



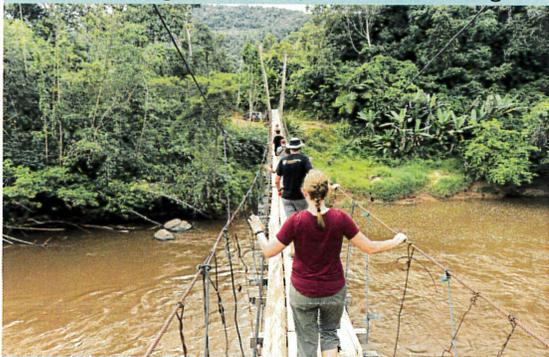
SERVING Together

DAVID & NATALIE | SPRING 2026

KALIMANTAN PART II



Greeting the people of Benua



Crossing a bridge in Benua



A special feast after church

Benua is one of many villages in Kalimantan, Indonesia, long served by the MAF plane. When we lived there, David flew to Benua hundreds of times, flying medical patients, cargo, pastors, and students.

So it was such a treat to return to Benua during our trip last fall with the resourcing team from MAF headquarters. Nearly the whole village came out to greet us when we landed, gifting us traditional bark vests and necklaces made from seeds.

The people of Benua just recently received the gospel of Luke in their heart language, Lengilo'. We talked at length with village elders and local Bible translators and heard stories of how MAF supported

their community and the translation efforts.

At a church service, boxes of the recently finished gospel of Luke were dedicated and given to people from surrounding villages who had yet to receive their copies.

Another impactful part of our trip to Kalimantan was visiting the MAF hospital house and hearing testimonies from people who received help—spiritually and physically—from MAF staff and local pastors who minister there.

We participated in a monthly service at the hospital house and visited the hospital where several MAF medevac patients were being treated. We were able to pray with their families and encourage them.



Our resource team from MAF with our host, Calvin (center), in front of a rice field in Binuang

Serving Through Joy & Sorrow

In December, one of our MAF teacher families in Papua lost their 16-year-old daughter, Janae, to complications of pneumonia and dengue fever. David was able to travel to Papua to attend the funeral and later traveled back to the U.S. with the Bilimek family to assist them on what was an incredibly difficult journey.

It was a stark reminder that MAF's work takes our staff to challenging parts of the world, where they live and serve the Lord, often at great personal sacrifice. In the midst of this tragedy, it was beautiful to witness the mission community in Papua surround this family and love and serve them. Please pray for the Bilimeks as they navigate their new reality of life without their daughter.

Life in ministry can be so fulfilling and at the same time very challenging. Through our 25 years with MAF, we have experienced both the highs and lows that come with the unique calling that God has placed before us.

To encourage us in our desire to persevere for the long haul, our MAF board has graciously granted us a three-month sabbatical for the purpose of rest and renewal. From April until June, we plan to step away from ministry duties and spend intentional time with each other, close friends, and the Lord. We would appreciate prayer for a restful and encouraging time, and that we can return to our respective roles strengthened in a new way.



David prays with a family whose daughter was brought to the hospital by MAF plane



Natalie interviews a Lengilo' Bible translator

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MAF missionaries raise support for a pooled fund out of which MAF covers salary, housing, benefits, and staff-related ministry expenses. MAF exercises discretion over the use of missionary support to carry out its mission and care for its staff.

Prayer Requests

- Pray that our time of sabbatical will be restful and restorative.
- Pray for the Bilimek family.
- Pray for the new MAF program in Nigeria, for visas and permissions.
- Pray for new staff to join the ministry.
- Pray for our young adult kids.

Thank you so much for partnering with us. We are deeply grateful for your prayers, encouragement, and faithful support. It is a gift to serve knowing we are not doing this alone.

The Holstens