

# THE LUDVICEK FLIGHT REPORT

June 2019



*“Sharing the love of Jesus Christ  
through aviation and technology  
so that isolated people may be physically  
and spiritually transformed.”*

## It came swiftly in the night

It was a Saturday night in mid-March and, like many nights, we sat listening to the rain. But this time it could not be described as soft, in fact I would not even call it a heavy rain. It was an angry thundering rain, sounding as if at any moment it would rip its way through the roof over our heads. Unbeknownst to us, just across town it was doing far more damage than even that.

This “rainy season” here in Papua was an especially rainy one. The night in question was the hardest rain that we had experienced here so far. We do not quite know how much rain we got that night, but it was well over six inches in a matter of hours, and the mountain that looms over our town could take no more. There were massive landslides, and small streams became gushing rivers that rerouted themselves through neighborhoods demolishing everything in their path. The following 3 nights were just as torrential, causing mass flooding throughout the city.

We are grateful that we were safe during the storms, but thousands were displaced from their water damaged homes, and many lives were lost. Many of the survivors who made it up the hill to take shelter at places like the international school had harrowing stories of watching loved ones get washed away before their eyes.



A view down the street where several of our friends live

In the aftermath however, it was beautiful to see the community come together and pull out all the stops, serving around the clock to get the injured and displaced food, shelter, basic supplies, and medical assistance. A few months have now passed and the community has come a long way in getting back on their feet and finding a new normal. However, there is much that will never be the same for those in the most heavily affected areas.



We crave your prayers for God's work to be accomplished here.

The weeks following the flood brought better news for us as a family. On April 25th Alex took his **first solo operational flight in Indonesia!**

This was a monumental day for us after working for so many years to get here, but it was significant for the MAF Papua program as well. It has been nearly three years since the last new family came through, and many families have left here to return to their home countries in the intervening time, leaving the program very thin indeed. Additionally, many families will be on furlough this summer and fall, making the need for an extra pair of hands even more valuable.



As a family we are looking forward to celebrating Jack's third birthday mid-month followed by a visit to our future home in Nabire. In July we will have the Papua program "family conference" and in August we hope to take a vision trip to visit an interior village for a few days. In between all of this Alex will continue both training and operational flights as well as working towards getting checked out as a mechanic.



We would like to thank those who have already joined our team by supporting our ministry financially. This support enables us to live here in Papua so that we can share Christ's love to those who need it, specifically church leaders, Bible translators, school teachers, remote villagers and flood victims. We cannot do this alone as it requires a team effort. If you have a desire to support this ministry financially, now is a great time to start. Visit [maf.org](http://maf.org) for more info.

With love,  
*Alex, Trish, Jackson & Benaya*

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