



PRAYER

DIARY

March April May 2010



Elisha prayed, "O Lord, open his eyes so that he may see."

2 Kings 6:17

There's a difference between watching and seeing. We watch the events of the day paraded before us on the television screen; we gaze at news items about suffering in different parts of the world; we stare at images of drought victims in north-eastern Africa and, unless our eyes are opened, they could remain merely pictures.

It requires something very special to open eyes of understanding so that images on a screen become real people with hopes and regrets, joys and sorrows, and ordinary human needs. People like us.

The Gospels show clearly how Jesus saw people – not caricatures. He had compassion for the leprosy sufferer whom others had pushed to the isolated margins of society. He also cared for the bent old woman in the synagogue where officials only saw someone whose healing must not interfere with Sabbath rules. He valued Zacchaeus, the diminutive tax collector, when others despised him.

When this same Jesus enters our hearts and lives, He opens our eyes so that we can see the world and its people as He sees them. He touches our hearts so that we can feel as He does about humankind. In this *Prayer Diary*, we read about the needs of people we have never seen and we hear of others who are reaching out to them with love and care.

Let us pray that our eyes will be opened so that our prayers will be informed by a deep understanding of the genuine needs of real people.

*All-seeing God,
help us to see what You see,
give us a vision of the world
and of people
as You see them,
as You long for them to be.
Caring God,
help us to share Your vision
of the world wiped clear of its tears,
of death done away;
no more mourning,
no more crying,
no more pain;
of the day
when You make all things new.*

► 1-6 MARCH 2010

Our flights are vital to our partners' evangelistic and caring work.

Lord God, thank You for the opportunities You put before us to support others in meeting the needs of suffering people.

MONDAY 1 Give thanks that, in spite of political uncertainty, demand for our flights has increased. Praise God that we are able to assist our partners in meeting the physical and spiritual needs of suffering people.

TUESDAY 2 Praise the Lord for the community spirit that inspired many local people to join our airstrip team to finish the extension at Ampasinambo. They helped with the hard physical work. Pray it will be used well to serve the needs of the area.



WEDNESDAY 3 After 12 years' service with MAF, latterly as Country Director, the work of Jakob Adolf was officially recognised by being given the Malagasy *Ordre National de Chevalier*. Remember him in his new dual role, working in development with MAF in Germany while continuing to fly in East Africa on short-term assignments.

THURSDAY 4 Corina de Waal, wife of new Country Director Bastiaan, is a nurse. She flew with two doctors of Madagascar Medical Safari, a joint operation between MAF and HoverAid, to Beroroha and then travelled on upriver by hovercraft. The trio worked long days to help people with many different health problems. Uphold this healthcare ministry.



Jocelyn and Joshua R Plett

FRIDAY 5 Remember before God Joshua and Jocelyn R Plett. Joshua is one of our pilots and Jocelyn serves as PA to Country Director Bastiaan de Waal. Uphold Chief Engineer Adam Clegg and his wife Naomi. Give thanks for their skills which make a vital contribution to our ministry reaching remote corners of this vast island.

SATURDAY 6 Join us in prayer for experienced aircraft maintenance engineers to serve in Papua New Guinea.

OPERATING IN UGANDA

► 7-13 MARCH 2010

Together with our partner missions, we are reaching out to meet the spiritual and physical needs of many people.

Thank You, Lord, for not only calling us into Christian service, but also equipping us with the abilities, patience and strength to carry out all that we do in Your Name.



Mark and Sarah

SUNDAY 7 Please uphold Mark and Sarah Newnham, remembering aircraft maintenance engineer Mark's contribution to the engineering team. Pray for Adrian and Jacqueline Went. As Operations Manager, Adrian is responsible for the safe and efficient organisation of MAF crew and aircraft.

MONDAY 8 Give thanks for the flying skills of Chief Pilot Gerrit Pap and pilots Samuel Bälter and Simon Wunderli. Remember their wives Klazina, Jenny and Pam Wunderli, our Learning and Development Co-ordinator.



Gerrit Pap

TUESDAY 9 Gerrit Pap flew a team from The Berean Way to Soroti, where they are involved in leadership training and evangelism in the Karamajong Peace Villages of Nabwal and Cotu Daadang. They have also been preparing the way for American Christian Veterinary Mission to work in Kangole. Pray for them as they work with tribal elders.



Harriet

WEDNESDAY 10 Give thanks to God for the work of local MAF staff in the Finance Department. Finance Officers Claire Bitekerezo and Harriet Aryam have been busy juggling their work and accountancy studies.



Claire

THURSDAY 11 Martijn and Marieke Verboom have now transferred from Tanzania to Uganda, where Martijn has begun serving as Hangar Foreman. Pray that they will feel settled and fulfilled in their new surroundings.

FRIDAY 12 People on Bukasa Island on Lake Victoria are isolated from the rest of Uganda. We flew both Christian Blind Mission and Jesus Film Ministries personnel there to meet local pastors. Pray that this first visit will result in many recovering their sight and discovering faith in Jesus.

SATURDAY 13 We are seeking a Finance Manager to join our team in Uganda. Pray that the Lord's candidate will respond to the call to serve.

MINISTRY IN MONGOLIA

► 14-20 MARCH 2010

Our flights are bringing new life and hope to people in remote areas of this large country.

Thank You, Lord Jesus, for taking hold of our lives, for changing us, and for enabling us to see the world, its people and their needs through Your loving eyes.



Bayarijn

SUNDAY 14 Uphold our Mongolian operations team: Operations Manager Bayarjin Batsuren and Operations Officers Badaa Bayarbadrakh and Batchuluun Alexander. Give thanks to the Lord for their commitment to the mission work in which we are involved.

MONDAY 15 Remember Logistics Manager Oyunbileg Sharavdorj. She worked hard to gain customs clearance for the overhauled aircraft engine so that it could be taken to the hangar and installed in the *Millennium Messenger* aircraft.



TUESDAY 16 Our engineering team is led by Chief Engineer Albert Harrewyn and has the responsibility of maintaining the aircraft to face the harsh flying conditions of Mongolia. Give thanks for all of their skills required to carry out this vital work.



WEDNESDAY 17 Pray for good health for our staff team in the Mongolia operation. Thank the Lord for their dedication in serving Him.

THURSDAY 18 Give thanks for the service of former Chief Pilot Juuso Koponen, who has now returned to Tanzania. Pray for Canadian pilot Ryan van Geest and his wife Amanda. Ryan flew some members of Ulaanbaatar Baptist Church to Mörön in Khovsgul *aimag* (province) on an evangelical trip.



Ryan and Amanda

FRIDAY 19 Wind FM, a Christian radio station, is now looking to our maintenance engineers to maintain its backup generator and building. Finnish engineers led by our former pilot Janne Ropponen have given our team of engineers special training. Pray that this ministry will reach many with the Good News.

SATURDAY 20 Please pray for an experienced aircraft maintenance engineer to serve in Arnhem Land, Australia.

► 21-27 MARCH 2010

Many organisations around the world rely on our aircraft to take them to where they are most needed.

Lord, we are easily distracted. By Your Spirit, help us to focus our attention on the demands of Your Kingdom before anything else.

SUNDAY 21 Following January's earthquake in Haiti, praise God that, as well as co-ordinating distribution of relief supplies, we were soon able to resume internal flying, including evacuating people from the city of Jacmel. A new Kodiak 100 aircraft joined our Haitian fleet temporarily to help meet critical needs.

MONDAY 22 Pray urgently for the people of Haiti, many of whom lost loved ones, livelihoods and homes in January's devastating earthquake. Our international staff families were unharmed and women and children were evacuated. Remember our national workers, some of whom have been directly affected by this disaster.

TUESDAY 23 Uphold the leadership of MAF International as they consider difficult decisions regarding resourcing our operations in 2010. The worldwide recession means that, in some areas where we serve, our operational costs have risen greatly.

WEDNESDAY 24 As most of our overseas operations use US dollars, the fall in value of the Sterling pound during the recession has affected our ability to fund our vital ministry. Please pray the Lord will make available the necessary resources to maintain and expand all that we do in His Name.



THURSDAY 25 The Kodiak 100 aircraft, which toured Great Britain late last year, has arrived in Kalimantan, Indonesia. We praise God for the many lives that will be transformed due to its service.

FRIDAY 26 Gerard is the first Yolŋu to be baptised in the Yirrkala community in Arnhem Land, Australia, for 25 years. Discipled and mentored by MAF staff, he is reaching out to his own people. Pray that he will be encouraged as he spreads the Good News among them.



SATURDAY 27 Pray for success in our search for pilot/mechanics to serve in Kalimantan, Indonesia.

► 28 MARCH – 3 APRIL 2010

Our aircraft helps many organisations to share the message of God's love in Bangladesh.

Thank You, Lord, for coming into the world and living as one with us, sharing our lives, understanding our needs, and for dying that we will know life in all its fullness.



SUNDAY 28 Establishing the priorities is not easy in a country prone to emergency situations, especially when many agencies and missions request flights at the same time. So please pray for our Country Director Chad Tilley and his wife Cyndi.

MONDAY 29 Conversations with those who use our services are helping us to understand more about the ministry of those who fly aboard our amphibious Caravan. Many received help after cyclones *Sidr* and *Aila*. Pray that this will give us a greater understanding of how we can best serve people in Jesus' Name.

TUESDAY 30 Uphold Emil and Margrit Kündig. Emil serves as a pilot/mechanic. Remember him as he flies our partners to different parts of Bangladesh. Pray for Margrit in her financial and administrative duties as Deputy Country Director.



WEDNESDAY 31 Toni and Jill Lohmeyer join our team in April. Toni is our new Chief Engineer. Pray for them as they settle into this different culture.

THURSDAY 1 Give thanks for the opportunity to fly to Rangamati in the south-east for the European Commission with ambassadors from eight different European countries on board. Pray that this flight can also help to promote our service in Bangladesh.

FRIDAY 2 GOOD FRIDAY Please pray for the members of the Christian churches who make up only a small part of the mainly Muslim population of Bangladesh, that they will be faithful witnesses to the One who died for the whole world.

SATURDAY 3 Join us in praying for a Country Director for our operation in Arnhem Land, northern Australia.

OUTREACH IN SOUTHERN SUDAN

► 4-10 APRIL 2010

Behind all of our work is the guiding hand and wisdom of God.

Thank You, Lord, that You go before us, preparing the way. Show us where in the world people live in great need. Help us to join You in Your caring ministry.

SUNDAY 4 EASTER DAY Uphold the churches as they respond to the government of southern Sudan's request to promote peace-building, reconciliation and development, especially during elections taking place this month.



MONDAY 5 We flew Dr Sture Nyholm and his eye team from Christian Blind Mission to Raga, a town with a strong Arab influence in western Sudan. This was their first visit. Give thanks that they restored sight, distributed spectacles and gave training to health workers.

TUESDAY 6 At Old Fangak, there was an outbreak of kala-azar, a potentially fatal parasitic disease. Praise God that we were able to fly glucantime medication needed for the hospital staff to start treating patients.

WEDNESDAY 7 Pray for our team in Juba, a sub-base of our Kenya operation: Base Manager John Tipper, Chief Pilot Ryan Unger and pilot Stefan Hageneier. Remember also their wives Kristina, Kristen and Christine.



Kristen and Ryan Unger



THURSDAY 8 Aid Sudan has launched radio broadcasts from its base station in Kampala, Uganda. Radio towers have been built in both Aweil and Nasir from materials that we flew in. Aid Sudan is distributing handheld radios to villages. Pray for this ministry.

FRIDAY 9 Give thanks that our partnership with different missions brings hope to the people of southern Sudan. When we flew World Vision passengers to Yambio, the return flight brought sick patients accompanied by three UNHCR staff to Juba for treatment.

SATURDAY 10 An Engineering Manager is being sought for Papua New Guinea. Pray that God's chosen person will be appointed.

MISSION IN TANZANIA

► 11-17 APRIL 2010

Our staff share in a variety of tasks, but they are all part of one caring ministry.

Thank You, Lord, for giving us mission tasks, and for the promise that You will be with us in all we do.



Pierre Casemajor

SUNDAY 11 Pierre Casemajor is an aircraft maintenance engineer. The engineering team welcomed Steve Kingori from Kenya to cover the role of Quality Manager while Thomas and Patricia McKelvey were on home assignment. Uphold all who work in the hangar.

MONDAY 12 The Airfield Development team led by Allan Conrad has been granted permission to build four airstrips in the Mbeya area. They have also been renovating and extending the Malambo airstrip. Uphold them as they open up new areas for mission.

TUESDAY 13 Andrew and Liz Parker arrived in Tanzania last November, where Andrew serves as a pilot. Pray for them and their children as they continue to settle into a new country and culture. They also ask for prayer for good health.



WEDNESDAY 14 Praise God that the new airstrip and clinic building at Gorimba has opened the way for Haydom Hospital workers to visit there on their monthly safari. We flew a team from Jersey Overseas Aid Commission, which provided the funding for the airstrip, to attend the opening ceremony.



Russell and Maggi

THURSDAY 15 Russell and Maggi Gale live in Dar es Salaam where Russell is our Base and Logistics Manager. Maggi teaches art in a primary school. Remember them both in their work. Uphold also Government Liaising Officer Flaviana Msaki, Finance Officer Ritha Shayo, Local Procurement Neema Kimambo and Receptionist Elizabeth Kilawe.

FRIDAY 16 Our Dar es Salaam team has been researching needs with some of our partners. One possible outcome is a Dar-to-Dodoma shuttle. Pray that these consultations will result in a better service for our partner missions.

SATURDAY 17 Pray with us for an experienced aircraft maintenance engineer for Tanzania.

MISSION IN TANZANIA

► 18-24 APRIL 2010

MAF is a vital link in God's worldwide ministry.

Lord Jesus, You have given so much for our salvation, even death on a cross. With grateful hearts, may we surrender our lives totally to You in Your service.



SUNDAY 18 Pray for Eivind Lindtjoern, who is both Base Manager and Pilot at Arusha. From there, he flies the Malambo Safari for Haydom Hospital and the 'blood safari' with transfusion materials. Praise God for all the medical ministry enabled by these regular flights.

MONDAY 19 Elisha, who is an evangelist we support on our Malambo Safari asks us to pray for the Maasai people in the north with whom he works. Most of them are starving and drought is killing many of their animals.

TUESDAY 20 Uphold Martin and Mirjam Ekholm. Martin looks after the vital avionics equipment in our aircraft and sometimes visits MAF operations in other countries, such as Madagascar. Remember Glenn and Julie Anne Cousley, and Glenn's work as Vehicle Training Manager.

WEDNESDAY 21 Daniel Simkins is juggling two jobs: Finance Manager and Interim Country Director. Pray that he will have all the strength and wisdom he needs to complete all the tasks placed before him. Remember also his wife Libby.



THURSDAY 22 Give thanks for the willingness of Mark Liprini to spend some time away from his family in South Africa to help out with flying in Tanzania during a time of pilot shortage.



Heri Shekighenda

FRIDAY 23 Pray for all of our national staff working in the hangar: Director of Maintenance Heri Shekighenda, aircraft maintenance engineers Ben Kulwa and Tartisio Valentino, Apprentice Engineer Erardo Tarimo, Avionics Engineer and Security Officer Joseph Njavike, and hangar assistants Stephan Kolimba and Jorham Soliti.

SATURDAY 24 We are looking to fill the post of Country Director in Tanzania. Pray that we shall soon find the right person for this important role.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA MISSION

► 25 APRIL – 1 MAY 2010

New and experienced MAF workers are learning to serve together in the great mission opportunities of Papua New Guinea (PNG).

Lord God, we praise Your Name that, in whatever we have to face in Your service, You are there for us and with us.



SUNDAY 25 Pray for Michael and Nicki Duncalfe. While Chief Pilot Richard Marples is on six months' leave, Michael is serving as Acting Chief Pilot, and is responsible for the safety and supervision of all of our flight operations in PNG.

MONDAY 26 Training Supervisor Martin Tugano does most of the training of base staff around the country. Remember him, and also give thanks that several national trainee aircraft maintenance engineers have successfully passed their exams.

TUESDAY 27 Uphold Greg and Jill Cox who have joined the PNG team from Canada. Greg is flying as First Officer on the Twin Otter. Nicki Duncalfe ran an orientation and language course for them upon their arrival.

WEDNESDAY 28 The MAF Aviation Training Centre is the only flying school in PNG. Give thanks to God that a new full-time instructor was appointed in January, relieving Michael Duncalfe of the interim management of the school.

THURSDAY 29 Ben Agerenga has agreed to take over as Interim Engineering Manager following the transfer of Phil Snell to Mareeba, Australia, to be Regional Avionics Manager. Pray for them both in their new roles.

FRIDAY 30 Give thanks for the arrival of a new turbo-charged GA8 Airvan which joined our fleet late last year. Ask that those tasked with ensuring that this new aircraft helps maximise our service in this mountainous country will receive all of the wisdom they need.



SATURDAY 1 We are searching for several experienced pilots to join our team in PNG. Pray that suitable people will come forward.

OUT OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

► 2-8 MAY 2010

Our regular flights help churches and caring agencies continue their work serving needy people in isolated communities.

Heavenly Father, we praise Your Name that no one is outside the scope of Your love. Help us also to love others regardless of their situation.



Stuart Fitch and Marco Koffeman

SUNDAY 2 Give thanks that our training base in South Africa has passed an audit inspection and is now a registered flight school for MAF. Pray for training base captains Stuart Fitch and Marco Koffeman.

MONDAY 3 Mike Riley's many duties as our Operations Training and Quality Manager involve overseeing our flight operations right across the Africa region. He also serves as a pilot. His wife Jo volunteers part-time as a nurse with Oasis. Pray for them in their daily lives.



TUESDAY 4 Praise the Lord that the annual Civil Aviation Authority audit was a great success! The CAA found our organisation to be well organised and running according to their standards.

WEDNESDAY 5 Since beginning operating in Mozambique in 1999, we have been very busy supporting community development projects, increasing the evangelistic capacity of missions, Bible translation and leadership development for struggling, indigenous churches, and developing a flying doctor service. Praise God for this service, and pray for its further development.

THURSDAY 6 Our monthly shuttle flight to Mozambique is proving popular. Give thanks that it carries mission staff into the country as well as useful cargo for them, such as essential medicines and car parts.

FRIDAY 7 Praise God that we can respond in times of emergency in Lesotho through the government's Flying Doctor Service. Pray for safety for the pilots as they fly across this mountainous country, often saving days of painful travel for sick patients.

SATURDAY 8 Pray with us as we look for two avionics engineers with the right qualifications to serve in Kenya.

KENYA FOR CHRIST

► 9-15 MAY 2010

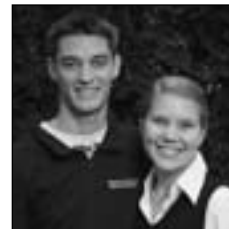
Praise God for the new life and hope that our flights bring to many areas of Kenya and beyond.

Heavenly Father, in the Name of Jesus, we pray for Kenya and, in the love of Jesus, we stand with all those who are living Your Good News in practical, caring ways.

SUNDAY 9 Pray for wisdom for mission leaders in our partner organisations as they support those in great need. Uphold their teams working in the north where drought has brought great hardship.

MONDAY 10 'It was a joy to experience afresh just how wonderfully God works among us.' These are the words of Becki Franz, wife of evangelist Peter, after we flew a Gospel Fire International team for a series of meetings in Marsabit, north-eastern Kenya. Give thanks for those who came to faith.

TUESDAY 11 Pray for Ryan and Anna Cuthel and Marcos and Zufan Habtetsion. Ryan and Marcos are both pilots, and Ryan also serves as Head of Flying Standards. Please pray for their safety when flying staff of our partner missions to many isolated communities right across the country.



Ryan and Anna Cuthel



KeA and Birgitta Arnlund

WEDNESDAY 12 KeA Arnlund has been appointed as our Base Manager at Lokichoggio in the north, where he hopes to make our mission and relief flying into southern Sudan as efficient and as cost-effective as possible. Gero Gringmuth has relocated there as Pilot-in-Residence. Uphold them both in your prayers.

THURSDAY 13 Remember Hannu and Paivi Heinonen and Hermann and Jacqui Lauber. Hannu is Chief Avionics Engineer and Hermann an avionics engineer.

FRIDAY 14 The community of Laisamis now has a water supply, marking the completion of an 18-month borehole project. We flew Chrisco Church members and engineers there. Praise the Lord that this saves a three-hour trek each way to collect water.

SATURDAY 15 Pray for a Finance Manager to serve in Nairobi, Kenya.

KENYA FOR CHRIST

► 16-22 MAY 2010

Praise God for many committed staff who are essential to our operation in Kenya.

Lord God, help us to be faithful witnesses to Your truth revealed in Jesus Your Son.



SUNDAY 16 Give thanks to God for the arrival in November of Oskar and Berta Schwarz. Pilot Oskar is flying the Cessna 206 aircraft. Pray for them during their period of orientation to life in Kenya asking for good health and fitness.

MONDAY 17 Derek Moores is our Safety Officer and a pilot, while his wife Ruth serves as our Information Co-ordinator. Derek reports that the majority of his flying is into southern Sudan. Uphold them in their different but vital roles.



TUESDAY 18 Pray for AIM International workers Nick and Lynne Swanepoel living in Korr. After developing literacy materials for the Rendille people, they are now busy with Bible translation, water development and a Christian primary school. They value the weekly delivery of mail and parcels on our Tuesday shuttle.

WEDNESDAY 19 The church that is attended by Finance Manager Neville Pereira and his wife Janet has been buying and taking food to drought-hit villages in the Ukambani area 140 miles south-east of Nairobi. Pray for this ministry to people who have sold their animals to buy food. Many have moved to Nairobi to find work.



Roland and Mendy

THURSDAY 20 Remember Roland and Mendy Sedlmeier. Roland is Chief Pilot and Operations Adviser. Pray for pilot David Pearce and his wife Lisa, who have moved back to Nairobi after a time living in Lokichoggio. Uphold also pilot Daniel Loewen-Rudgers and his wife Damaris.

FRIDAY 21 Praise the Lord that we have received our new Air Operator's Certificate and approval of our operations manuals.

SATURDAY 22 Join with us in prayer for an Operations Director to ensure the safe organisation and scheduling of our aircrew and aircraft in Kenya.

CHAD AND BEYOND

► 23-31 MAY 2010

Our planes provide a vital link for missions and agencies serving the people of Chad.

God of peace and love, we pray for Chad where so many face hardship. By Your Spirit, may the spread of Your Good News create Your lasting peace.

SUNDAY 23 On this day of Pentecost, please pray that the churches in Chad will know the Holy Spirit's power, inspiration and guiding as they share the Good News.



Jill and Greg Vine

MONDAY 24 Uphold Greg and Jill Vine and Calvin and Dorilee Hildebrandt, praising the Lord that pilots Greg and Calvin have both passed their base checks.

TUESDAY 25 Pray for peace and security in the region near to Darfur on the Sudan border. Six organisations – some that relied on our flights – have suspended their activities because of lawlessness.

WEDNESDAY 26 Give thanks for the service of Chief Engineer Ben Sibthorpe who is moving to our base in Mareeba, Australia, later this year. Remember Ben, his wife Anne and their young family as they prepare for this move.



THURSDAY 27 Join with our team in Chad in giving thanks to God that the new hangar has been granted official approval.



Honore

FRIDAY 28 Remember our national staff serving in the office: Finance Officer Gague Gebder, Planning and Flight Bookings Officer Honore Deguel Guedna and Office Assistant Baroum Malguet.

SATURDAY 29 Pray that we will soon find a new Chief Engineer to serve in Chad.

SUNDAY 30 Our Volunteers in the UK play a vital role informing church communities of the life-saving ministry of MAF. Praise the Lord for the commitment of these dedicated individuals.

MONDAY 31 Pray for the children of our international staff, some of whom are at school in their home countries and others where their parents are serving.



Flying for Life

Mission Aviation Fellowship

Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone UK CT20 2TN

Telephone: 0845 850 9505 Email: supporter.relations@maf-uk.org

Website: www.maf-uk.org

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