

CrossRoads

N A M P A

Lynn and her husband, Gene, served as missionaries with our partners [Mission Aviation Fellowship \(MAF\)](#) for over 20 years before moving back to the United States in the early 2000s. They have attended Crossroads since 2006 and continue to serve God and His church daily. We hope you enjoy reading Lynn's story.



Lynn's story —

I don't remember the exact moment I realized I had the desire to become a missionary, but it was probably in my early college years. At the time, I felt like there were a lot of people doing really great things here in the U.S., so I wanted to go somewhere the Gospel had not yet been preached. My husband, whom I had met in college, had the same desire to serve. He was raised by missionary parents in Ecuador and spent a lot of time with MAF pilots. He had witnessed MAF's missionary work first-hand.

Because of this, and because of my husband's love for aviation, we joined MAF shortly after we got married, and we have been with MAF ever since!

They sent us to Ecuador, and we lived and served there for 22 years. We flew into remote areas to deliver supplies, transport missionaries into rural jungle to translate the Bible into the native languages, like Shuar and Kichwa, and share the gospel with those who had never heard Jesus' name. We would also assist with medical emergencies by flying folks to hospitals—whether it was snakebite victims, or women experiencing childbirth complications.

We loved the work, and there are so many moments I hold dear to this day. But I think one of my fondest memories is when we flew a group of kiddos to the Ecuadorian coast. This particular group of children were born and raised in the jungle, and the jungle was all they knew—they had never been anywhere else. They had enrolled in a local program where they memorized 36 Bible verses, and as a result, had the chance to go to camp on the Ecuadorian coast.

A lot of those kiddos were memorizing Scripture without really knowing what they were learning. But when they got to camp—aside from having a lot of fun at the beach—they had the opportunity to talk about what those Bible verses meant. They learned those verses they memorized were for them personally, that God loves them, and Jesus died for them.

It was so amazing to be part of the team that flew those kids to their camp.

My husband and I no longer live in Ecuador. Gene was asked to work at MAF headquarters in 2000, and we have been in the states ever since. But our mission work did not stop there. I help lead a Good News Club at one of our local elementary schools. At Good News Club, we play games with the kids, sing a couple of songs, learn a Bible verse or two, and teach a 12-minute Bible story. Then we split into small groups where the kids talk about what they learned. You would not believe how many children join our club who have never heard the name of Jesus, why we celebrate Christmas, or the reality of Easter.

Some of the kiddos have said to us, “this is my church.” Their parents aren't believers, and so they're unable to attend church on Sundays. It's definitely a need and a ministry here in Nampa. And starting in the fall we will have the opportunity to be part of another school, once we have enough people to serve alongside us—to lead small groups, play games, and tell Bible stories. So, that's one way you could serve locally, if you wanted to do so!

There are so many ways you can partner with God, whether you are serving in the

church or you are out in the workplace. Find what you enjoy doing and see how God can use that for His glory. God calls all of us to share His Gospel!

Whatever we do, I think it's so important to make everything we do count for eternity.

There are so many ways to partner with God, whether it's financially or through service! If you are interested in serving for Good News Club, reach out to debbie@crossroadsidaho.org. Good News Club is a two-hour commitment once a week, on Wednesdays.

Want to serve at Crossroads? Click [here](#) to find out how and in what areas you can serve!

— Have a story to share? How has God shown you His goodness and provision? If you'd like to share a story or celebration of how God has used Crossroads as a place of refuge in your life, how you've experienced God's transformative power, or how you're partnering with Him, please email julia@crossroadsidaho.org to schedule a time to meet and share your story.

