

# “Position Report”

Tim & Cheryl Doggett

Fall 2018

## Reflections & Projections

We were watching *The Nativity Story* a few nights ago with neighbors. One of them remarked, well into it: “Nobody is smiling!” It’s true! None of us really knows the expression that was on the face of Mary when the angel of the Lord delivered his news; nor do we know how the other characters of the story really responded, but think about how absurd it must have all seemed to those whose lives were turned upside down in a moment! History confirms that these were indeed hard times in the promised land!

I was reminded of the book “The Insanity of God” (we got to meet the author at ICOM). It’s the story of the persecuted church. How unconventional are God’s ways; He uses the persecution of the Church to strengthen and multiply it all over the world. In God’s kingdom, immeasurable good/rich blessing is created in the midst of the most difficult circumstances. Neither the scriptures nor the Spirit of God have ever promised that the proclamation of this incredible Gospel, the building of His Church, would happen without opposition or hardship. With this backdrop we share our reflections from 2018, and a few projections for 2019.

Transition has certainly, once again, been the name of the game in both ministry arenas! My (Tim’s) leadership role has significantly changed on both sides of the ocean this past year. God’s hand is evident in both (and we fully endorse both) but for those of you who have been

through a significant handover, you know the journey is challenging.

In ACMI Cheryl’s administrative load has significantly increased; we both work proactively to provide as much helpful assistance as possible. It appears that further adjustments in both our roles (currently Cheryl is *Office Manager*, Tim is the *African Field Advisor*) are in store for 2019. We remain wide open to the leading of the Holy Spirit and are anxious to make a positive contribution. We look forward to our part in the orientation process for the Clinch family as they prepare for service on the Kenya team. Cheryl and I are also preparing, with great anticipation, for our fourth annual Team Leaders Retreat, scheduled to begin here in Kenya on the 24th of February. I’ll also mention again that our North Africa team has walked, and continues to walk, a bitter sweet journey of victory and opposition. From May to September, each month produced a new challenge; and each month revealed new answers to every prayer we prayed! Our teammates there are accustomed to the battle, and consider opposition as part of the task God has called them to. The same is true in every ACMI field! Along with the difficult stories, come stories of restoration, healing and growth. Jesus walks these difficult roads right along side of us. He, too, is very accustomed to the battle; and He makes ALL THINGS new!

In our Samaritan’s Purse work, God continues to lead us on a journey of task delegation and training. Many of Tim’s former daily operations responsibilities are now on

other’s plates. This leaves more time for flying and training. The reason Cheryl and I are still in East Africa is to assist in the preparation of the next generation of African aviation leaders - a journey of both joys and challenges. The DC3 (our largest aircraft) is back and fully engaged. This past year we have two new captains and one new second in command. We have lost three of the nine pilots we began the year with; two resignations were Kenyan pilots, one was being groomed for leadership—a painful experience to say the least. On the other hand we have hired five new pilots (three are Kenyan); all represent great future potential! These pilots will join us at different times over the next seven months. So 2019 will certainly involve an intensive training agenda! Our team is also in the midst of transition. Due to our battle with work permits, half of our expat team has been asked to move to Uganda. Cheryl and I are to remain in Kenya with three other families.

There is more to tell; we share but a glimpse of the challenges and opportunities, past and future. *The Nativity Story*, as you know, though it begins under hard circumstances, ultimately bursts with victory and hope—with many smiles at the climax: The Savior of the world is born! Insane as it may seem, there is no greater story. From birth to death, Jesus’ experienced the brokenness of our world, but He is victorious! So we claim God’s promise: ***Isaiah 9:7 There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace...*** May Your Kingdom come!

## Perspective

I have mentioned the loss of two Kenyan pilot teammates! I've confessed that it has been "painful" to lose them, and especially one of them—Amos! He and I have been working together for almost 20 years! I'm reminded of a similar experience in the Congo many years ago. I had a great relationship with a Congolese brother—Medari who helped me in the Aviation ministry. I remember, very clearly, telling Cheryl that if my brother ever quit, I'd have to quit too. Well, the Lord tested me on this "threat" a couple years later, when Medari

and I were required to part ways. I didn't quit, and the Lord continued to bless the ministry.

I'm going to miss my brother Amos! We've had good discussions about his decision, and I'm confident that he and his wife have earnestly sought the Lord's will. God's Kingdom perspective is so much bigger than mine! Who knows what plans He has for Amos and Wendy next! I am confident that any investment we have made into Amos will live on in a brand new ministry. He is a gifted aviation professional and a passionate servant of the Lord! I can't wait to see what hap-

pens next. But I will certainly miss him!

The author of *The Insanity of God* said this at ICOM last month: "It is OK for us to ask God, as Jesus did, 'Let this cup pass from Me'. But we must be quick to add, 'Yet not as I will, but as You will'! Yes!

## Financial Status

Thank you again, for your generous financial support! The income to our ACMI Ministry Account continues to exceed our ministry expenses. These funds will be used for the kingdom!

**Thank You to our many faithful partners in this ministry – would love to hear from you!**

## Electronic Mailings

IF you would like to be on our electronic mailing list or even on both, please send us a quick note, from your e-mail address to our personal email: [tcdoggett@acminternational.com](mailto:tcdoggett@acminternational.com)

### Praise God For:

- \* Amos & Wendy's four plus years of service in the aviation department and many more than that with SP!
- \* The challenges, the opportunities, and the blessings of kingdom work.
- \* Our partners/your generous financial support for this ministry!
- \* New pilot recruits!

### Please Pray For:

- \* Amos & Wendy as they transition to new ministry.
- \* Larry and Mandy Renfro as they raise their financial support and for Larry as he settles into his new role.
- \* Courage, strength, provision and protection for our teammates who are waging war with the enemy in the field!
- \* Extra capacity for us and our SP Instructor Pilots as we train and mentor five new pilots!
- \* The upcoming Team Leaders retreat. May God use this time!

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