



Winter, 2022 - Newsletter

One Year in Liberia

It's hard to believe it's been more than a year now since we landed in Liberia to begin the next phase of our adventure with MAF in our second African nation. It's been a year of highs (seeing the amazing impact of MAF's work, meeting wonderful people and getting to travel to the USA for Dave to get his FAA maintenance license) and some lows (dealing with culture shock all over again, Dave's emergency surgery for appendicitis, and the usual challenges of settling into a new place).

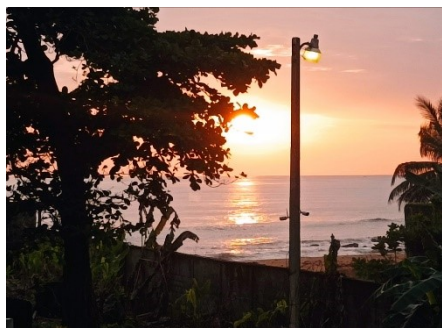
Through it all, we have been so thankful for your love and support which has kept us going in every season. We love this country and the amazing sights and sounds we experience every day, and it's our joy to be able to share a little taste of that with you.



The work of MAF—it's great hearing stories of flights like these: a missionary family working on translating the Bible into a local language, along with some provisions, on a 90 minute flight rather than a 2-4 day journey by road, and thousands of French Bibles being transported to hand out to Muslim communities in the Ivory Coast.



Travel—you never know what you'll see on the roads here—not enough room in the taxi? You can always make it fit, whether it be cargo or people!



Compound life—no matter how difficult the day, it's a real treat to be able to watch the sun setting over the ocean each evening from the compound that we call home. It's a constant reminder of the glory of God in creation, and his care and love for us. Liberia is a beautiful place, and in every high and every low, we are glad to call it home.

JOIN THE ADVENTURE

Thank you for your ongoing thoughts and prayers!

PRAY...

- For good health—physically, mentally and spiritually.
- For Dave, as he continues progressing with the changeover of MAF Liberia to the American system.
- For essential staff for the MAF Liberia programme; we are in great need of a new pilot and an engineer.

PRaise...

- For the arrival of two containers of tools and equipment for the hangar.
- For an improved water supply, after a couple of weeks of hardly any running water in our house.
- For the great progress we're seeing on the house build.

STAY IN TOUCH



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How We've Filled Our Time



SORTING & SWEATING

It's taken a long time, but the much anticipated equipment and essential tools for the hangar finally arrived here in Liberia. It was a huge effort for all of the staff to get everything organised and sorted into the right places, and it's great to finally have what we need to do both the regular and unscheduled maintenance on our planes. Along with that big project, I have been assisting with hangar work, but predominantly working on transferring the maintenance side of things onto the American FAA system. It involves a lot of paperwork and organisation.



RETREATS & WRITING

The last three months has been a busy time of recording YouTube videos, working on my next book, a non-fiction Bible study on the topic of faith, and the usual busyness of everyday life. Trying to do laundry with no running water, or cook from scratch when you're missing ingredients the recipe calls for is always a challenge! In the midst of it, I felt very blessed by a day at a beautiful lodge outside of the city, to have a time of retreat with 45 other women living and working in Liberia. Delicious food, space to rest & read the Bible, and wonderful company made for a great day.



Housing Update and Home Assignment

We've seen lots of progress on the new houses in the last few weeks, including seeing the outside walls fully rendered, and the metal sheeting starting to be fitted to the roofs. We'll move into the new build on the far left of this picture in the coming few months, once everything is completed.

Our hope is that we will be able to move across before our next visit to the UK, which will take place in April and May of 2023. That will free up the bigger family house that we are currently living in for some of the new staff expected in the first quarter of next year. We are really looking forward to

spending time with family, friends, and church family across the country on our trip back home, and would love to catch up with you. It's a way off yet, but we have a rough plan showing where in the UK we will be when which you can see on our website—www.dbwaterman.com/calendar. If you would like to book us in for anything, an event or a catch up over a meal or a cup of tea, you can check there to see where we are and which days are free. Send us an email and we'll slot you in. We will attempt to keep the calendar updated as things fill up.

It is a great joy to be able to do this life with you, and we can't wait to share the many stories from our time here which simply can't be fitted into these small emails.

Can You Join the Adventure?

Without the amazing support of individuals, groups and churches, we would not be able to be here in Liberia, helping to support the life-changing work of MAF within West Africa. Your prayers, encouragement and financial support keep us going in every way. If you would like to support us with a monthly or one-off donation, please head to our page on the MAF website:

www.maf-uk.org/waterman

Thank you once again for joining us on this incredible adventure. We couldn't be here without you, and we appreciate your thoughts, prayers and support more than words can say. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a wonderful 2023!

Rebe & Becky

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MAF UK is a registered Charity in England & Wales (1064598) and in Scotland (SC039107)

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