



LePoidevin Prayer Release

Dear Family and Friends,

MAY HAPPENINGS

MAY 2016

DEDICATION: Look at this large circle of people around the new Grand Caravan! On Sunday, May 15th, the mission community joined us in the hangar to dedicate the airplane to service for the Lord and the people of Mozambique! We were so encouraged and blessed by their participation! Among those who joined hands with us were Youth With A Mission, New Tribes Mission, Novos Horizontes, the Nampula airport director, and our Mozambican workers with some family members.



VISITORS: Special guests for this occasion were a group of 12 visitors. Three of them were members of the MAF leadership, including the MAF president, John Boyd, one MAF board member, and eight MAF donors. We had a wonderful and busy weekend together with this group!

Four of the donors went on an MAF flight to Pebane, where they met with New Tribes missionaries and local Christians to hear what the Lord has been doing through their work over the last 10 years or so. Another four went to Gurue, where MozMed had a medical project for some years.

It was very neat for us to be able to spend time with this group and get to know them and they us. MAF has some very dedicated and enthusiastic supporters! The picture to the right shows the whole group in front of the Caravan.



RETURNED: Our colleagues, Dave and Jill Holmes, were finally able to return to Nampula from furlough! We are very pleased to have them back!

RELEASED: The Embleton's car that was stuck in the port was finally released, and we could bring it to Nampula.

FAREWELL: The Hertzlers left in early May, leaving behind a big hole, not just for the MAF team but also for the whole mission community. Over the summer, they will transition into their new role as a pastor family in their home church in Iowa.

AUDIT: Soon after the big dedication weekend, members of the Civil Aviation Authorities (IACM) came to Nampula for four days to inspect Ambassador Aviation's operation. Those were some gruelling days of hard work, but it seems it went well. They promised that this week they would sign the documents that will allow our Caravan to become operational.

NEW BABY: Kent and Amy Embleton, on a short furlough in Colorado, welcomed their second son, Russell, into the world at the end of the month. ☺

- ***Praise the Lord with us for the support of our mission partners, MAF leadership, and MAF donors!***
- ***Please pray for the Hertzlers in their big transition this summer***
- ***Please pray that IACM will keep their promise so that our Caravan can begin serving in Mozambique***

FAMILY UPDATE



This is one happy Mama with three of her four children! Annie and I traveled to Minnesota towards the end of the month, and one weekend Karina and Thomas flew in from Kentucky and Texas, respectively. Happy reunion! Annie so enjoyed spending time with her big sister and brother. We played, talked, and celebrated Thomas' 21st, Karina's 24 ½, and Grandpa's birthdays. Way too short a visit, but oh, so much better than nothing!

Karina and Robbie are enjoying their own home, with Karina's garden and Robbie's pottery shop. Robbie is cranking out some beautiful pottery, while Karina continues to grow in her job as a vet tech at the animal clinic.

We were so bummed that Sylvia could not make it to Minnesota this time! However, she is doing well in her new job as a Marketing Director for Floqast, being committed to doing her very best for the company.

Thomas had some wonderful news! After trying for several weeks with no leads, God provided him with a great engineering summer internship right in Longview, Texas! God also provided a quality car within his financial means. AND, he has moved into an off-campus apartment, where he will be living this summer and all of the next school year. It is much cheaper than dorm living, and he is learning to cook his own meals.

Annie (and I!) were so pleased to be able to travel from Johannesburg to Atlanta on the same plane as the Hertzlers, our MAF family that is moving back to the US! Our travel plans were made separately, yet we ended up on same plane, in the row behind them. Annie and her best friend Kayla sat next to each other and played, watched movies, and slept more or less on top of each other in the seats. ☺ Annie also got a special surprise playtime with another friend from Nampula, Ethan, whose family was passing through Minnesota near where we were.

- ***Praise God for the opportunity to see two of our adult children***
- ***Please pray for Sylvia to have the energy needed to do her job well***
- ***Please pray for Thomas as he adjusts to his job and learns the ropes***



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Some people would probably bemoan our situation of living so far from our adult children and having very infrequent personal time with them. Yes, that is a sacrifice, something we are giving up by continuing to live and work in Mozambique. However, we are bonded by something very strong: a deep love for each other. One of my greatest joys in life is to know that my children dearly love each other and thoroughly enjoy spending time with each other (when that is possible). Remembering the quarrels and fights of their younger years, I am just so amazed at the work of the Lord in their lives to bring them to this place. Man, we are so blessed!

We are encouraged and uplifted by your willingness to travel this journey of prayer with us!

Gerd, for the LePoidevins

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