



Baguma Family News...

For we are God's handiwork, created anew in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
Ephesians 2:10

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

As school came to an end on Friday, we all took a deep breath. We ended the year with our traditional school performances bringing Christ to the forefront of our celebrations. While Rachel drummed her heart out to an amalgamation of carols in the senior school concert, Rebecca was one of the narrators in the junior school nativity play which was a joyful narration of the birth of Christ. One song that really stood out in the junior school play was Mary's journey to Bethlehem, a long tiring journey in which she had to wholly trust her heavenly father...



*Don't be afraid, just try to remember
That you are a part of God's plan.
Somewhere to stay is just round the corner,
Keep on walking, God will be holding your hand.*



As we come to the end of this year, these words are incredibly poignant, especially the last line. This year has been tough in many ways personally for our family. We would like to thank you for your prayerful support which has allowed us to keep on walking (and at times carried us) knowing that God was indeed holding our hands. As we head into this Christmas we thank God for his faithfulness and pray that you too will experience his loving hand on your life in ways beyond your imagination.

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Romans 15:13 (NIV)*

MAF

This year has been a year of seeing God's favour through some very difficult issues experienced by MAF in Uganda. Although one of the other air operators at the MAF airfield in Kajjansi used their power and influence to try and take over the airfield and discredit the work of MAF in Uganda, we watched God move in a very visible and powerful way. The issues this caused were a major focus throughout the year for Sam as he worked with many Government authorities to speak truth into the situation. To cut a long story short, we thank God for the intervention of the President of Uganda himself, who Sam and our MAF Uganda Country Director had the privilege of meeting, to help resolve this very complex situation. This affirmation of MAF's work in Uganda from the President, has now allowed us to look forward and develop and expand our programmes of work throughout the country.



Alongside this, one major focus of work for Sam, linking with his [Disaster Response](#) role, has been coordinating with the South Sudan programme to respond to the effects of the Sudan conflict. This conflict has been going on since April and sadly does not make the news anymore, yet so many Sudanese are still trying to flee the conflict zone into neighbouring countries. MAF's disaster response programme was able to organise relief flights in South Sudan by taking aid up to the border with Sudan and bringing back refugees who needed medical attention. For further information please read the full story - [Sudan conflict: Help is on the way](#).

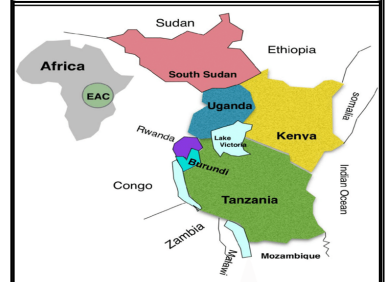
Another exciting project that Sam has been working on links his previous job with CURE international, with his current work with MAF. The CURE children's hospital in Uganda treats children with neurological conditions and so through a partnership between CURE and MAF we have been able to take doctors from the hospital in Uganda to Juba in South Sudan to assess and review children who need surgical treatment. Please read more on this [here](#). Following the assessments made in Juba, MAF have started flying some of the very sick children from South Sudan to the hospital in the Eastern part of Uganda. Without the lifesaving treatment that the hospital offers, 90% of these children with hydrocephalus and spina bifida will die. The hope for this project is that we will be able to increase the number of flights to bring more children for life saving surgery as we currently have 70 children on a waiting list in South Sudan.



Vision:
To see isolated people changed by the love of Christ

Mission
Serving together to bring help, hope and healing through aviation

Serving with MAF
Uganda: Jul 2012 - Jul 2014
Chad: Jul 2014 - Dec 2018
East Africa Region: Jan 2019 - present



As a family, we joined MAF in 2012 when Sam took on the role of Finance Manager and later became the acting Country Director for MAF in Uganda.

We then moved to Chad in July 2014 for Sam to take up the role of Country Director for MAF's operations in Chad. After 4.5 years serving in Chad, we moved back to Uganda in 2019 for Sam to take up a regional management role serving MAF programmes across the East of Africa region.

We are very excited and grateful for the opportunity we have to be serving God through the work of Mission Aviation Fellowship.

Family News

Saying goodbye to my (Abby's) Mum was one of the hardest parts of this year. It was incredibly painful to watch from afar as her health deteriorated and family close by gave everything to care for her. I will be forever grateful for having the chance to go and spend a week with Mum in April while Sam and the girls spent Easter here in Fort Portal, with friends. Her funeral in November was a real thanksgiving for a Mum who gave her life to lovingly serve others.

Rebecca's highlights from this year are turning 10 (double digits is a big deal!) having her Aunt Hannah and cousin Zara coming to visit, going on a MAF plane and quad biking. She continues to flourish in school loving friends, teachers and basketball. Her UII basketball team once again won the International school award. Rebecca has started lessons with a new piano teacher this year and is becoming quite a little pianist. She played a beautiful piece at the end of her Nana's funeral in November showing immense courage on such a hard day.

Rachel's highlights are turning 12 (and almost being as tall as mum and dad!), horse riding, her dogs and rabbits and friends. Rachel began secondary school this year and is doing a blended programme of school and homeschool which has been a great change for her. We homeschool the core subjects each morning and she goes into school each afternoon to join the sports, art and music programme. We are so grateful that the school has allowed us to be flexible in this way and shape school a little differently for Rachel.



Prayer Space

- Praise God for His hand of protection over the programme over this past year and for walking with us through the difficult times.
- Praise God for the flights we have been able to make to support the refugees coming out of Sudan.
- Please pray for peace and a resolution to the conflict in Sudan.
- Praise God for the initial flights we have been able to make to bring healing to some of the children with neurological conditions and we pray for funding to increase the number of flights so we can serve more families.
- Please pray for Sam and the Uganda team as they seek God's will for the MAF operations in Uganda and across East Africa.
- Please pray for a restful Christmas break for us all after an emotionally tough year.

We pray you will experience the love and peace of Christ this Christmas time. Happy New Year!

Love and Blessings, Sam, Abby, Rachel & Becca

If you would like to support us in this work, through giving or praying or both, we would be very grateful and would love to hear from you.

Email: sam.baguma@mafint.org or samandabby@hotmail.co.uk **WhatsApp:** Sam +44(0)7552 638366, Abby +44(0)7383 261620

Mail: C/O MAF Uganda, PO Box 1, Kampala **Phone:** Sam +256 772 767 433, Abby +256 772 777 172