NEWSLETTER SUMMER, 2026

ADVENTURE WITH DAVE & BECKY

Dave's MAF Update - Finding The Right Tool

What happens when an MAF programme wants to reach a new area, or we consider operating in a new country altogether? Choosing the right tool for the job, the best plane or other device, is a real challenge. How much fuel is needed? How important is speed? Cost? Cargo weight carried? Is it better to take one plane twice, or a more expensive plane once? How many hours does the plane need to be flown for, to make it a viable purchase? There are so many questions to answer, and it's been fascinating to see my work at MAF expand to consider how to bring the best solution for the problems we face. Rather than asking for a specific plane, my job lately has involved diving deeper; what's the purpose? What's the mission? How can the fleet department of MAF find the very best tool to meet that need. I'm really enjoying the exploration process, even if it is a brain teaser at times!

It involves continued research into what tools are available out there today. Everything from drones, to boxes with built in parachutes that can be thrown out of planes. From alternative fuels, to new aircraft types with new engine technologies. I've chatted to and visited manufacturers and airshows, in an attempt to get all of the knowledge we need to make informed decisions. My job today involves asking a lot of questions. What could work for us? What is feasible in the locations we operate in? And most importantly, what devices can best allow us to bring help and hope into the most remote corners of the world? It is exciting to think that finding the answers could help MAF meet even more needs in the future.

Support Raising - Can You Help?

Dave has transitioned to a salaried position within MAF International. We are aiming to offset that cost to MAF as much as possible, to enable both his work, and the wider work of MAF to continue in a time where costs are high. If you are able to make a monthly or one-off donation to help support Dave's ongoing work, please head to our page on the MAF website: www.maf-uk.org/waterman

- Prayer & Praise -

Pray for:

- Dave, as he heads to Finland to speak at the Ecological and Electric Aviation Conference.
- Becky, as she preaches in various churches in the coming months.
- Energy, as we both face quite busy times in our work and other commitments.

Praise for:

- Our wonderful house, which has been a great place to host lots of guests.
- The NHS! We are thankful Dave was able to have an MRI scan recently.
- An upcoming holiday with our family in September.

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Life Updates

In our last newsletter, we had just moved into our new home in Ashford. We've now been there for a few months, and it's such a blessing. We have been able to host friends and family, to have a space that enables us to feel rooted, and to enjoy the process of making somewhere our own, after living in mission houses, and then rental accommodation, for so long.

We both find ourselves growing busier, taking on roles in our local church. Dave is heading up the production department, and Becky has been able to do some preaching and Bible teaching, as well as singing in the worship team and helping with communications. Amidst the busyness, we've also been able to investigate some more of the health issues that had become a problem in our time overseas. Dave was able to have an MRI scan of an old bank injury; sadly, it's not something that can be easily remedied, but knowing what the problem is enables us to put good practices into place to strengthen the muscles around the injury, enabling him to continue living life, doing work, and exploring the beautiful county of Kent.

I've found myself reading through the Psalms recently, and it's amazing seeing some of the repeated themes found within it. I seem to keep stumbling upon words talking about God being our rock or our refuge, or some combination of the two.

Be my rock of refuge, to which I can always go; give the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress. Psalm 71:3

What a beautiful thought that is; when the world feels a bit topsy turvy, when the news seems terrifying, when life is unstable and we don't know what the future will bring, still God is our rock. Something solid. Something immovable. Something that cannot be shaken. And even more than that; this verse tells us that he's the rock we can always return to. I love that the psalmist felt the need to mention that. We all occasionally need a reminder to look to our rock of refuge again, to return to that place of safety and security; our fortress, a haven from the storms.

It's such a joy to me to be able to share little thoughts from the Bible like this. If you're interested in a monthly encouragement, you can subscribe to my page on Substack to receive it straight to your inbox. I'm also looking forward to keeping busy with quite a few speaking engagements in the coming months. Our website has the details of where I'm preaching, and those events Dave and I are a part of together, talking about our work with MAF, so take a look and we'd love to see you if you're in the area.

https://beckywaterman.substack.com | https://www.dbwaterman.com/speaking-engagements

Thank you for being with us on this adventure. We wouldn't be here, doing the work we are doing, without your thoughts, prayers & support.

Dave & Becky

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