

BREAKING NEWS

MATA is Now an FAA Part 141 Pilot School

PRAISE! On January 23, 2025, MATA was certified as an FAA Part 141 Pilot School, after completing 24 months as a Provisional Pilot School. This new status will allow MATA to apply for Department of Homeland Security approval to offer flight training for international students. Our mission will continue to be equipping and training evangelical Christian pilots for mission aviation ministry. We hope to be able soon to offer pilot training to mission-bound Christians from outside the U.S.A. in response to the needs and requests from mission agencies needing national pilot/mechanics in their respective countries.



Casey Underwood (left) earns Instrument Rating. Celebrating with his instructor, Jeremy, in late January.



Don Belfils (right) earns his Tail-Wheel endorsement. Receives congratulations by Vic, in mid January.



An Effective Evangelism Tool is Expanding Throughout the U.S.

According to studies done by the “Pew Research Center” the percentage of U.S. adults who identify as Christians is continuing its rapid decline. Down from 78% in 2007 to less than 65% a just a few years ago. Surveys by George Barna with the Cultural Research Center in Arizona revealed in 2023 that only 4% of U.S. adults hold to a Biblical World View. (However, the good news is that in places such as Africa, Latin America, and the Far East, Christianity is rapidly increasing)!

It is important to mention that we must be filled with God’s Holy Spirit before going to people to engage in spiritual conversations. (John 15:15) Here in America, we as the disciples of Jesus, are finding it more challenging to begin a conversation about Jesus without being immediately rejected and cut off. People in our culture are becoming more deceived, blinded, and closed-minded by an increasing presence of dark spiritual forces from the evil one. (Ephesians 6:12).

A majority of non-Christians in our culture do feel lost, struggling, depressed, and without hope. It is very interesting that one thing that most people in our culture are open to discussing, without reservation, is prayer. When we as Christians offer a person the opportunity for us to pray for them, seldom is there rejection. By simply discussing prayer, doors can be later opened to discussing Jesus! The “trypraying” booklet is a 7-day prayer guide for those who are not religious. It’s been used by hundreds of thousands of people. It is often read and then passed on to friends, colleagues, and neighbors. Get one for yourself and pass it on to others. <https://www.trypraying.org/>

Praise & Prayer Requests:

Praise: Clayton was able to quickly rebuild the MATA website after it severely crashed January 9th.

Praise: We are seeing God work in Washington and British Columbia as MATA is loaning 10% of Clayton’s time to Missions Fest Seattle.

Prayer: Please continue to pray for MATA instructor, Bryan Eygabroad, and his family for U.S. immigration to expedite the needed paperwork for their adopted daughter, Bella, to become a U.S. citizen.

Prayer: Please pray for our grandchildren to grow spiritually strong as they learn more about God.

Prayer: Please pray for more laborers to be sent into God’s harvest and for more students to be called to train at MATA. Please pray for good weather to be available for needed flight training operations.

Prayer: Please pray for us as we travel to Canada for “Missions Fest British Columbia” (for more information, please see our flyer and <https://conference.missioncentral.ca/mfbc2025>), and for Clayton as he travels to Southern California with his sister later this month to visit their other sister.



Clayton + Becky

We thank you immensely for all your help. Your needs are important to us. Please let us know how we can pray for you.