

January 2024



Dear Pastors and Prayer Warriors,

In our last letter, we shared the progress on the property in Ecuador. Now I would like to tell you about our progress on the airplane (pictures are on the second page).

As is often the case, once we started disassembling the airplane so that we could start to fix things, more problems came to light. None of these could be seen during inspections but absolutely had to be fixed. We started by stripping off all the paint, since there was corrosion under the paint that needed to be removed and treated. We removed the interior, the windows, the doors, and the controls. The wings and tail were already removed for the move. The remaining instruments were all removed in preparation for the new avionics. After removing the engine, we started taking apart the front end to repair the damage caused by the landing accident before we bought it.

After finding hidden damage, we found that the best solution was to replace the entire firewall. While working on this, we found some very bad corrosion in the front of the fuselage. We obtained replacement parts and reassembled everything after removing and treating the corrosion, installed the wing STOL modifications, and then started painting. Next came putting the wings and tail back on and installing the new engine. At this point, the airplane has been almost completely restored. In the next month, we will be installing the new windows, finishing the electrical work, and starting to work on the control surfaces. Thanks to some donations, the deposit has been made for the new avionics, so we will soon be working on the fitting of the new instrument panel as well.

Pastor Gallo will soon be starting the construction of our hangar in Ecuador. We are looking forward to finishing up this phase of the work so that we can start working with the airplane in the jungle. Through all of this, we can see the hand of God directing everything. We now know that the airplane is safe to use, and I was able to obtain a thorough knowledge of every part of this airplane. This will allow me to easily maintain and repair any issues that may arise in the field. By faith, we are continuing to move forward.

Our current needs are:

- \$34,500 remaining for the airplane's avionics.
- \$13,000 for the final parts and modifications needed for the airplane.

Thank you for faithfully praying for us and allowing God to use you to help provide for this ministry.

God bless you.

Chris and Irene Williams

chris.williams@fbmi.org

fbmi.org | 219.228,2850

Christophe D. Wellian

Paint stripped and installation of the STOL modifications



Front completely disassembled for repairs



New parts installed



Painting



Current condition

