

GROUND CREW

*"For a child is born to us, a son is given to us.
The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be
called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting
Father, Prince of Peace." -Isaiah: 9:6 NLT*

*Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God,
Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace*



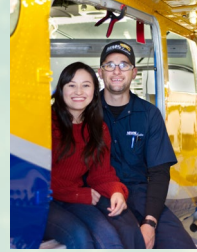
Adelsberger



Campbell



Carter



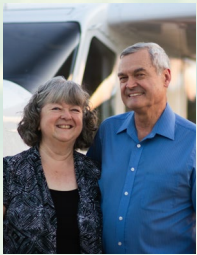
Cleator



Coates



Dodson



Dunkley



Egbert



Harper



Haver



Jarboe



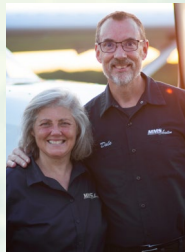
Johnson



Jutte



Lawson



Liff



Maddux



Mahon



Martel



Martin



McClary



Monyer



Newman



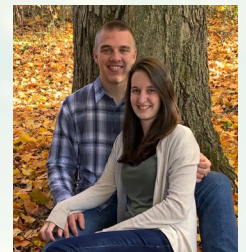
Obarow



Plitt



Schwartz



Sensenig



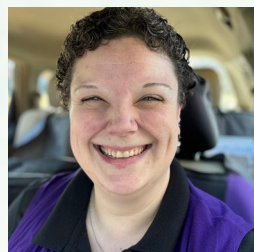
Shearer



Shelly



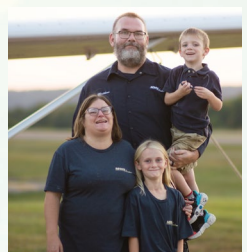
Sperling



Umphress



Winsley



Woods

Kyle and Karissa Wagner

Kyle once said that someone challenged him with a saying: If the only reason you are saying no to something is because you are scared, it's not a good reason. This challenge has led him to do such things as speak in front of large groups of people and move his family all the way to Alaska. Kyle has felt a call to missions for most of his life. After several years serving with MMS to get his mechanic's license, he is now serving with MARC (Missionary Aviation Repair Center) in Soldotna, AK, as a maintenance specialist. The Wagners have a heart to see those who are isolated and without hope transformed by the Gospel. MARC primarily supports pastors, missionaries, and evangelical organizations in remote villages in Alaska through aviation.



Both Kyle and Karissa are pastors' kids, and God has used their backgrounds to give them wisdom beyond their years when it comes to being a family in ministry. Their time at MMS is marked with generosity, encouragement, and deep friendships. It was a privilege to have them and to send them.

The Wagner family has grown during their time at MMS!



Rebekah, one of our avionics specialists, teaches Brittany how to neatly bundle wires for installation in the airplane.

Brittany Umphress

A warm welcome to our newest apprentice, Brittany Umphress! While Brittany resided in Texas most recently, she has lived in five states and two other countries, including Switzerland, where she learned to speak French. She was called to missions when she was 8 years old after hearing a testimony from a group who had served in Africa. A young boy with terminal cancer was prayed for and miraculously healed a couple of weeks later. After hearing this story, she prayed, "God, I want to be a part of that. I want to be part of what you're doing in Africa!" Her heart is to serve in West Africa, where French is a primary language.

Brittany was introduced to maintenance work at a young age by her dad. The two would work on cars in their garage, where Brittany strategically avoided housework and got to spend quality time with her dad. Along with maintenance, Brittany also enjoys flying. She has her private pilot's license and plans to acquire further flight training through MAG (Missionary Air Group) after she completes her apprenticeship. Outside of the hangar, Brittany enjoys photographing birds and other wildlife, caring for animals and kids, and spending time outdoors.



We had a special farewell dinner for the Wagner family and sent them away with our love and prayers for their new ministry in Alaska.

HANGAR HIGHLIGHTS

A bit of what's happened recently

Philippines Cessna 182

The project to refurbish the Cessna 182, led by **Dale Coates**, is finished, and the plane has flown away. It will serve in the Philippines. Work on this plane involved nearly everyone on the hangar floor. Following the repairs, **Jay Shearer** completed its annual inspection before it left.



A Cessna 182 returns to service, bound for the Philippines.



Phil Sperling pushes in the next 182 that has arrived for an avionics upgrade.

Moody R182

The first avionics project is complete, and two pilots from Moody Aviation brought a second 182 that will receive the same upgrades. Both planes are part of the missionary pilot training fleet at Moody. **Mike Dunkley** is leading, assisted by **Rebekah Martel**, **Phil Sperling**, **Joshua Johnson**, and **Tyler Sensenig**.

Cessna 206 Fuselage Repair

MMS received the fuselage section of a Cessna 206 damaged in a landing accident. The work involves repairing and replacing much of the lower structure and skins. **Jack Harper** is leading, assisted by **Josh Adelsberger**. Also helping on the project are **Peter Okia**, **Ben Plitt**, and **Ben Winsley**. The plane will be used in Mexico.

Cessna 206 Major Repairs

This 206 was damaged in an accident and purchased by a new mission aviation organization, which will operate the plane in Honduras. The aircraft has been painted, and the structural repairs are complete. **Chris Jutte** led the extensive project. **Sharee Sensenig** and **Austin Cleator** are fabricating and installing interior pieces. **Jay Shearer** is helping to supervise and assist with the remaining assembly. **Chuck Egbert**, **Matthew Carter**, **Matthew Woods**, and **Shawn Monyer** recently completed rigging of control surfaces. **Jim Newman** is installing a new instrument panel.

Electronic Checklist

Many of our mission aviation partners use an electronic checklist to provide a visual reference for the pilot in the critical phases of takeoff and landing. **Dale Liff** is applying his experience in electrical engineering to improve the design and function of this tool.

Administration and Support

Mike Mahon is managing the parts department. He has streamlined the purchasing process, and the time saved means our other mechanics can spend more time on maintenance tasks. **Dave Shelly** has developed our Safety Management System and is overseeing its implementation. This tool helps us evaluate operational risk and correct unsafe conditions. **Cheryl Lawson** keeps up with our mailing list and donors. **Bob Campbell** has been getting the property ready for winter by replacing one of the boilers in our back hangar. Praise the Lord, we found a brand new one at less than 10 percent of the new price, and it is working beautifully! **Keith Dodson** is working with several new candidates who hope to begin the application process soon. **Jenny Haver** has assumed the role of Director of Maintenance. **Tim Obarow** is stepping out of that role but will work closely with Jenny for the next year.



Jack and Peter begin installation of a new belly skin on the Cessna 206.

Bob Schwartz has been instrumental in facilitating training not only for our apprentices, but also for several from overseas who come for a short term to gain FAA certification.



Tim Obarow is operating our new lathe. He will be training some of our staff on the new machine so that it will be a useful tool for years to come.



Bob Campbell installs the new boiler just in time for frosty mornings!



On the bottom shelf of classic Christmas movies, is the easily missed and hidden gem, "The Great Rupert." With a down-and-out hero, romance, and a dancing squirrel, this film has it all. Since you will no doubt be adding this to your seasonal viewing list, I won't spoil the plot except to tell you that our hero (not the squirrel—that would be ridiculous!) receives an unearned and unexpected blessing. The hero's response is to share the gift! Through this unlikely, simple man, the blessing is multiplied many times over, even to the unworthy antagonist.

It's a totally secular film but could perhaps be redeemed if viewed through gospel lenses. The gospel story is peppered with unlikely characters as well.

Joseph, a common laborer, traveled to his hometown with Mary, who he had not yet wed. Outwardly, Mary bore the shame of an obvious pregnancy but rejoiced in her heart knowing Who it was she carried in her womb. The first visitors to the newborn child were shepherds who came straight from the field. (I'm pretty sure they didn't have time to shower and change their socks.) When Jesus began His ministry, His best friends were fishermen. In sermons and parables, Jesus taught that the Kingdom belonged to the smallest, weakest, and lowest among us. If we are to be like Him, we will care for the least of these as well.

Gospel means "good news." There is no better news than to hear that the wrath of God toward our sin has been turned away through the love of God who gave His only Son to bear the shame of our sin and receive the punishment we deserve. But there are still many in the world who haven't heard this! We work on airplanes so that the blessing we have received can be multiplied all over the world. Every year, airplanes arrive at our hangar, broken and worn out, and are repaired to return to the ends of the earth carrying the gospel to unreached people. Like the angels who called the shepherds, these planes and pilots will be bringing good tidings of great joy!

May you be filled with the joy of knowing Christ in this and all seasons, and may His grace fill you and overflow so that all would know that He is Lord!

"And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.'"

Luke 2:10-11 KJV

Merry Christmas!

Phil

Phil Maddux,
President & CEO

The Cessna 182 completes its return to service
flight with a very pleased pilot!



Enhancing Trust

