

## The Youngs: Serving Christ through missionary aviation.



**We have direction!!!** Sorry for yelling, we're pretty excited! I passed my Technical Evaluation in December and have been accepted as a pilot/mechanic candidate with AIMAIR!! It was, by far, the hardest thing I've ever had to do; but also the most rewarding. More on that later; I'll back up a few months.

Part of my preparation for the TE was to get some additional flight time before December. We decided to rent an airplane large enough for our entire family and fly down to a supporting church in Georgia. It was quite an adventure, and we had a blessed time with the spiritual family at Faith Baptist in Bowman, Georgia. Not to mention the beauty of flying through the Great Smokey Mountains in late fall. God's creation speaks to us in many ways; but 1500 feet above the fall-painted mountains is one of our favorites.



*Faith Baptist Family*

Then it was back to Michigan for some last minute studying, Thanksgiving with our Michigan family and frantic Christmas decorating before I had to leave on November 29th for the JAARS Center in Waxhaw, NC.

The TE is often called a two week job interview. The first week is spent doing different maintenance projects and the second week is flying the Helio Courier.

I drove down and Tija flew down on the second Tuesday of the TE. I was feeling all the prayer support for sure. God gave me a sense of peace about the whole process and on Friday, December 12th, after all 6 examiners got together and deliberated, the AIMAIR representative congratulated us as the newest AIMAIR pilot/mechanic candidate. We are so excited to see how God is going to use us going forward. Tija has already begun to figure out how to have a hospitality hut in our back yard for guests. :-)

Our timeline has us moving to North Carolina for 4 months of training in August. Then we will be packing and headed to the AIMAIR base in Nairobi, Kenya for at least the first 6-9 months. The clock has started. We will have to sell our house this spring and finish building our support team by July of this year.. Lots to do as we meet with potential support team members, prep our house for sale, begin to sort through our earthly belongings, and decide what is absolutely essential and what can be sold or given away for someone else to enjoy.



On our way back to MN for Christmas, we stopped at the Mall of America to finish some last minute shopping. We were able to meet one of Tija's sisters and her husband. The girls still think



he's the strongest man in the world. Seth even got to take his first rollercoaster ride. Don't mind the terrified look on his face, he really did enjoy it. :-)

We had a wonderful time reconnecting with many on our support team over the holiday break. We look forward to doing ministry with you for many years to come as God uses us to

**Contact Info:**

Pete and Tija Young  
220 Holiday Drive  
Ionia, MI 48846

612-709-3244—Pete

612-386-0781—Tija

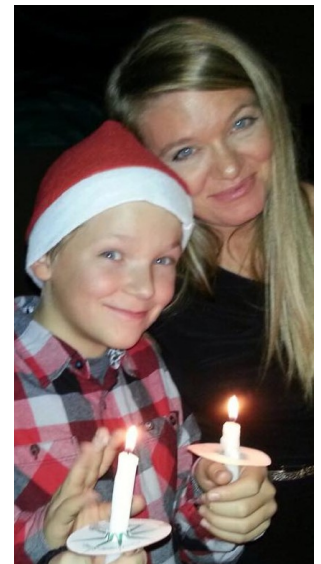
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