

# LUDVICEK FLIGHT REPORT



JULY 2022

## Joy Was The Theme

Guns fired in the air. The rebels surrounded the airplane as it smoked and burned. But the souls who call Pagamba home did not cower in fear. They protected, they prayed, they cried for the pall of shame cast over their village. They risked their lives, made a plan, and saw Alex to safety. And then... radio silence.

For 16 months the village of Pagamba had no airplane to serve it. Their connection to the outside world had been cut off, while the ashes of an MAF plane haunted their airstrip. During that time, MAF's attempts to return and reopen the strip were constantly roadblocked. But "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness" (2 Peter 3:9). On May 20th Alex and a group of others were able to return for the first time since January of 2021.

The airplane was greeted with celebration. Joy was the theme of the day. The community had prepared a celebration for the visitors. An alter of remembrance was constructed, stone by stone, each person recounted God's faithful love and unwavering presence with them in their trials, from the time the gospel first entered their lonely valley. And of course, no Papuan celebration is complete without a pig roast.



Makn' bacon - pig feast preparation



While we were blessed by the faith of the tribe, we also have seen God's faithful timing. It is no small thing to lose an airplane as we did last January, and fewer airplanes mean more logistical hurdles to our work. So we were all the more grateful when, last week, we celebrated the arrival of a new Kodiak to Papua, ready to serve the communities here for years to come.



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# Summer's in full swing

Summer is upon us. Ok, maybe we live in a land of perpetual summer. But at any rate, Jackson finished both his kindergarten year homeschooling as well as his school year with his Indonesian class.

- Enrolling Jackson in Indonesian school proved to have its ups and downs. But, we ended the year with a bang, as our Indonesian staff volunteered to help us host an Indonesian style birthday party, inviting the whole class over to our base. Although a little nervous, he absolutely loved it, and our whole family got a lesson in culture from the experience.



Jack playing with our missionary friend

Tricia has been busy getting the hang of playing hostess via our guest house. As covid travel restrictions have eased, we have been full with company from all over the island and the globe. We have enjoyed the chance to see some old friends, serve missionaries passing through, meet lots of new people, and hear some incredible stories over the past months.

Just last week, Mike and Libby Wild (Their kids produced The Wild Brothers videos you may be familiar with about growing up in a papuan village.) came through with a group of Wano tribe friends. For a few of these folks, it was the very first time out of the village, but Nabire served as a landing ground for them as they eagerly awaited to head to another region to join in the work that God is doing in a new place.



## PRAYER AND PRAISE

- Until the end of the year, we will be the only western family in Nabire. Pray for our national relationships to deepen and for us to not feel too isolated.
- Jack finished his first year of Indonesian school! Pray for this upcoming year of homeschooling both 1st grade and pre-school.
- Peace in the Nabire area with new political issues arising.
- Praise God for the peaceful return to Pagamba! Pray for continued safety as we start serving there again.



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Thank you for your support  
Peace and Love,  
Alex, Trish, Jackson & Benaya

