

Mission Aviation Training Academy



MATA USA

WWW.MATA-USA.ORG

425-231-5855

Many New Beginnings ...

We all like something new, don't we? Whether it's receiving something new that we needed, starting something new, learning a new skill or going someplace new. Well, we at MATA are no exception to that. We are celebrating the "new" and we want you to celebrate with us, thanking the Lord for all the new He is doing through the ministry of MATA. We celebrate mostly His love and faithfulness towards us, remembering that each and every day He meets us with His new mercies and grace.

"The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness"
Lam. 3:22-23 (ESV)

RECEIVING SOMETHING NEW

MATA has been blessed to add a new plane to their fleet, N5363K a 1980 Cessna 172P with an O-320 Lycoming engine. This is the newest aircraft we now own outright and it has already flown a number of hours in training.

We praise the Lord in how He always provides for us through your financial gifts that allow us to operate MATA as a debt-free ministry!



C172P

STARTING SOMETHING NEW

In the upcoming months MATA is expected to receive six new students, and one new one has just recently begun flight training! These are students with aspirations to fly in service to our Lord as missionary pilots. We praise the Lord for His continual provision of students He has entrusted us to train and equip for Kingdom work. *Please be in prayer for these students as a whole, as they prepare*

to leave their homes and come to MATA for their training. Also pray that we would receive them well into the MATA family during this season of their lives.



Our NEWest Instrument Rated Pilots

- 1 Amanda Grimwood
- 2 Matt Hamm
- 3 Ella Robbins

LEARNING A NEW SKILL

We praise the Lord for the three MATA students who worked hard recently to earn their Instrument Ratings. Amanda, Matt, and Ella did wonderfully on their check-rides and have proven that they are skilled instrument pilots ready to advance towards their next certificate, the Commercial Pilot. Each one is now one step closer to serving the Lord as a full time missionary pilot. *Continue to pray for them and the other students training hard at MATA for missionary service.*

GOING TO NEW PLACES

How long does it take to train a missionary pilot? Well, it doesn't happen overnight. It takes years of preparation, many hours of training, plus maturing before one is ready to serve in a foreign land. We are excited to update you on three of our former MATA students who are on their way overseas to serve!

Would you consider encouraging & supporting, prayerfully or financially, these missionaries by contacting them directly?

Ian Rojas

"Contact"

irojas@maf.org

... recently "graduated" from MATA to pursue full-time missions service through MAF. Ian has recently passed both his flight and maintenance Technical Evaluations (TEs) with MAF and has been assigned to serve in Indonesia. He is raising support right now so would you pray about being a supporter for Ian or inviting him to share at your church or community group?

Tim Reed

"Contact"

timbojazz@gmail.com

... was at our Aviation Summer Camp in 2009 as a 15-year-old high schooler. Through camp, he caught the vision for mission aviation and spent seven years since preparing to serve the Lord overseas. Tim has served with MATA as a flight instructor during several summer camps and also served one summer at Kako Bible Camp in AK. Tim has been invited by JAARS to take their TEs later this fall and he is planning to come to MATA to prepare for those critical tests.

Chad & Jamie Dimon

"Contact"

cdimon@maf.org

<https://dimonsintherough.com/>

... just arrived in the country of Congo, serving with MAF, after a year-long language course in France. Chad trained at MATA for several years to include serving through MATA's Alaska ministry.



TIM

the DIMONS

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MATATHON 2016 helps fund Alaska Outreach

A huge "Thank you" to all who supported our annual **MATATHON** back in May. Our goal of \$10,000 was miraculously reached through the fundraiser!

This funding allowed, during 3 weeks of June, our Cessna 206 and 2 MATA staff plus 4 students **to serve 4 different ministries in Alaska:**

1. Missionaries on location in Naknek
2. Flying cargo and VBS teams for the Association of Free Lutheran's summer outreach programs
3. Supporting 2 different Bible camps through flights and offering manpower on the ground
4. Kako Retreat Center & Tanalian Bible Camp

John Lewis and one of our students, Jonathan Finley, spent two weeks in the village of Marshall loving and serving the people there. It didn't take long before Jonathan caught the vision for village ministry. His heart has now grown for the people of AK. *Will you pray for Jonathan as he seeks if God would have a long term ministry for him there?*



Pictured, left to right: Staff John Lewis & Dary Fink along with students Jonathan & Caleb (not pictured, Ella and Trey)

Alaska Missions

71.9 hrs of flight

8000 miles

... the distance from WA State to Congo, Africa!

99 passengers

1500 lbs of cargo



summing up Summer Camp

We just completed our **10th annual Aviation Summer Camp** for high school teens the last week of July. It was a packed camp with lots of flying (due to the wonderful clear skies all week), food, fun and fantastic speakers. The campers were impacted in a profound way during the week ... you can hear it, firsthand, from the voice of several parents:

"[my son] came home a changed man. I have been praying that his faith would be challenged and solidified. Christ did that during camp."

"[my daughter] had a wonderful time, we see a new maturity in her! We are blessed to have been part of this ministry!"

Thank you for praying for this important annual ministry we do!



Gordon Bakke

Director's Corner

Over my many years in Africa and now with MATA, I have been asked to write two-year plans and even five-year plans. It is always hard to make these predictions because we cannot even be sure about tomorrow.

The example Jesus gave was the rich man who made plans to build bigger barns. He did not live to the next morning. In the 4th chapter of James, verses 13 through 15, we are reminded

again that our life is like a vapor, here today, gone tomorrow. It also tells us in our planning to say, "Lord willing we shall live and do this or that."

So, in five years is it a realistic goal for MATA to double the number of students?

So, in five years is it a realistic goal for MATA to double the number of students? That would be 40-45 actively in training. Of that number could we expect to have 5 each year going out to the mission field? Is this possible? Yes, Lord willing, if we have enough men and women come who really love the Lord, have a servant's heart, and are ready to do

whatever it costs to be a pilot for Christ in a foreign country or maybe Alaska or Northern Canada.

We have the facilities and aircraft right now to have at least 50% more students. What is keeping you from helping us reach this goal? Some of you will say, "I am too old, or..." and the list goes on. You can all pray for us. Some of you have funds that you could give, so we can keep our cost to the students much more affordable. Finishing the program debt-free enables a prospective missionary pilot to make application with a sending organization as soon as he or she has met the required experience level. We have highlighted several in this letter who are the kind of pilot we need more of.

Thanks for your part in helping us prepare them for service!