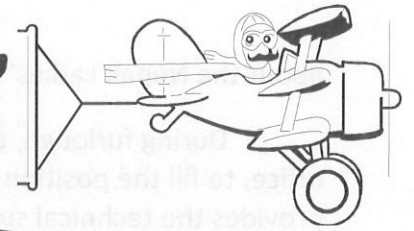


# THE CHASE CHAPTERS

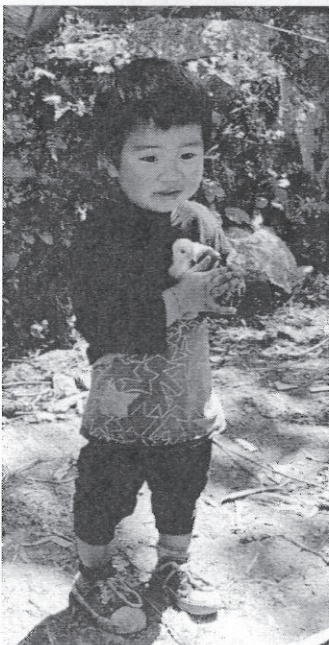


## Chapter 48: Furlough “Flying”

Spring 2012

Furloughs have always been such cherished, rich experiences of visiting friends and family and enjoying “home.” This one, embarked upon back in the first week of November, has been no exception! To date there have been thirty two beds along a meandering eight thousand mile track from Minot, ND to Miami, FL and half-way back again. The mildest winter in recent US memory kindly did not freeze our thin blood while north of the Florida state line, and allowed us to acquire an enviable tan south of it. Now recently, spring has sprung, and it is a sight we’ve actually never seen in the South. Dogwoods, Redbuds, and Bradford Pears...blazing Azaleas, creeping Wisteria...a real treat!

We’ve been nearly overwhelmed by the sheer volume and variety of choice in supermarket isles, book stores, technology depots, and cable TV channels. We found programming on said cable TV bewildering and commercials entertaining, especially when we couldn’t even figure out what we were supposed to want to buy at the end of them. Following our new GPS to new destinations, we’ve never felt so lost arriving at exactly where we wanted to go. There are a lot of new ‘famous’ people to follow and no shortage of creative ways to do so. Internet is dizzyingly fast here. There are many new verbs, or new meanings to verbs, in my “own” language. My cellphone apparently looks smart, but it’s a dumb one—it was all I could handle at that early-on moment of purchase, with everything else on the furlough learning curve to grapple with—so my phone can’t read this, but, check it out: I know what a QR code is now! 😊



To each of you who have touched our lives on this trip so far, thank you! While sharing your lives in condensed format with us and absorbing our debriefs to reconnect after four or five years can be a bit like each drinking from a fire hose, we so value the chance to have face- to- face time with you. It is definitely the best part of the whole furlough experience! Through the journey you all treated us to many “spoils” (just keeping up with that fad of creating new verbiage...well, nounage). Sailing and a riverboat cruise; Disney parks and a manatee search in a johnboat; waterskiing (Tim) and horseback riding (Karen); museums and gardens; and food—lots and lots of all of our favorites!

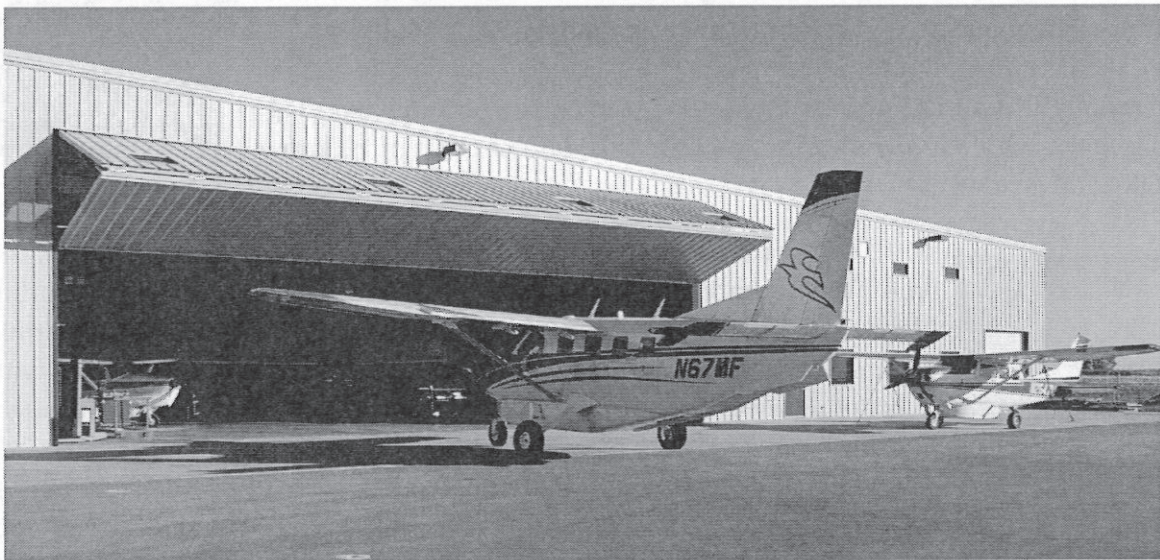
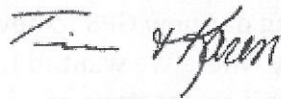
Many MAF presentations in churches and in your homes is rounding out this great trek—what an amazing privilege to get to report back to you in person what God had us doing in Nepal and DR Congo, and hear about what God has you doing. A special thanks once again to everyone who got excited

about the Nepali Ladies' beads too! Through April and May we look forward to seeing more of you!

During furlough, our MAF management asked us to consider a move to the Nampa, Idaho home office, to fill the position of Manager of Aviation Services beginning in June. This is the department that provides the technical support of keeping our airplanes flying in many places around the world. It encompasses oversight of MAF's hangars, avionics, machine shop, and field technical services; it sometimes necessitates travel to field bases around the world. Our leadership thinks Tim's background and experience in several countries over 16 years with MAF would benefit the position. Following a lot of prayer, Tim has decided to take on this new challenge...so we are now headed in the Nampa direction for our next Chase Chapter!

Home office staff is not salaried—they raise ministry support the same as field staff. Your prayers and partnership through the years have been the enabling 'wind beneath our wings'...to do this new aspect of the ministry, we still need you! Each furlough, our support target is adjusted to keep up with the ever-increasing costs of doing ministry, so we do have some shortfall to our new target. Sharing that kind of a need has never been our 'strong suit,' let alone in such economically tight times. I just want to throw up my hands and say, "I can't do this", end of story. ...but several of you dear friends correctly reminded me in our visiting together, "You're right, you can't, but if this is still what God wants you guys doing, **He** can and will." ...thank you for gently readjusting my focus ☺...by renewed faith we will continue to step into the journey and see if God will open the door.

Under His Wing,



MAF hangar in Nampa with a new Quest Kodiak bound for Indonesia



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