



JOURNAL

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God's Word is reaching isolated people groups around the world, and Ethnos360 Aviation is there to help.

THREE FOR PNG: PART ONE

Can you believe it really happened? God has provided!

Stand amazed with us at the goodness of the Lord! He has provided funds for Ethnos360 Aviation to purchase the first of three Robinson R66 helicopters for Papua New Guinea (PNG)!

We asked you to pray. And it's obvious that, though COVID-19 and the economic shutdowns stopped many things right in their tracks, it did not stop prayer – and it did not stop God!

Praise His name — “the God who provides.” Give thanks for His graciousness. Despite world events that seemed to make this project impossible, God worked through you, His people, to provide the first R66 for Papua New Guinea.

A few months ago, Ethnos360 Aviation placed the order for the R66 — a brand new one in order to get the very latest 200-lb upgrade for sling load capacity, so crucial for delivering heavy cargo to isolated locations. We'll let you know as soon as it arrives at our aviation center in McNeal, AZ. Once it's here, our team will swing into action, getting it field-ready by adding radios, floats and trim paint. After doing some flight training, the R66 will be crated and shipped off to Papua New Guinea.

More than a dozen church planting teams that rely solely on the helicopter will welcome the R66 to the

PNG aviation fleet. Without helicopter service, they cannot feasibly bring the gospel to new groups like the Maliyali, Kovol and Lembena, nor can they shepherd believers in other groups to the point of having a thriving church. Helicopter service is a non-negotiable in PNG's vertical landscapes.

The Wantakia people group would agree! They just heard the culmination of the Good News in August of 2020. Finally, they have hope! As one said, “I am a sinner. I can't help myself. [Jesus] took our sin and got rid of them by dying on the cross. When the veil [of the temple] tore, it opened the road to go to God,

through Jesus. I believe!”

With tears, another said, “Jesus took all my sin away, all of it! I used to be in Satan's clan, but now I'm in God's!”

The Wantakia were waiting years for this message. And they'd still be waiting if missionaries

couldn't get to them. The LongRanger helicopter provided workable access and kept the team supplied through five years of language, culture, translation and teaching. But the LongRanger is 41 years old and needs replacements to take over.

Now with the first R66 provided, we humbly trust God for the next two R66s to fully replace – and surpass – the ministry capability of the LongRanger.

Thanks for your part in praying and helping to make “Three Helicopters for PNG” a reality!

Go to <https://ethnos360aviation.org/projects/helicopters-for-png>



THE FACILITATOR

You think the world is changing fast around you, right? COVID-19. Unrest on all sides. Technology advancing at lightning speed. It's hard to know how to deal with it all.

Now imagine being a person living in what we might call a primitive environment. You know the world is zooming ahead, and you and your people are barely subsisting. You can scarcely scrape enough together to exist, much less to thrive.

A remote semi-nomadic group of Manobo people in the mountainous jungles of the Philippines is facing that situation. They struggle to make a living selling produce scavenged from the jungles and sold to traveling merchants — for a less-than-fair price. They want to settle down in one place and quit wandering, but that dream can't be realized without a stable livelihood to support themselves.

Wanting help, they approached a distant Manobo village where, a few years ago, missionaries had worked extensively on community development. This village has access to schools and higher education, running water, a medical clinic, a livelihood growing corn and bananas — and the Word of God. The believers in this established village are willing to help the remote village. But to pull off a viable community development project for their neighbors high in the mountains will take more resources than they have.

Bamboo might be a key. The believers, the missionaries and a big-hearted Filipino businessman named Bob are pursuing the potential model of teaching the remote group to plant, grow and harvest bamboo.

Exporting it would allow those in the mountains not only to settle and build more stable communities but also to revitalize the deforested land around them.

Right smack in the center of all this is the facilitator: the R66 helicopter. “This picture is worth a thousand words,” pilot Alex Minium says of his photo below. The missionary on the right is holding a box of bamboo seedlings provided by Bob, the local businessman on the left. The helicopter in the center will connect them and their team with “the precious people living in the mountains beyond — created in the image of the God of the universe, but lost and without hope, waiting for help.”

“This project aligns exactly with the center of our focus as Ethnos360 Aviation,” says Alex. As communities in the mountains are established, a missionary team will learn the language unique to this group and teach literacy with the ultimate goal of translating God's Word and sharing the message of Jesus Christ.

The helicopter has already delivered hundreds of bamboo nodes — too fragile to survive the land trip — to start a nursery. From that supply, the remote village can plant acres of bamboo.

“This is an opportunity,” says the missionary, “to reach out with the Gospel, first with works of love, then with the Word of love, to the more remote relatives, just as we did in the beginning with our current village.”

To help make flight affordable for this outreach, **go to** <https://ethnos360aviation.org/projects/missionary-flight-sponsorship-3>



COVID-19 OBSTACLES

Stranded in the city. Shut out of the city.

Which was worse for groups of indigenous students on both sides of the COVID-19 restrictions in Indonesia?

These precious kids — mostly children of indigenous missionaries and church leaders — come from churches we have been privileged to support and watch grow from the time they first heard the gospel. Options for higher education don't exist in their remote locations. So they come to the city for high school and college.

Unfortunately, a group of 12 got stuck in Palu when

“This is just not possible in the remote locations where we serve,” said Jamin, “and even if we provided the test kits, there’s no one with the authority to administer them interior.”

Our aviation staff took action, going far beyond their normal aviation roles.

They contacted a doctor in Palu, and, with the permission of the Palu airport, worked out a deal to have her perform the tests and generate the letters of health right there in the airport. Ethnos360

Aviation agreed to provide the test equipment, using funds from our Disaster Relief Fund.

With documentation in hand, the students could leave the airport and enter the city.

Jamin saw the importance of these flights. “Investing in the next generation is essential for a mature church,” he said.



photo by Jamin Peck

COVID began. Four months later, Ethnos360 Aviation had permission to fly them back to their island to tearful reunions. “I was fighting back tears myself,” said pilot Jamin Peck, recalling his own childhood as a missionary kid traveling off to school.

Though these students were relieved to return to their remote homes, students from another indigenous church wanted Ethnos360 Aviation to fly them to the city of Palu to continue their educations as restrictions lifted.

One huge obstacle faced them: To enter the city of Palu, a person needed to test free of COVID-19 and have a letter of health. But the city did not have enough test kits. Instead, they required all arrivals to bring a letter of health and a negative COVID test from their point of origin.



Jamin augments his pilot role by taking temperatures before students board for the city. photo by Jamin Peck

It helps them prepare their young people so their churches can thrive despite the inevitable approach of civilization into isolated areas.

To help churches thrive by keeping flights affordable, go to <https://ethnos360aviation.org/projects/missionary-flight-sponsorship-3>

For the Disaster Relief Fund, go to <https://ethnos360aviation.org/projects/disaster-relief-emergency-fund-1>



The training helicopter with (l-r) newly certified helicopter flight instructor Daren Spence; helicopter instructor Brian Pruett; Bruno Siqueira and Ryan de Roos. photo by Ryan de Roos

FROM THE WORLD, TO THE WORLD

Did you know that not all our aviation personnel are from the United States?

Meet Bruno from Brazil. After years of praying that he and his family would be able to come to our aviation campus in McNeal, AZ, to finish his training with Ethnos360 Aviation, they were finally granted their visas and arrived earlier this year. COVID-19 threatened to bring training to a halt, but God graciously kept our aviation center free of any cases.

Bruno came to us with a fixed wing license from his home country, but he quickly earned one in the USA too, allowing him to transition to our R66 training helicopter. Now, with his solo flight under his belt as of July 10, he's working toward his helicopter certification.

Training right beside him is another international pilot: Ryan de Roos from Canada. Ryan soloed the R66 on July 17 and is also moving toward certification soon.

And, in a little twist on the international flavor, instructor Brian Pruett, a USA citizen, is actually home from the Philippines where he normally serves. COVID-19 has prevented him and his family from

returning. But God had him here just at the exact time he was needed to proceed with Bruno's and Ryan's training.

Since our training facility is here in the USA, your perception may be that we "go" from the United States to other countries. But reality shows that we not only serve other countries, we send from other countries.

How's this for a mix of Ethnos360 Aviation personnel? Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Indonesia, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland, USA — and that list doesn't even mention the indispensable and capable citizen workers we hire to keep things running smoothly in each country.

God has blessed us with a diverse team. They are essential to the ministry of taking God's Word to people who have been waiting far too long to hear it. Pray that God will continue to grant visas to those who need them so we can keep training aviators to serve in Ethnos360 Aviation.