

Feb 2022

Following the way

OUT WITH THE OLD

IN WITH THE NEW

I'm sure that many people reading this either own, or have owned, or will own a vehicle. You're also likely familiar with that point in your vehicle's life when it makes more sense to replace it than to keep fixing it, right? You can keep struggling along, but sooner or later you know that it would be more fiscally and logistically responsible in the long term if you update or upgrade the vehicle. Unless of course you want to start walking everywhere!

The same thing is happening with one of MAF's Cessna Caravans in Angola. If the wings and fuselage of the airplane D2-WOH ("wings of hope") could talk, they would have a plethora of stories to tell. This was the 18th Caravan that Cessna fabricated over 35 years ago! It has definitely pulled its own weight during the over 18,000 flight hours it's successfully completed. In addition to the number of flight hours, this airplane wasn't just doing "city driving" and staying on paved roads. No, the over 16,750 flights, which means that same number of take-offs and landings, have been on the rugged and remote airstrips of Angola.

Now that I (Nick) have recently completed updating all the airstrip reference charts for our

With Nick and Jocelyn Frey



On the left, S/N 018 is painted in ambulance livery during the Angolan civil war, and on the right, S/N 018 bearing the current modern livery.



team in Angola, I have a better idea of the "off-roading" this airplane has been doing. Lots of dirt and grass airstrips only about 1000m long. Imagine using your vehicle to drive on dirt and grass roads for most of its life. Oh, and make sure you fill it full of cargo or passengers, because

we don't tend to fly this airplane empty!

By the grace and provision of God, and through many generous donors and supporters of MAF, we were recently able to locate and purchase an almost brand-new Cessna Caravan!

I first came across this airplane in one of the emails I receive from several aircraft suppliers. It only had about 12hrs of flight time and had most of the features we were looking for to meet our requirements for the type of flying we do in Angola. This would be like finding a car at the dealership that had been purchased and then returned after a few days of driving. This of course saved us a bunch of money since it wasn't listed as a completely new aircraft but still had that new aircraft smell :-).

OUT WITH THE OLD IN WITH THE NEW CONT.

We acted quickly and so did God and many generous people who caught and understood the vision of continuing the important ministry of MAF in Angola for many more years to come. The aircraft was purchased while we were fundraising for it, in faith that the rest of the funds would come in time. And they did! This is over \$3 million dollars raised in under a year. Only God could make that happen!

After purchase, we flew the airplane to MAF US facilities where we added some specific modifications to the airplane. After operating a large fleet of Cessna Caravans in over 30 countries for over 35 years, we have come to learn exactly the things we need to add to the aircraft to customize it to our unique operations. As I write this, I just heard the news that the new airplane that was flown from Canada all the way to Angola, Africa over the course of several days and arrived!

This ferry flight, destined for Angola, departed from Winnipeg, Manitoba on February 14. The plane was ferried by Dylan Fast and Val Neufeld, they are pilots from Winnipeg – and – for the past 13 years, they have had the opportunity to ferry aircraft around the world. Most often they have volunteered their time for Mission Aviation

Fellowship, and have flown from North America to various locations in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and the South Pacific. The plan was for

the first stop to be Montreal, then St. John's, Newfoundland, leaving the coast and over the Atlantic to Ponta Delgado in the Azores, then to Fuerteventura in the Canary Islands, then to Lomé in Togo, and then finally to Lubango, Angola. However, because of the airspace above Mali being closed to foreign aircraft, an additional leg from the Azores to the Canary Islands, then on to Dakar, Senegal had to be added.

It was quite the epic adventure! Upon arrival, it will get a fresh maintenance inspection and go through the necessary paperwork to allow it to start trekking out to those Angolan airstrips soon again.

This is an amazing story that we just had to share. MAF could not stay airborne without the gifts and prayers of individuals like you. And as one airplane closes the last chapter on its long book and legacy, a new book and chapter begins for the new Caravan! May many more life-saving and life-transforming stories be shared because of these new wings of hope. May we also continue to look towards Christ who makes all things new, and towards heaven where moth and rust can no longer cause decay.

Check out these links to see some of the journey of the old and new airplanes.

<https://www.mafc.org/wingsofhope>

<https://www.mafc.org/africa/angola/ferrying-a-plane-to-angola>



Pilots Dylan Fast and Val Neufeld



FREY FAMILY UPDATE

I have looked outside many times this winter and thought to myself that I must be living in a snow globe. As this was our second winter back in Canada, we are feeling much more settled into our work and our lives. Because of this the winter felt especially beautiful with piles of snow on the ground, the kids enjoying the rink in our backyard, and mountains of hot chocolate.

The kids did have a few weeks of online school after Christmas, but it didn't last too long, and they are enjoying being able to go in person again. Big news in the house is that Pascal got glasses! We noticed he was having trouble with his eyesight for a while but there was an optometrist strike here in Ontario, so we were not able to get him in to see anyone. As soon as that opened, we were able to get him in for an appointment. He is loving his new eyesight regardless of being a 7-year-old boy adjusting to wearing glasses, in the middle of winter, while wearing a mask all day at school.

As COVID restrictions in Canada start to open up over the next few months we look forward to be able to explore the area and visit people that we haven't been able to since we moved a year and a half ago. So if you are in the Ontario area and would like to connect this summer please let us know!

Thank you for continuing to pray with us and support the ministry of MAF.

The Freys

Join Our Ministry Partnership Team!

I would like to invite you to prayerfully consider joining our MAF ministry team, as together we seek to reach the world for Christ!

I want to say a big **thank you** to the people who have prayed for us over the last decade and supported our MAF ministry!

None of this would be possible without you.

<https://www.mafc.org/missionaries/frey>

