

Dear Faithful Co-workers,

7/21/23

The beginning of July, Kim left me here in McNeal while she went to Connecticut to visit her mom and dad Stevens. It had been a long year and a half that she had put up with the Dye family gang and hadn't seen her beloved parents. 😊 There is the cell phone, of course, but we all know that it isn't the same as seeing your loved ones face to face, having deeper conversations, giving hugs and enjoying precious memories made together. She had a wonderful time and left encouraged.

God has been so good to Kim and me by giving to us such Godly parents and we are grateful to Him for allowing us to be involved with them while still on this earth. Since I am on the topic of parents, I should mention that my dad, Paul, is battling a large cancer growth that is embedded within his lymph nodes on his neck area. He has recently started a treatment of immuno-therapy infusions and, also, began radiation treatments. That means 4-hour roundtrips to Tucson every day for 33 days or more. Of course, he could stay in Tucson at his daughter's/granddaughter's house but has chosen to return each day to the comfort and familiarity of his own home.

A couple of weeks ago it was my turn to give the Monday morning devotions to the men here at Ethnos360 Aviation. As I prepared, I was reminded in God's Word just how important it is to teach and admonish one another by allowing the control of the Holy Spirit to give us wisdom, and to build each other up through psalms, hymns and songs, and to lift praise to the Lord in the midst of the congregation (in the hangar, on the work floor). It says then "that whatever we do in word or deed, we need to do it in the name of our Lord Jesus with thanksgiving. Col. 3:16-17. A stark contrast of where I work versus where my children work or where you might work is 'day and night'. There are times that you might think that what you are doing may not have any significance but even in each circumstance or in whatever workplace environment that you may find yourself in as we do 'in word or deed, as unto the Lord', we can know with satisfaction, that it does have great lasting significance!

I am getting the Indonesia R66 helicopter ready for field operations. Installing float kits, D-rings, paint, monitors with cameras, wood floors, seat modifications, and lots of paperwork preparing it to be shipped overseas.

Praise! The Papua New Guinea (PNG) R66 helicopter made it across the seas to the port and is on land to its destination to be reassembled there in country! Praise the Lord for this provision so that many more areas can be serviced by helicopter. We thank the Lord for pilots and aviation mechanics who are willing to be trained and serve with their families in this incredible capacity as servants of the Most High!

Last week, I removed a used-up turbine engine out of our trainer R66 helicopter for a newly repaired engine. I worked along Nathan Willems who is one of our rotor wing pilot/mechanics who will be going to Southeast Asia to fly the R66. It was good practice and an excellent experience for him to have under his belt. He now is practicing sling loading which is another aspect that we train our helicopter pilots in. Often, I am the one hooking up the loads under a hovering helicopter, right above my head!

We look forward to August when 4 new trainee families will arrive. We have a helicopter pilot, and 3 fixed wing pilot/mechanics coming for training. We will be doing a full 2000-hour inspection on a timed out R66 helicopter that we purchased for a project for this semester. There is no better way to train than by learning 'hands-on', gaining experience on what they will be servicing on the field. As the Director of maintenance, I carry a heavy responsibility with keeping my eyes and hands on everything accomplished because I am the one who must sign it off as airworthy!

Our Son, Austin, and his fiancée, Katelyn continue to work at their respective jobs in Tucson! Please pray for them as they navigate plans for their future together, jobs, flight schooling, and hopefully children! 😊 Our daughter, Alicia, continues her job in Nashville. Please pray with us (if the Lord wills) for an opening of employment in Tucson for her or somewhere closer than Nashville. 😊

I want to close by saying that as we traverse through some deep uncharted waters that God would receive Glory for His name as he chooses to answer our prayers. Aging parents, cancer, wickedness surrounding us, and serving in Jesus' name; may we all choose to make right choices that will bring glory to the Lord.

In Christ, Larry and Kim Dye