseling and we both wished to serve as missionaries anywhere in the world using the experience and knowledge God had availed to us. Then, in 2020, when I contacted AWA, I was welcomed, and that's how I joined AWA missionary service.

*Though Tenywa has much, much more to his story than is room for these pages, it is very evident that God has had an active part in his life. God has carried Tenywa through every hair-raising and dangerous situation conceivable. Tenywa has endured much (some stories too graphic to share), and as a result of overcoming Satan's prolific attacks, Tenywa not only lives to tell his testimony but has an ironclad faith we are privileged to glean from at AWA. Please prayerfully consider becoming a monthly donor to support the work of outreach Tenywa and his family facilitate from out of their home in Uganda. Thank you for praying.*

---

## **MEET THE AUTHOR...**



**Pastor Tenywa Livingtone, serving as project manager for AWA's newest outreach project in Kampala, Uganda.**



# Hope's Story

I am Hope. That's my name and I should say I really love my name. It is hope that keeps people moving—hope through hard times, hope through valleys, hope through hot sunny days, hope through long dark nights, hope through lonely roads, hope through all hard situations you may never know how you will get out of before you get there, but find yourself conquering them when they come around—hope, hope, hope, and hope.

My life has been a result of a lot of confusion about questions I could never ask and situations I couldn't fully understand but through hope, I have, or rather I am still overcoming everything. Born into an Adventist family, one should expect that maybe I am typically what a true Adventist really must be but personally, I know I have fallen short even after I was baptized on the 2nd of February in 2019. But by God's grace, I have learnt what a loving Father I have in heaven and that's where my hope is.

Being born a pastor's kid, having an aunty who is also an Adventist pastor and another aunty an Anglican reverend, maybe I should also have a love for being a minister in the church somewhere but it's totally the other way around. Speaking frankly, living in a family with all these gospel ministers has given me a completely different view of what people truly are, and through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, I have come to a point where I believe that

being a pastor or reverend doesn't guarantee holiness or purity or those blameless faces shown at church and in public. On the other hand, I am proud of my dad (Pastor Livingstone Tenywa) Even with his shortcomings as a human, he has always stood for what he believes is right even when sometimes he has landed into hard positions for his truthfulness, unlike other pastors I have known in the different fields where my dad has gone to serve.

All in all, I love Jesus. I love my God. Not to brag, not to be proud but in these 17 years I've been on this planet, I think I have been through enough, I have seen enough, I've felt and faced a lot that sometimes I even failed to share with any of my folks, siblings or friends but I just had Jesus to tell. I love Adventist World Aviation; I love helping out people; I love seeing smiles on people's faces and sometimes I tell Jesus that I wish every single person on earth could make it to heaven even though I know the truth: some won't. I want to help where I can and I really love it that Dad is working with Adventist World Aviation. I want to keep helping around to spread the gospel of the second coming of Jesus because that is the greatest hope one can ever have in this world.

*Nabalungi Faith Hope*  
*Daughter to Pastor Livingstone Tenywa*



## Betty's Story

### **My Christian journey and how we decided to embrace AWA as missionaries.**

I never saw my father because I am told he disappeared during the liberation war of 1979, the very year I was born. My mother left me with my grandmother, so I grew up with her; she was staunch Catholic. At the age of thirteen, I was preached to by a neighbor who was an Adventist. Later, I converted to Adventism, my grandmother who brought me up died and I remained almost alone at home. But before her demise, I had begun literature Evangelism at an early age, fourteen years old in form two. At that time, I was the youngest literature Evangelist in my church field. The percentage I got after every sale, I saved. It helped me study for Secondary school and eventually, I completed high school.

After some time, when I had just completed high school, Pr Tenywa Livingstone came into my life, and we decided to get married on December 23rd, 2001. The Lord has brought us through a lot. He has blessed us with children; boys and girls.

Time came by God's grace, and I applied to study at Bugema University for a degree in psychology and counseling. I thought it could help me boost the pastoral work we are doing by talking and helping people overcome several challenges in life; indeed God has blessed us with keeping people's secrets. Currently, I am working on a Master's Degree at the

same University where I work as the Warden of Ladies.

In 2020, my husband told me about his desire to work with AWA as a missionary, if God allowed, after sharing with the whole family. I supported him wholeheartedly, and our children also welcomed it. One of our children has a dream of studying piloting as his profession. Our big and small children are all praying for us to do God's work together, with them.

Personally, I am devoted to working as a missionary. I thank God for the Initiators of Adventist World Aviation/Wings for Humanity; it's the way to go as Christians. Reaching the hard-to-reach areas and creating hope in the vulnerable communities makes a great impact on the people in those areas. That's the life my family and I have lived. We identify a family and try to look at the need they are in. Then, we do what we can according to how the Lord has blessed us. We join hands with women, prison, and youth ministries to meet the needs of evangelistic work.

Adventist World Aviation/Wings for Humanity: the Tenywa family welcomes you wholeheartedly. By God's grace, we will do God's work as He leads us.

*Tumusiime Betty Tenywa (Mrs.)  
A Psychologist and a Counselor  
Wife to Pr Tenywa Livingstone*





# Looking Back

by Kyle Stevenson

Before I even considered joining a mission organization, the thought had already been implanted in my mind. In a manner of example and admiration to the coworkers I had worked with over the years from mission aviation organizations, their influence had positively rubbed off on me.

Over the 17 years working at a flight school, I had worked with many trainees for mission aviation organizations like Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) that came to work and do flight training at the school. Working alongside them and training them always gave me a sense of respect toward them because I knew what it meant and what it took to go off into the world and help others in need with an attitude of serving. It's something I had always thought, "I'd like to do one day, but no way could I ever do such a thing."

Years later, while having been poked and prodded a few times by other organizations and friends, I finally succumbed to the interrogation of my wife with a similar

question I've heard before: "What would you think about joining a mission aviation organization?" Only she did not ask me to join directly; she, herself, was seeking to join and wondering if I'd be on board! What could I say at that point? I had already been thinking in that direction; her question just confirmed it.

Deciding on the course we wanted to take, we unexpectedly ran across Adventist World Aviation. We were brought on board as Missionaries In Training in 2018. I began contributing with maintenance help from Oregon, where we lived at the time. The first thing I did was a summer annual on N5979E that had flown down from Canada to the Hillsboro Airport, where I worked. Then, in the fall of that same







year, my wife and I went to Tacoma, Washington, to tear the wings off of N81708. It was packed into a shipping container and shipped to the Philippines. I didn't know two years later, I would be going there to put it back together as AWA's lead mechanic.

So in 2019, when I initially got a call to join AWA's HQ staff as Chief of Aircraft Maintenance, it was almost an immediate yes, albeit with a few reservations as to how we'd move an entire family across the US with only two and a half weeks to pack.

With all that taken care of (*by the grace of God*) and us starting our new beginning, I knew my life would be different from that point forward.

Jumping ahead five years to 2024 and looking back at what has been accomplished and how my family's lives have all changed—the good and the bad, the ups and downs—it's astonishing how much working for a ministry changes things.

On one hand, my expertise in aviation maintenance is one of the main reasons for being here and doing what I do to be a blessing to others, but one thing that nobody realizes (*perhaps some do*) is that working for a ministry changes you. It was change enough to move from one side of the continent to another, but then changing from a career aviation job to a ministry is on a whole other level. I don't think I had any idea what was in store for me.

In short, change was inevitable, and in the past five years, I have seen a lot of personal growth and changes. A wise pastor told me before we left our previous home in Oregon to not look back and keep moving forward with the plans God had made for us.

In Isaiah 43:18-19 it says, "Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." NKJV

Then Philippians 3:13-14 says, "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting

those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." NKJV

It's all over in the Bible, and I didn't realize it right away, but with change comes faith in God to make that path for us. —And certainly, we sometimes don't know what that will look like at first, but the best thing we can do is not look back and, instead, trust and pray. Looking back comes after it's all said and done, and admiring the work God has done in your life. That is where I am today. I certainly would not be where I am today without that hope whether I realize it or not.



*Thank you for keeping us flying!*

**MEET THE AUTHOR...**



**Kyle Stevenson is AWA's Chief of Maintenance. He and his wife, Rebecca, AWA's Executive Administrative Assistant, and their daughter, Hadahsa, are missionaries serving at the AWA Headquarters in Wilson, NC.**



## Bite-Sized Donations

Bite sized donations help the respective projects operate more efficiently and makes the work easier for the missionaries. You may contribute for the entire amount or join others in meeting the needed funds. Any amount towards the acquisition of needed items is greatly appreciated.

### PHILIPPINES

**FROM JED AND SHERYLN:** *"We are actively engaged in humanitarian and medical evacuation flight operations in the remote islands of the Philippine archipelago. As we are aware of the inherent dangers of flying over vast oceans and seas, along with the potential health risks associated with transporting patients by air, we humbly request your prayers and support."*

**Lapel Clip: \$6 • Microphone Cover: \$6**



**Garmin Mini Dive Case: \$80**

This is a waterproof case for the Garmin Inreach Mini (Satellite communicator, GPS tracker, 2-way satellite messenger and SOS device) to prevent malfunctioning in the event of being in the water.



**Vitamins & Supplements: \$100**



**Personal Flotation Device: \$120**

**FROM JED:** This is for my wife, Sherlyn. I only have one, and I don't have any extra for her. This would secure her in the event of an emergency ditching, as we frequently fly over water to reach neighboring islands.



**Handheld Radio: \$199**



This would serve as a backup radio for crucial communications in case the airplane's primary radios fail.

**\$6 • \$6 • \$80 • \$100 • \$120 • \$199**

### GUYANA

**FROM ROB AND SUE:**

*We are organizing an evangelistic and health initiative. Help us purchase the following:*

**Evangelism :**

**Health :**

Printer

Blood pressure kit

Large TV

Medical scale

Bulbs / Lights

**Cost of overall needs - \$5,000**

Portable PA system

### GLOBAL MISSIONARY NEED

Server for storing photos of all the exciting work our missionary teams do so we can have it in a safe place to be used in our publications: **\$1,000**

**\$1,000**



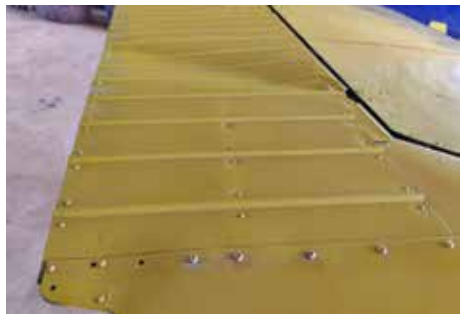
## CANADA - (Northern Ontario Project)

This project has many funding needs:  
Funds to build a hangar • Annual maintenance costs

Hangar rent in Oliver, BC: \$1400.00

An aircraft GPS /avionics for flying  
in the Northern Ontario region: \$14,500

**\$1,400 • \$14,500**



## MAINTENANCE

IA (Inspector Authority) 2-year subscription: \$912

Monthly Maintenance Tracking Software: \$100/month, \$1200/year

Engine Cylinder: \$1,700 • Aircraft Elevator: \$7,000

**\$912 • \$100/\$1,200 • \$600 • \$1,700 • \$7,000**



## DISASTER RESPONSE - MOBILE MEDIA

Laptop: \$3,000

**\$3,000**

## NICARAGUA

100 Bibles for those in the  
Rio Coco region: \$10 each

**\$10 • \$1000**



# 2024 Focus On The Future

As AWA rejuvenates each project we want to thank you for your faith in our projects and your ongoing support. If you feel encouraged to donate to further ensure our role in medical aviation flights, let us turn your focus to donate monthly to:

<b>JANUARY</b> AWA Canada - Northern Ontario Project	<b>FEBRUARY</b> Philippines	<b>MARCH</b> Mabarumba, Guyana
<b>APRIL</b> Alaska	<b>MAY</b> Maintenance Needs	<b>JUNE</b> Uganda
<b>JULY</b> Where Needed	<b>AUGUST</b> Where Needed	<b>SEPTEMBER</b> Administrative Staff
<b>OCTOBER</b> Flight Operations	<b>NOVEMBER</b> Nicaragua	<b>DECEMBER</b> Disaster Response

We love to share our newsletters and Airways, but publication costs need donations too. If this interests you, please sign up so you can learn more about each project .

If you care and would like to share, there are ways you can donate. Please don't hesitate to contact our staff at the number below or visit us on the website at [flyawa.org](http://flyawa.org) • 1 (919) 938-2920 • 1 (888) 477-8945

**Pray • Care • Share**



## “Come...”

by Rebecca Stevenson

Everyone has a purpose. For some, it's clear, and others? *Not always.* Then, there are those like me who, from a very young age, knew God was calling them to something specific. My challenge then is society's challenge now: misinformation. I hate that word and what generally follows it. It's a hot word, politically charged much of the time, and it brings me great stress as the highly sensitive person that I am. But as a Christian, spiritual *misinformation* is even more potent and psychologically damaging than anything else. It caused me to run from God as a child.

Through my fears at 4 years old, demonically whispered misinformation to me tainted my view of God. Growing up in a single-parent home with just my mom left me with a sense of distrust toward my Heavenly Father. My little girl thoughts were, “If Daddy isn't here, how can I trust that Jesus is going to stay with me if He sends me to Africa to be a missionary?” God was already calling for me to become a missionary, and I just knew that meant going to Africa. Fear drove me, and I ran. The desire to find my place, fatherly love, and acceptance groaned in my soul.

From adolescence through adulthood, roughly 26 years, I sought love and acceptance, going from trial to trial. I suffered abuse, battled incurable illness, and struggled

through poverty (though still blessed) while trying to find my own way, trying to make life worth living through coping methods like art, singing, and horseback riding. The back of my horses offered so much sanctuary, and ironically, my favorite place to be was out in the woods with them, riding through God's creation. Yet, I could not come to Him because of the irrational fear: “*He will abandon me if I serve him.*”

It wasn't until the monster of Crohn's reached a fever pitch—the incurable battle I fought—that I was in a place like malleable steel where God was able to get my attention and convince me my chosen path had no future. He wanted to heal me; He made it very clear. *Okay, Crohn's is incurable, I thought, but if He takes it away, I won't have anywhere to hide. Then, I have no excuse for not serving Him as a missionary...in Africa (aka far removed and isolated—alone).* I didn't realize He was saying He wanted me to hide in Him, but I did realize I didn't want a bleak future with no hope.

I surrendered to God, and after letting Him take me through a healing journey of soul searching—outward and inward forgiveness—I realized one Spring day that my flesh was no longer tainted with Crohn's. I had no disease of burden in me, not even the other health problems I had



suffered, including IBS, Celiac, and pseudo seizures. I felt quickened with health.

My GI doctor no longer found any sign of pain or tenderness as he always had on my abdomen. I can honestly say that since then, there have been life struggles so severe that I would have been thrown into violent flare-ups beyond measure had I still been encumbered with Crohn's and IBS. He had healed me and saved me from myself in countless ways! I came to God as I was but didn't stay where I was. Now that He had me, more growth and healing could take place.

While I worked through some deep grief from my past, I began to trust God more. I was open and sensitive to Him, and He then made the invitation: *What if you became a pilot for missionary aviation?* **Wow!** That wasn't what I was expecting.

AWA was the first thing to populate my internet search for an Adventist-based ministry. I didn't even know AWA existed! *How could something so wonderful not be known?* From there, I fell in love, and God made one last invitation through a new AWA mission project; the next healing step I needed to confront: *"Come with me to Uganda."* I cried and agonized, but I saw Him leading; I trusted Him, and my husband would be with me. I accepted the invitation in full surrender and soon learned it wasn't fear (the absence of God) that I needed to surrender to; it was God and His plan of love that I needed.

As our plans shifted from preparing to serve exclusively in Uganda to God's overall plan of having us serve worldwide at Headquarters, I realized the misinformation of spiritual fear kept me from embracing God's path for me. He needs me right where He put me at AWA as an Executive Admin,

Publications, and Development Director, and because He has appointed me—because I have chosen to see things through His eyes, I see the needs of AWA with His eyes, and that there was a Rebah shaped hole in AWA's mission only I could fill.

I now minister with AWA beyond my imagination, touching people and lives in ways inconceivable to my abilities. I am here because I was meant to be for "such a time as this." I've found my comfort—my place—in Him, circumstances "never" withstanding. Thank you for your support that allows me to serve you.

*\*Rebah is a nickname Rebecca has affectionately acquired since serving with AWA.*

## MEET THE AUTHOR...



**Rebecca Stevenson is AWA's Executive Administrative Assistant. Her husband, Kyle, is the Chief of Maintenance. They, with their daughter, Hadahsa, are missionaries serving at the AWA Headquarters in Wilson, NC.**



## Reaching the Hard to Reach

18 years ago, Caleb and Glenda had a very serious conversation about their future. They had only met a month before but felt like they had known each other forever. With great emotion and certainty in their hearts, they revealed their intentions to each other. First, their desire to be missionaries, and second, to spend their lives together. The first one took 14 years to accomplish, and the second one... they married a month later.

Caleb had chosen a service profession independent of the need for tools, electricity, etc., with the express purpose of serving God in any circumstance. He also learned Spanish in Argentina, where he would meet his future bride. Along with his natural inclination to

connect with all types of people, Caleb would serve God in multiple ways in the community and church, employing the use of both English and Spanish.

Glenda had an innate desire to minister, especially to the less privileged. Her studies combined psychology with education. During her time volunteering at the hospital in her hometown, where the poorest sought care, she received confirmation that this group needed to understand that God's love is unconditional and makes no distinction between people.

When COVID started making headlines, God seemed to say, "Now is the time to go out into the mission field, reaching the hard-to-reach." Glenda began researching



different ministries when she discovered that very phrase on the Adventist World Aviation website! There was no doubt that God was leading them to work together.

Before long, Caleb, Glenda, Jordana, and Enoch were receiving training from their much-loved mentors, Bruce and Monique Wilkerson, then Executive Vice President and, respectively, the Project Manager for Guyana and the Philippines. Due to their vast experience in administration and life in the mission field, the Wilkersons prepared the Runne family for the challenging work with great passion and commitment.

Although life in the U.S. seemed perfect for the Runne's, God was clearly calling them to go into missions among the native Miskito communities. Places where not even the local pastors wanted to enter due to the number of problems, risks, discomforts, and challenges involved in working among them.

It has been two years since the Runne family entered foreign missions, but they are not alone. Along with the AWA team, there are also supporters who, although more anonymous, pray vigilantly and powerfully, fueling the work to be carried out with strength and at greater speed. That is precisely one of the things that this missionary family has learned over these past two

years. The combination of gifts (roles) is essential when carrying out missionary work.

If you, along with the Runne family and the AWA team, have a passion for reaching the hard-to-reach with the Gospel, we invite you to “dive” into the new and challenging Coco River Project, see page 24.

**“And whatever you do, do it from the heart, as working for the Lord and not for men.”**

—Colossians 3:23

**MEET THE AUTHOR...**



**Caleb Runne, his wife, Glenda, and their two children, Jordana and Enoch, are your AWA Mission Family serving at the Nicaragua Project**



# Pray the Lord of the Harvest

by Caleb Runne

At the beginning of January, our family enjoyed analyzing the previous year, when God had given us victory, and where we fell short. Then, we identify new goals and pray for wisdom and success for the coming year. Prayerfully, one of the goals we defined in 2024 was to somehow reach the 90+ Miskito communities along the Coco River where the Gospel of Christ's soon return has not yet been shared. Over our time here, we have seen that our biggest challenge as missionaries is that when the Miskito people see us, the "gringos", they are programmed to think we should be giving them free things, not sharing Bible truth with them. We prayed that God would give us insight into how to best serve Him in our outreach.

Only two months later, God began to unfold His answer. We coordinated a two-week missionary training for a group of 25 Miskitos. Of that group, we identified five potential missionaries who already worked as leaders in the church. We all share the same conviction of the need to share the Gospel and make disciples among the people along the Coco River. Our vision for the new converts is to cultivate a missionary perspective instead of the more conventional way of only sitting at church and expecting the leaders to do outreach.

Two trainees stand out: Armando Tucker, a Miskito lay pastor in his mid-60s, and his wife, Lorena. Already, they spend two to three months a year ministering to the river

communities, which is not enough for such an expansive mission field. We are preparing them as medical missionaries and hope to provide financial support for them to spend longer periods teaching the Gospel and training more missionaries as they move among the river communities.

The only mode of transportation between these communities is via the river on narrow wooden boats called "batus." Think of the batu as the bus of the river, used to transport goods, supplies, and people. By God's grace, someone donated a motor to the cause. A new boat would be needed for the motor, so Armando and a crew of skilled helpers tramped into the forest to make it! First, they picked and felled an enormous tree and hollowed it out with a chainsaw and machetes. Next, they hired 63 people to haul it out of the jungle, over 2 days, to the rushing Coco River. Now that there is a way to carry Armando, Lorena, and the other local missionaries, great work for the Kingdom can expand. Halleluiah!

Truly, the Holy Spirit has been opening the way for the river Miskitos to hear the urgent message of salvation. There is so much excitement around this project because it is clear that each step was advanced by miracles. In Matthew 9:37,38 [Jesus] said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."





# God Has Led Us This Far!

by Dr. Deyvid Batista, Th.D

Whenever I reflect on how much the Lord has done for us, I feel amazed. It was December of 2022, and my first visit to Mabaruma, Guyana. The project suffered a lot during the pandemic for several reasons. Missionaries couldn't serve as they were used to serving, churches couldn't operate as they were used to operating, borders closed to non-citizens, and donations were obviously in short supply since everyone was affected.

The work was extremely hard with reopening our center of influence with weekly meetings and once again being in direct contact with the country's religious and government leaders.

One of the biggest challenges we faced was protecting our assets, which, today, 16 months later, we can say is a reality. Finally, we have gates on our hangar that will protect our truck, planes, containers, and boat, assets that were previously being depreciated. "So far, the Lord has helped us." 1 Samuel 7:12 is a clear promise that despite doing a lot for that region, there is much more than we could be doing if we had more resources and volunteers.

The months passed, and although funds continued to be a great need, and still are to this day, we could see the hands of the Lord working. It was March of 2023, and after one of my presentations about AWA in one of the local churches in Brazil, Rob and Sue approached me. They wanted to serve in some way. Only a few months later, they moved permanently to Mabaruma. This is located in Region 1 of Guyana. They now serve the community full-time and maintain the desire to continue serving.

The last few months for Region 1 have been challenging. There has been severe drought, and enduring tensions between Guyana and Venezuela have intensified. Thank God the rain came after months of extensive drought, and tensions decreased drastically. But that's not to say tensions have ceased.

Despite all the challenges, the work progresses. Many projects are happening simultaneously in Mabaruma thanks to your prayers, donations, and the hard work of Rob and Sue. Among these projects are homework after-school clubs for local kids, Bible classes for children, personal health courses for adults, quit

smoking seminars, quit drinking classes, as well as interaction with the community being one of them.

We can say with certainty that the road ahead of us is long—that the challenges are many, but we can also say that if God has helped us so far, it will be no different from now on.

As we always say to you, our friends, you can be part of this too. Through your prayers, perhaps by volunteering, and also through your donations. Because truly, even if your contributions are small, they can and do transform lives.

Our prayers go out to all of you, and we hope you'll pray this prayer with us!

*God, I'm excited to serve You.*

*May I be a faithful ambassador as I serve You with my whole heart.*

*Remove all selfish desires or ill motives  
and align my heart with Your purpose.*

*In Jesus' name, I pray, Amen.*

## MEET THE AUTHOR...



**Pastor Dr. Deyvid Batista is the Project Manager for AWA's Guyana mission base in Mabaruma.**



# Imagining Through Delays

The AWA Filipino team is extremely important and a close-knit family. They are all important to keep the project successful. Recently, Ray and Julie Young, along with Thomas Hinrichs, visited the team to evaluate the current needs at the base. The article below is the current brochure appeal many of you have received. We share it with you once again as the urgency of a hangar is foremost.

by AWA Staff



Imagine for a moment the stellar blues of the sky, reflecting in the tropical blues and greens below in the ocean. Little emerald isles are wreathed in white-gold sands and coral; the loveliness of it all surrounds the beautiful Island of Palawan. It's picturesque. Stormy-looking clouds rise in the distance over the lofty mountain ranges. A front is moving in. Heavy rains will soon drench the AWA base where Pilot Jed and his flight nurse wife, Sherlyn, live.

The sweltering heat and full-blown humidity begin to taper as the winds pick up. Birds hush their songs. Briefly, the whole world becomes silent. Flash—*crack!* Strokes of lightning and thunder sound throughout the heavens. Flash—*BOOM!* The air and the earth tremble, and the smell of singed ions floats on the wind. With the aggressive roar of rain plowing towards the base, the floodgates of nature's abundance unleash upon the earth. Liquid grace from the heavens, water the fields, rice patties, and hills. It is a reprieve from the heat of the sweltering sun. Yet, in the cool of the torrential downpours, the lights flicker, the fans stop, and in an instant, the power is out. The reprieve is temporary.

Weight from the rain, drenching the great broadleaves of the coconut and indigenous trees, soak and slouch

the powerlines. The power might come back later, but until then, Jed and his wife Sherlyn will end up using the generator for a while. Calls for medivac flights still will come in, but flying isn't always immediate. The storm will have to be weathered until the skies clear up.

This scene, while vivid, isn't spectacular or shocking. No, this is a normal day in the Philippines, and it's all about delays.

Yet, while the weather brings delays for flights and other circumstances that can create distraction and added delays, there is perfection in God's timing.

We need a hangar for N81708. Being out in the torrential elements the way it has since 2020 hasn't been the best for the aircraft or its wear. It has been an uphill climb over the years to get this project soaring high and running efficiently. Then, COVID brought delays with finishing the runway, getting it certified, acquiring clearance to fly in Filipino airspace, working on building a hangar, and then restaffing the base after the former missionaries retired. But through these delays, God has brought us a pilot family and a project manager. He has provided maintenance help and more staff from local and surrounding community members. He has brought bright skies.

The harsh elements of heat and humidity, coupled with the powerful downpours of rain, make for a very abrasive and destructive environment. Just this last year, major leaks had to be fixed in 708 because the plane was not only flooded, but it wouldn't even start because so much water had gotten into places it shouldn't have been.

*This poses a huge problem.*

Keeping the plane housed in adequate shelter not only keeps the elements off of it but also reduces the amount of basic maintenance needed for its upkeep. Extra, unnecessary maintenance costs more in the long run, but even so, as we work to raise funds for a hangar, God has used the delays of not having a hangar to His glory.

Bringing Krian and Marvin, two local mechanics, God has provided their help this past year in working to maintain the aircraft as best as possible despite no hangar. The elements work against the plane, but Krian and Marvin work to keep it airworthy. Additionally, another local mechanic, Mark, has joined the team. Caring for the mission plane has inspired these young men with a greater mind for mission work.

Imagine working in sweltering heat where you are so hot, you're battling against the potential of heat stroke, the tools are unmercifully hot to handle, and the batteries for some of those tools die out much quicker because they aren't in a stable environment which a hangar provides. Such shelter will also prolong the life of the aircraft. As you read this, the paint, from the bewildering heat and sun, has and continues to fade and peel. We want to care for God's assets, keep them in the best operating condition possible, and not delay carrying out His plans. Therefore, we invite you to help us achieve that goal.

### Philippine Project needs:

- **Funds for a hangar – \$100,000**
- Prayers for an ambulance or transport service to transport patients from airports to their hospitals of choice
- Medical supplies for the base
- Funding for A&P training/certification – \$3,000
- Further funding for local and Indigenous mission staff – \$10,000

*Thank you for your prayers and support of this project and for what we, together, will be able to accomplish this year to lift up God's work on the Island of Palawan. His timing is perfect. His coming is soon. The time to invest in His kingdom is now.*

### ***For it is written:***

***“But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven,***

***where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.***

***For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”***

*~Matthew 6:20-21 NKJV*

***Come and treasure  
God's mission with us!***

### **Your AWA Mission Families serving at the AWA Philippines - Palawan Mission Project:**



**Sir Ronie Fiedacan**



**Jed & Sherlyn Nantes**



**Christine Cayetano**



**Betchie Albaracin**



# Josh's Story

by Josh Fix

Years ago, when I was maybe 17 years old, I read a book called *"The Great Controversy."* It kindled in my heart a desire to live my faith in God in a more real way. The book told the story of how men in the past were led by God to bring truth into a world of spiritual darkness and how they stuck by their guns in the face of opposition and hardship. It convicted and challenged me.

Years went by, and I had the opportunity to attend Wildwood College of Health Evangelism. I learned a lot, connected with a community of missionaries, made friends that would last a lifetime, and also met my wife. It was a huge turning point in my life.

During my time there, I made a friend who got me interested in aviation by taking me for a flight and

telling me about the needs overseas for mission pilots. I told myself and God that if there was a need for pilots, I would be willing to do that.

A year passed, and I had another friend who said he wanted to become a pilot. He said he'd like to do this journey with me. Honestly, it helped me get the courage to start pursuing this goal.

We went to Bolivia for six months to get our feet wet in the mission field environment, and upon returning, I started looking into how to begin my flight training. Things progressed slowly, and I had opportunities present themselves as I strove to follow my call to serve.

During this time, I got married to my best friend and fellow aspiring missionary. Miracles happened, and



opportunities came our way that opened up doors that would have otherwise been impossible. I was able to become an instrument-rated commercial airplane pilot as well as a certified aircraft mechanic, all debt-free!

If I can say anything about our journey, I would say that patience, perseverance, and faith in

God are key. I had times when I would look at my peers

and how they were getting opportunities in the world and making money while I felt stuck numerous times. Then, God would open a door, and we'd take a step forward. I had a couple of opportunities inside and outside the aviation field to make more money and do things that sounded enjoyable. I knew in my heart they wouldn't be truly satisfying because they wouldn't be with eternal goals in mind. We tried to honor God with all our decisions and we've always been taken care of.



Here's a verse that has a lot of wisdom. "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap if we faint not." (Galatians 6:9) The journey to our ultimate calling isn't always as quickly as we would anticipate or desire. But every step is necessary and part of our education for service and is ultimately part of our preparation for heaven.

As long as we follow Jesus and remain on the operating table, the skillful surgeon will continue to work on us. Sometimes, things are uncomfortable, but as long as we listen and follow, He'll not let us miss our calling.



**MEET THE AUTHORS...**



**Josh Fix, and his wife, Yosiday, and their children, Caleb and Isaac, are Missionaries with AWA.**



# Smashed Spuds

by Jordana Runne

**Serves 4 / Vegan**

Not everything that gets smashed is ruined! With a crispy, flavorful outside and soft interior, these potatoes are sure to be enjoyed by everyone!

Besides, they're healthy, and the ingredients are accessible. Now, who could ask for more?

## INGREDIENTS:

8 Med./Sm. Yukon Gold or other thin-skinned Potatoes

3 T Salt, plus more to taste  
Olive Oil

4 T Herbs (dry or fresh, whichever you prefer)

## INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Wash and scrub the potatoes and put them in a big pot or pressure cooker. Fill the pot with water until it covers the potatoes, about ½ an inch.

2. Add 3 tbsp salt and set to boil until fork-tender. If using a pressure cooker, set cook time to 10 minutes and test with a fork when done.
3. Drain. Preheat oven to 400
4. Brush 2 baking sheets with olive oil and put 4 potatoes on each.
5. Now, here comes the fun part! With the bottom of a glass, smash each potato in the middle.
6. Brush all over generously with olive oil and sprinkle with salt to your liking and dry herbs, if using. If you want to flavor the potatoes with fresh herbs, add them once the potatoes are done or about to be done baking.
7. Put the pans in the oven and bake until the edges are crisp, about 15 minutes on each side. Check on them until they have the desired cooking time.
8. Serve with ketchup or pesto, and eat!

## SAVOR YOUR YUMMY SMASHED SPUDS!

### TIPS:

- I recommend this recipe as a side dish. Try serving with a salad, tomato soup, or meatloaf with steamed vegetables. See what you like to pair it with best!
- Experiment with using little potatoes (like fingerlings) for bite-sized treats!

## MEET THE AUTHOR...



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

FLYAWA.ORG



# Safety First

by Glen Ferguson



In October of 2023, Stan Schmoe and Glen Ferguson conducted the Safety Audit at the headquarters of Adventist World Aviation (AWA). They are a small but very cohesive and motivated staff in Wilson, NC. In the last 2 years, they were able to move from a very small hangar in Smithfield, NC to a much more suitable and larger hangar at the Wilson airport. The Lord has blessed them with these new and larger facilities.

Another challenge for them is a change in leadership. Ric Swaningson has moved to another position after many fruitful years of leading AWA. Ray Young has taken over as the new President in charge of aviation operations. Ray has a wealth of experience in aviation with AWA and will do a great job. The effects of COVID-19 have limited AWA's ability to restart some of their flight programs.

However, the doors are slowly opening to allow resumption of operations in several countries. The current staff is overworked and in need of additional personnel both at headquarters as well in their flight programs. AWA's small but dedicated staff were a pleasure to work with, as everyone honestly and openly shared the challenges they have been facing. In addition to the regular audit report we left with them, we were also able to share resources and guidance to help them make changes to their manuals and operations. Providing resources as well as critique is one of the unique ways MSI comes alongside member organizations to help them improve their safety culture.

Staffing is a big challenge across the mission aviation community, and AWA is no exception. Many of their deployed aircraft operate

under United States registry. While that has certain advantages, one of the downsides is that maintenance staff from the U.S. must travel to each location to do the inspections and maintenance—a very difficult task as they are already short-staffed. We can see God's perfect hand in the timing of our visit. As AWA prepares to ramp up their operations with new leadership, we were able to give suggestions which will help as they move forward. As they move into the future, now is a time for them to reflect and evaluate how they've been doing aviation ministry and putting into place the changes they want to see. They are moving forward with the confidence that God is leading, and they are obediently following.

Glen Ferguson, *Mission Safety International*  
Original publication in *Safety Net* December 2023

## MSI - WHO WE ARE

Mission Safety International is a dedicated group of professional pilots, mechanics, educators, and supporters:

- who are deeply concerned about missionary aviation losses,
- and are committed to assisting missions in matters of safety and operational excellence.

As an independent third party, Mission Safety International is able to provide critical educational and consulting services to missions and related agencies so that they can do their job safely and more effectively. MSI's deepest desire is to see improvement in missionary aviation operational safety so that every dollar and every effort committed to a ministry goes into effective outreach.

MSI's purpose is to promote safety and effectiveness in missionary aviation for the glory of God.



## Business Relations for Christ

by AWA Staff

A while back, we came up with the philosophy that we would continuously look for relationships that would not just benefit our organization but would also bless others. So then a question was posed to AWA, “Why don’t you ask companies to partner with you in your mission work to help the needs of the field?” It never hurts to ask because the worst someone will say is *no*. The most promising thing is when they say *yes*. But the best they’ll say is *let’s have a partnership and we’ll also donate to you; you do good work—we like it so let’s make something happen*.

For a point of consideration, it’s not about us just looking for the first *yes* that comes along but for vendors with viable inventory. We approach vendors who have items we can use, and while we share what our intentions are for the products we seek, sometimes the vendors make suggestions of other products they have that we could also potentially use. This collective seeking and business brainstorming together gives us aid for what we need and provides the vendor with not just a customer but a connection to humanitarian work and a longer-lasting impact.

These opportunities come twice a year for AWA—for nurturing established relationships and gaining new ones. Annually, AWA attends two big international airshows: Sun N’ Fun in Lakeland Florida, and the EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association) AirVenture in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, which is the biggest international airshow in North America. It’s known as aviation’s mecca! At these events, hundreds of vendors participate that offer aviation and non-aviation-related

products and services.

So while rubbing shoulders with the vendors at these events, it’s quite easy to go up to them with our *hat in our hand* asking for a “*free handout*,” for donations of their products or services to aid in our ministry work. And while there has been a return on this, it’s not the most sustainable or efficient relationship two organizations could have, unlike what was described above. Eventually, this kind of relationship becomes taxing on the vendor and the generosity may run out. Who wants to be in a relationship with someone who’s only taking and not giving back? We want to give back and we want to have something sustainable like the collaborative team relationship mentioned above.

So in return, as we develop relationships with avionics vendors, parts vendors, headset manufacturers, and UTV/ATV manufacturers and dealers, we don’t just ask, we contribute. We create a platform of reciprocal opportunity by becoming dealers for the products our vendor partners provide. By doing this, our donors and supporters can purchase things like headsets and even UTVs for their outdoor and recreational needs.

As an organization, being a dealer for these kinds of items has its benefits. We are able to purchase these items at cost (heavily discounted) and provide, say our headsets, to our missionaries and those training, at a no-cost or heavily discounted price. This enables our missionaries to access the needed items for their training and careers as mission pilots. People from the general public also have access to purchasing these headsets from AWA for any use that involves



headset needs (race car driving, computer gaming, telecommunication needs during meetings, etc.). As a result, this gives us a small boost in the way of fundraising and leaves the buyer with a sense of satisfaction that with their purchase, they just helped to save a life, provide a flight, and indirectly become involved in something that changes lives for the better.

One of our vendor partners produces a reclining, rolling stool/seat that enables a mechanic to get under cars, trucks, and aircraft. The adjustable seats are called Aerocreepers or a “Creeper” which we use continuously in the hangar by AWA’s Chief of Maintenance, Kyle Stevenson, who moves about the hangar as he works. Being on wheels creates a smoother and more efficient environment, and it’s safer for him to get in and out of difficult places under the planes when doing panel and basic maintenance work. All in all, Aerocreeper is a wonderful company with wholesome values that enjoys being a blessing to others. Their products are without a doubt a blessing to us.

So with these business partnerships established, the vendors receive updates on how their products were used—*where*, and what a difference it’s made in the lives of those we serve. They see their products in action, the impact they had and it feeds the relationship. It also is a doorway to more generosity. Like the parable of the talents in Matthew 25, those who had their master’s goods increased what they had with careful investment and care, and in the end, the Master invited them to come and enter into His joy, His abundance of life—a generous thing for any master to give his servants. The giving, receiving, and returning are sustainable because everyone knows they are having an impact on something genuinely good that benefits humanity and makes the world a little better.

We thank them for what they contribute and how they bless us. And so that the blessings continue to flow—to go beyond just our *thank you*, and going a step further to spread the word about these companies, we advertise who they are and their products in our Airways magazine.

Below is a partial list of our vendors. If you’d like to purchase any of the items mentioned in this article or listed in our ads section, you can call the office at 919-938-2920 or send an email to [info@flyawa.org](mailto:info@flyawa.org) to invest in a humanitarian purchase and help the blessings

flow. Please visit these vendors’ websites, look at their product lines, and then call and order from us!

**Bighorn** – *Sport utility vehicles*  
<https://www.bighornpowersports.com/>

**Sandia Aerospace** – *Avionics*  
<https://sandia.aero/>

**Aerocreeper** – *Rolling adjustable chair*  
<https://aerocreeper.com/>

**Tely Technologies** – *Headsets*  
<https://www.telytechnologies.com/>

**AvComm** – *Headsets*  
<https://www.avcomm.com/>

*All sale proceeds directly fund our global humanitarian work for medivac and Angelwings flights, ground outreach support, project initiatives like wells for clean water, disaster response, and global aircraft maintenance, fueling, and refurbishment. THANK YOU!*



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## Specifications

<b>Engine</b>	Four-Stroke, Single Cylinder, Liquid-Cooled Engine with Counter Rotating Balance Shaft
<b>Displacement</b>	390.8 cc
<b>Fuel System</b>	Electronic Fuel Injection
<b>Ignition</b>	Electronic Control Unit
<b>Transmission</b>	Automatic L-H-N-R-P
<b>Drive Train</b>	Shaft Drive ; 2WD-4WD
<b>Ground Clearance</b>	9"
<b>Front Suspension</b> <b>Rear Suspension</b>	Independent Mcpherson Strut Independent Double A-Arm with coil over shock
<b>Brake</b>	Ventilated Hydraulic Disc
<b>Front / Rear Wheels and Tires</b>	Alloy Wheels Front: 25x8-12 / Rear: 25x10-12 Off Road
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<b>Bed Capacity</b>	882 lbs
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**Adventist World Aviation**

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**Change Service Requested**

A black butterfly with white markings on its wings is perched on the yellow fuselage of an airplane. The background shows the interior of an airport terminal with other aircraft and people.

## How Far We've Come

**Did you know?** There are almost 600 species of butterflies that migrate. Some will fly up to 2,000 miles. That's a long way to journey! Changing from a caterpillar into a butterfly is quite a journey, too. How refreshing that God transforms and directs His creation through all life's seasons.

**Thank you for your gifts to help AWA fulfill the Gospel Commission—  
we so appreciate your support and your prayers  
To donate, visit Adventist World Aviation at [flyawa.org](http://flyawa.org) or call 1-888-477-8945**