

The Lamp Light Supplement

Scriptures Fly!

Pilot Ross Macfarlane Reports from the Field!
April 13, 2000

Hi Ray:

Here is an update on what transpired this week. I flew up to Thompson on Monday April 10 to pick up the Skyward aircraft. Neither Frank Behrendt or his ops Manager Keith Olson were in town that day. By the time they were tracked down, and I had checked out on the airplane, it was 4pm. Airplane was fueled, and I positioned the plane down to Ashern, arriving just as it was getting dark. Clearly Monday was a write off as far as Bible distribution was concerned. Fairford pastor Bruce picked me up, and I stayed at his home that night. I must say that I wasn't surprised at the delays. Sunday night before I left home, my wife, Evelyn, reminded me that I shouldn't be surprised to experience satanic opposition when doing the Lord's work this week. As always God prevailed.

I can certainly see where I was overly optimistic about how much work could be done each day flying that little Cessna 172. You really can't cover much ground daily at only 100mph. As well, we are very limited in the weather that can be flown in. The 172 has, for all intensive purposes no real navigational capability. Navigation is accomplished simply by drawing a line on the map, and following it visually. As such, the weather - both actual hourly weather sequences, and forecasts must indicate clear weather, or the day's flying is scrubbed. Both Monday and Tuesday were good, but the weather Wednesday was solidly terrible south of Gypsumville.

Tuesday morning we retrieved the boxes of Bibles from Milt's home, and drove to the Ashern airport. We loaded approx. 180 Bibles on the airplane, and sent the rest back to pastor Bruce's, to get later. Taking off from Ashern with the 180 Bibles, and a full load of fuel had the airplane at its maximum take off weight. We flew from Ashern to Bloodvein. The principal there, is a wonderful Christian. She was happy to see us, and accompanied us to the classroom. I gave the students a little talk about the Bibles, and we distributed them. Then Linda went through a number of Scriptures with the kids over a time of approx. 1/2

hour. She really did nice work. Better probably than either the pastor or I could do.

From Bloodvein we flew to Berens River--- also a welcome reception. From Berens, we flew to Poplar River, arriving about an hour after school finished. We stayed at native evangelist, Raymond Maclean's home that night. Poplar River has a large very vibrant Christian community. They have evening services 7 nights a week---with a full house---and I mean---- packed---- chapel...These people are really on fire for the Lord!

Wed. morning before leaving Raymond's, I phoned the Winnipeg FSS to get a weather briefing. Our plan after Poplar River was to fly back to Ashern and pick up more Bibles and fuel before we proceeded any further to the Northeast.

Fuel is a problem in the north. There is going to be a lot of wasted time flying unproductively in order to refuel. Ashern, and Norway House are the only places with fuel that we can access. Pine Dock has fuel, but it is privately owned and apparently, we don't have access to it unless we pay cash.

Back to the weather - It was snowing quite heavily in the central Interlake yesterday south of a line extending from Dauphin to Gypsumville. Clearly, flying to Ashern was out of the question. On top of that, the meteorologist indicated that over the next 24-48 hours weather from northern Manitoba south through to Winnipeg would be marginal VFR at the very best, as another frontal system was tracking eastward into Manitoba. I decided to scrub the mission for now based on the weather.

As such, we flew up to Norway House to refuel, and I then flew over to Grand Rapids to drop off Pastor Bruce where his wife and daughter picked him up. From there, I flew back to Thompson, arriving as the visibility was rapidly decreasing to marginal conditions. As my Air Canada passes are not honored on Calm Air, I had to wait until this morning to catch the next available Canadian Regional flight to Winnipeg. My service charge for a pass is only around \$60, as opposed to approx. \$900 dollars for full fare.

Carol in the Skyward office was hoping that I would have some Bibles with me---The native people who fly to and from their reserves on Skyward, are often looking for Bible's, and Skyward

has run out of them. Next time up, perhaps, I should leave a box with them....

Speaking of next time up....Hopefully I will have a stretch of 4-5 days off next month, and in June before the school year ends to finish the job -but, it will be tight in any case to get the whole job done before school is out, with the variables of my schedule, the weather, and aircraft availability.

When I get my May schedule, - if I am fortunate enough to get a stretch of 4-5 days off in a row, I will let you and Stan know, and have Stan try in advance to secure the use of the airplane. Next week, my plan is to drive up to Fairford, and, with pastor Bruce, distribute Bibles to the students at Fairford, Little Saskatchewan, Lake St. Martin, and possibly Little Dauphin.

In Christ.....Ross

Ross Macfarlane is an Air Canada Pilot and a friend of the late missionary, Milton Menzies. At the Memorial Service for Milt, he felt God telling him: "I've got something for you to do!" and that he would get a phone call. When that call came from LifeLight President, Raymond Dueck, he felt it was God calling him to volunteer his time to deliver Scriptures where Milt had delivered them before. Pray for Ross and for

safety in travel. Pray for the children, and the families that receive these beautiful Bright Beginning New Testaments. Pray for guidance for the Executive Director and Board of Directors as they seek God's will in meeting the opportunities that arise for Scripture distribution.

Kurt and Frank Behrendt, are partners in Skyward Aviation a Thompson based airline. They volunteered to make their Cessna 172 available to Ross. Thank you and may God bless you!

Speakers Available!

Speakers available for: Church services, prayer meetings / breakfasts, woman's / men's ministries, boys and girls service organizations, Sunday School classes. For more information please contact Stan Schroeder at 204-444-3894 or 204-781-1162 or email at stanlaur@pangea.ca.

Topics include: The Bible as Light, Ministering to a broken World (with the Word of GOD), Making a Biblical difference in your community, and a Biblical Witness.

More than \$2,000 has been donated to the Milton Menzies Memorial Fund. If you would like to donate to this Fund, we are still accepting donations.

The LifeLight New Testament with Psalms and Proverbs



With the BBNT no longer available, our Board of Directors felt it was time to publish a colorful easy to read New Testament, suitable for a large range of audiences from children to adults. Featuring the New International Readers Version (a simplified NIV), this New Testament has Bible helps, full color pictures, and highlighted memory verses for maximum readability and impact! Order your copy today. Order now for your church's summer and fall ministry! Send a donation to help cover the costs of Scriptures required for distribution in the schools of Manitoba and elsewhere next fall. See the enclosed brochure for more details! This Scripture is published in memory of Milton Menzies.

LifeLight Ministries
Box 1858
Winnipeg MB R3C 3R1
www.lifelightministries.com
info@lifelightministries.com

