

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Isaiah 9:6



# LEHMANS' LOG

December 2019

## Aerial View

*A snapshot of spiritual needs in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo)*

**Sharing the love of Jesus Christ through aviation and technology so that isolated people may be physically and spiritually transformed...**MAF's Mission Statement.

But what does transformation look like? How do we know if it's taken place?

Sometimes it helps to just ask questions. Recently MAF teamed up with local churches in the eastern part of the DR Congo to take a snapshot of the local spiritual health. Despite continuing instability in the region, the church has a strong presence. **How can we as pilots and technicians come alongside the local church leaders?** What needs can we meet?



We distributed surveys to Christian leaders in the area. Over 200 surveys came back. Themes that stood out are the need for mentoring of leaders, the lack of training for church members and the shortage of Bibles and education.

Using the new data, MAF met with the Congolese leaders to strategize. It was the first time they'd been able to plan for future ministry using real data. **For these leaders, it was like seeing an aerial view, a new perspective.** They discussed, strategized, and set goals, working in groups according to locality. For some goals, they had the resources they needed. For other goals, they turned to MAF for help. **Both the airplane and digital resources will serve the people.**

As of this writing, almost 20 flights have been planned, most focusing on training and mentoring in remote villages around the area. It's beautiful to see the body of Christ working together, especially cross-culturally. We feel blessed to be a part of this venture, along with our partners who help support these flights.

## THANK YOU

Together in Him,

*Steve & Carol*

What a privilege to be part of His plan to win those from every tribe, nation, and language. Thank you for your prayers for our ministry, and for your financial gifts, making it possible. We wish you the peace and joy of a blessed Christmas!

This is our granddaughter, Abigail's, pre-school picture. She is about three and a half years old and goes to Ponderosa Elementary School where she attends classes for deaf children. She has a Cochlear implant on her right side which gives her some ability to hear, but she is beginning to use sign language to communicate. We are learning American Sign Language (ASL) with a tutor so we can understand her. The process is similar to learning Spanish over 30 years ago. We learn grammar rules, but mostly it is practice...practice...practice.

