



# Current Projects

By Kristan Giggey, Head of Maintenance

*1st Thessalonians 5:16-18—“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”*

Thanksgiving is a truly amazing and unique holiday! Life can get hectic at times, and we get lost in its details. It might get so hectic that we forget to practice gratitude and need a reminder. Gratitude, like other Christian values, played a crucial role in building a free nation. Gratitude helps us achieve a positive, abundant life because it enables us to appreciate what we have rather than focusing on things that we don't. At AWA, we are grateful to our donors who make all our charitable operations possible.

Being part of a small charity organization, it is sometimes necessary to take on tasks that aren't part of a job description. In the shop, we are ready to serve in whatever capacity is needed. However, much of our time is spent on maintenance, as the maintenance shop is always busy with inspections and multiple restoration projects. While writing this article, one of our pilots/mechanics departed for Jamaica. He is grateful to assist with relief efforts while serving and gaining valuable missionary experience. I am thankful for the opportunity to assist with the planning aspect of such operations, which allows me to contribute more to the next mission. Relief efforts such as this are costly and only possible because of AWA supporters, to whom we owe everything.

Our pilots have traveled to AWA in Florida to collect a Cessna 206 loaded with generators and Starlink internet devices. Then they will fly to Jamaica for the relief effort. Once there, the 206 will be used to shuttle food and supplies to distribution points

around the island. The 206 is a real workhorse. If you don't know about general aviation aircraft, imagine a Ford pickup truck that flies.

We are ready to assist our brothers and sisters in Jamaica. Leaders in the SDA church have called and expressed thanks on behalf of their church members. Undoubtedly, everyone on the island is grateful for the help that is arriving. This Cessna 206 is only flying because of our donors. It is only a single aircraft, but hopefully we can send additional aircraft soon.

Wilson's AWA facility has a Cessna 206 in its fleet; however, it is grounded for maintenance. It just had a new turn coordinator installed for safe flying in poor weather conditions. This instrument is required. Later, it will need a new GPS unit installed as the current one is so old that it cannot be updated with terrain and obstacle information. We aim to install a new GPS unit that will seamlessly integrate with the existing instrument panel, enhancing instrument flying safety. It requires a GPS unit that integrates seamlessly with the existing panel and performs effectively for IFR flights. The 206 now features a new fuel pump, thanks to the generosity of our donors. This particular 206, N59WA, was previously in service helping to save lives in the remote parts of the Philippines and Central America. This aircraft would be ideal for the Jamaica relief operation. We will certainly be thankful when it is in service again.

We have just returned a Cessna 172 to service after an annual inspection and the replacement of a leaking fuel selector valve. It's back in the field, training new missionary pilots. We are grateful to donors who helped make its return possible. Our other 172 has

developed cracks in the forward windscreen. It is unable to handle rain and is likely to worsen. Its radios are ancient and no longer display frequencies. It is a 1968 model.

With the last annual completed, we can turn our attention back to the Wilson 206 and our Cherokee 180. Both projects are running concurrently. The 180 is still in need of an alternator and battery. Once those are installed, we will start the engine and run it up to be sure it works, then we will focus on the instrument panel. The radios have been removed, and it is unclear whether they still function. Our current goal is to make the panel suitable for VFR flight. When completed, it will make a good low-wing trainer for the flight school, or it might serve one of the missions where it can bless others.

Some of us are also pilots, and we can participate in Angel Wings flights. We are grateful for these flights, made possible by the generosity of our donors. It is so incredible to serve God and bring a little peace into someone's life when they are feeling ill and vulnerable. AWA donors make this happen and should feel good that they are helping to bring some light into someone's life.

We want to keep the AWA aircraft flying in service to the Lord. Help if you can; even small donations make a huge difference. A new alternator and battery for the Cherokee 180 costs about \$3,850. We aren't sure what needs will arise later for the radios and instrument panel, but getting the alternator and battery in will create enough momentum to finish the project. Our 172 needs a new windscreen and radios, which are expected to cost nearly \$5,000. A suitable, used GPS unit for the Cessna 206 could cost as much as \$10,000.

We are thankful to our AWA donors who make our mission possible. We are a charity, and thanks to donors like you, we can spread light and life in this world. These airplanes travel thousands of miles to bring blessings to the most isolated people on the planet. Our donors are truly special people, and we are grateful for their ongoing support. Remember to count your blessings. Happy Thanksgiving.



**Please Donate!**