

# THE BIG REVEAL - WHERE, WHEN & WHAT?

Update - The last few months, and looking forward to what the upcoming period will bring.



Since August, A LOT has happened so I am going to cover as much as possible without taking pages to do so!

## All Nations Christian College

In the last update, I shared how I was about to leave to attend All Nations Christian College for a 3-month En Route course that is aimed at preparing one for the mission field. I have long since completed this course - which was one of the most special experiences in my, relatively short, life.

The course itself was based on the ways of thinking and elements we will be exposed to in the field as well as exploring more deeply our foundation and identity in Christ - with the hope that this will better-prepare us for the challenges experienced in the field, focussing on why we are really there. For example, the acknowledgement of the fact we may not know best, or that the view we have currently of a situation in a country/community may actually not be the correct position to take and we have to consider many elements (cultural, personal bias etc) before taking action.

One of the biggest takeaways from this course was the feeling of community; both within our course group and the wider student community. I have come away from a 10.5 week course with friends for life, that understand the challenges that can sometimes feel isolating and wrong - but in each other we found we are not alone in these challenges, we have God - who has given us others with similar feelings/experiences with whom we are able to talk. The bonds forged in this time are some of the fastest-forming I have experienced; which is also a comforting factor when faced with the idea of moving to a programme full of unknowns.

During my time at ANCC, I spent a lot of weekends focussing on building my support to levels required to be ready to go out to a programme. I am so grateful to have had opportunities to talk at several events, from conferences to rotary club meetings - and so thank you to those that made this possible. With this and the generosity of so many, I am happy to share that the levels are so close to my target and that is down to everyone reading this. I thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Of course there's still a little way to go so if anyone knows of anywhere I can talk or someone who may want to support please do still encourage this!

## Flight Instructor Rating

In January, I returned to the Netherlands to begin the Flight Instructor course. This is a 2.5 month course that will allow me to train future pilots to a Private Pilot license level. Instructing is an invaluable source for building experience and learning more yourself about flying, thus being better prepared for the field. Therefore, once the course is completed it is the goal to instruct for at least a couple of months at the flight school here in the Netherlands, and here I will be training prospective MAF pilots. I am pleased to share that I have been able to obtain a 6 month visa to work here!

6Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

7For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

## PROGRAMME ASSIGNED - 🇸🇩

Now for a big one! I am happy to share that in the last few months I received confirmation that MAF International gave the final approval for accepting me as a MAF pilot. Following this, a committee met to decide where they believe I am best suited to serve. This is a decision they do not take lightly and there is a strict process - including a psychological assessment, behavioural interview and two flight evaluations. The results of each of these form a profile and the committee then decide which programme to offer.

I am pleased to share that this offer is SOUTH SUDAN 🇸🇩 with the view to fly the Cessna Grand Carvan (pictured at the top of the first page!)

Whilst this is a challenging programme - with some security challenges, as well as flying challenges - I am excited by the prospect of serving here.

Towards the end of March, I will do a Look-See visit which is offered by MAF, which allows for a week-long visit to the programme on offer. This gives the opportunity for a real taste of the programme, giving me the opportunity to join on operational flights and experience what it will be like to serve as a MAF pilot in that environment.

In the last 8 months, I have felt torn between two feelings - a real passion for serving in South Sudan and a feeling to avoid it (due to the security concerns!) This has made for a confusing time - however, following a call with two pilots that I came to know during my training, the community aspect within Juba is very strong. Realising this, my passion and desire for South Sudan found themselves to be reestablished and I have found peace!

I am so excited to visit and see the potential for serving in this programme where need is extremely high!

## Prayer & Praise

- Praise for acceptance with MAF International
- Prayer for achieving Flight Instructor Rating.
- Prayer for the upcoming visit to South Sudan (19<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> March)
- Prayer for wisdom over the final confirmation.
- Praise for developing support network around me!

## WHATSAPP COMMUNITY

If you are interested in more regular updates, I will be setting up a WhatsApp community to share photos and quick updates of what I am doing. Please reply to this email with your phone number and confirmation of wanting to join - and I will add you to the community. This will be one-way communication but if you have any questions or replies then you can always email!



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