



Planes with Purpose

An Update from the Hammitt Family

Vol. 5, Issue 4 — October 2017

Our Family is Growing!

This is our last newsletter of 2017, and we have some big news to share! We will be welcoming another child into our family next April! This was not among our plans for 2018, but we believe that every life is a gift from God, so we rejoice that He has blessed us with this unexpected surprise.

About this time last year we were grieving the loss of our son, Ezra, seventeen weeks into Tara's pregnancy. Just as we were approaching the one-year anniversary of Ezra's premature delivery on September 24, we found out that Tara was pregnant again. Needless to say, the past couple months have had their emotional ups and downs.

Our heads are also spinning a bit as we readjust our priorities, plans and expectations for the upcoming months. We had planned to visit a ministry in Bolivia next April, and now aren't sure how or when we will make that trip. We'll need a new vehicle that will accommodate a family of five, and our financial support will have to increase to cover the increased costs associated with the new baby.

We appreciate your prayers for all of these things, and most importantly for Tara and our unborn son or daughter. We could also use prayers for wisdom as we consider our plans for next year and beyond. Thank you so much for lifting us up in prayer!

MAG's Cessna 172 is at MMS Aviation!

It's been more than six months since the accident in MAG's Cessna 172. Repairs have been progressing steadily over the past few months. Wings and other components were sent to Indiana for repairs, which are now complete. The engine was inspected and repaired here in Burlington. Now, the fuselage, wings, and other components have finally been delivered to MMS Aviation in Coshocton, Ohio, where the final repairs and assembly will be completed.

Would you continue to pray for all the pieces come to together efficiently, so that the airplane may be put back into service training future missionary pilots?

From the Cockpit...

Aaron has been making progress on his instrument rating, which he hopes to complete late this year. In September, he made a flight to Ohio and back with Sean Garrigan. The main purpose was to fly Sean to MMS Aviation to conduct two flight consultations, but we structured the flight to accomplish two of Aaron's required training flights as well: a cross country flight under Instrument Flight Rules (consisting of several hours "under the hood", as shown in the photo on the right, and about 30 minutes in the clouds), and a long cross-country flight required for the commercial pilot certificate. That made for a long, but productive day of flying!



A number of representatives from several missionary aviation organizations came together at MAG's headquarters in Burlington, NC to present Aaron with the Betty Greene Missionary Aviation Scholarship. See page 2 of this newsletter for more about it!



Scott, Sean, and I loaded the fuselage of the airplane onto a flatbed trailer for transport to Ohio. Scott then delivered the fuselage and other components to MMS Aviation in Coshocton, Ohio.



Aaron has been making good progress on his instrument rating. Most of the flying for this rating is done "under the hood"—wearing a view-limiting device so the pilot can only see the instruments and not the outside world.

Prayer Points

We give thanks for...

- ... the new addition to our family that we're expecting next year!
- ... a great trip to the Northeast in August.
- ... some new ministry partners that have recently joined us.
- ... progress in Spanish study. Thanks to a generous friend, we were able to begin one-on-one Skype lessons with a language school in Bolivia.

Please join us in praying for...

- ... continued health for Tara and the baby.
- ... wisdom and direction as we consider which ministry to join when we have finished the apprenticeship program with MMS Aviation and Missionary Air Group.
- ... wisdom concerning a trip to Bolivia. We planned to visit a ministry there, but had to change our plans due to the baby due in April.

A Special Honor

In September, Aaron was honored to be selected as a recipient of the Betty Greene Missionary Aviation Scholarship. The threefold purpose of the scholarship is: to encourage aspiring missionary aviators (pilot/mechanics or maintenance specialists) in their journey; to provide a financial blessing; and to make others more aware of the various missionary aviation organizations, Betty Greene, and the role of missionary aviation.

Betty Greene was born in 1920, and later had a career as an accomplished pilot. She started flying as a teenager, and her professional aviation career began when she served with the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs). She later became the first pilot for the organization that would become Missionary Aviation Fellowship. The scholarship was named in her honor.

In September, a number of representatives from several mission organizations came to the MAG

Kids' Family Corner



Since we were so close to the "path of totality", we decided to fly to Triple Tree Aerodrome to see the solar eclipse. We took along backpacking tents and stayed overnight, then watched the eclipse and flew home the following day. It was a very memorable family experience!



In August, we took a long trip from North Carolina to Maine, stopping to see a few sights and many friends along the way. It was great to catch up with friends and ministry partners that we haven't seen in many years! We spent several days at a cabin in Maine, and stopped for short visits to iconic sites such as the National Mall in Washington D.C., Ellis Island, and the Statue of Liberty.

headquarters in Burlington, North Carolina to present a scholarship check and some small gifts, and to encourage and pray for our family. The organizations represented included JAARS, Missionary Air Group, MMS Aviation, Mission Aviation Fellowship, and New Tribes. This was a huge blessing and encouragement to us!

Our journey into the world of missionary aviation has taken various twists and turns, and we can't know for sure where the path will take us. But one thing is certain: the Lord has been faithful through the entire process, and He continues to bring people into our path to bless and encourage us. He's also provided the resources we need to keep moving forward. We're thankful first to Him, but also to everyone who has supported us as we serve through missionary aviation!

We serve with

MMS Aviation

P.O. Box 1118
Coshocton, OH 43812
(740) 622-6848

www.mmsaviation.org

Please stay in touch with us between newsletters through our blog, Facebook, or email. We'd love to hear from you!

www.planeswithpurpose.com
facebook.com/PlanesWithPurpose
mail@planeswithpurpose.com

