

Oostdyk Odyssey

Summer 2010

Serving the Lord through mission aviation in the West Indies

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We'd love to hear from you!



Blessings of Harvest after the Earthquake

Reports are coming out of Haiti that over 80,000 decisions or professions of faith have been made since the earthquake of January 12, 2010. It seems like almost every flight we are hearing from the passengers returning from a short-term trip that revival is still happening in Haiti. Since I wrote in the spring, I chatted with an evangelist who was returning on one of my flights. He said that he was there to preach revival services in the city of Cap Haitian all week long. Every day there were about fifteen-thousand people in attendance and the last night there was over 35,000 people! He also said they had at least 300 names of people that had been counseled. All in just that one week. ***Praise the Lord for all the work He is doing in His people!*** Tragedy seems to bring us closer to God no matter where we live.

A SHOE Story

Often I am approached with, "Please help me to pay for school." or, "Help me be able to feed my baby." kind of solicitations. It's hard to know which requests are legitimate. Recently I was asked for a pair of tennis shoes from one of our Haitian airport workers and I told him that I would do what I could to help him. The next day I went in to MFI and God did something I didn't expect. One of the first jobs I had that day was to unload 11,000 pairs of new and used shoes from a U-Haul truck that just arrived from a ministry in NC! I found a couple pairs of shoes in his size and was able to send them down on our next flight. A couple of days later I saw him with a big smile on his face as he showed me his new shoes! ***We serve a great God and I am daily reminded that it is never what I can do, but what He does through me!***

Emergency Flight, June 2, 2010



Carefully loading the air-ambulance passenger in Cap Haitian, Haiti

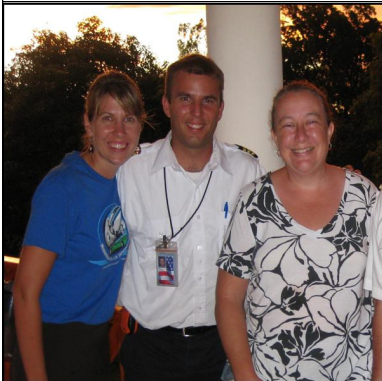
I had just returned to work after a long flight the previous day, and was asked the question, "Do you feel up to flying again to Haiti today for an emergency flight?" I was the only pilot available and, thankfully, was able to get plenty of rest after the flight the previous day. I took off around 9:45am from Fort Pierce, FL, and landed in Haiti mid-afternoon. The lady I was to transport had broken her artificial hip and was in severe pain, so we were praying for a smooth flight home. We brought a gurney with us in the plane, so she was fairly comfortable for the 4 hour journey back to Florida. Things went well and we arrived in Palm Beach around 8:25pm and were met by an ambulance. It is a blessing for the missionaries to know that help is only a few hours away if they need us. ***Praise God for continuing to provide for this much needed Emergency Fund, as it is very costly and the missionary can't always cover the costs involved.***

TAMMY'S ADVENTURE!

I was invited to go along as a flight attendant on a weekend trip with Ray, to fly a group of Haitian college students to a mission's conference! Don't get me wrong - I love staying at home with my boys, but I jumped at the chance to go along on an adventure! My parents graciously agreed to watch the boys for us. I had to study the flight attendant manual and be checked out on the DC3. Thankfully, I never had to use any of those emergency procedures!



When we arrived in Haiti, we picked up 24 students. Most of them had never been on a plane before! The Haitian students were so animated and had smiles that were wonderfully contagious. They cheered when the plane lifted off, yelled when we encountered some turbulence, and kept me super busy serving food and drinks once they realized that the snacks were free! We later went on a long bus trip with the students and they sang worship songs the entire time - they sang in Creole while we sang in English. It was a taste of what heaven will be like! They all wore shirts that said, "THE FUTURE OF HAITI". **It is so exciting to know that the future of Haiti is in God's hands and to have the privilege to meet these young and passionate students that will impact their country for Christ!**



With missionary wife, Debbie

When we returned to Haiti, we stayed in a town called "Pignon". There I was able to meet some of the missionary families that Ray has served with. They all bragged on Ray and how much he and the other MFI guys mean to them. It was so special to meet these brothers and sisters in Christ that I've heard so much about!



The grass airstrip at Pignon

Family News

Tammy is continuing to homeschool our boys. Matthew is going into 4th Grade and Micah is entering 2nd Grade. They love to build forts in the living room, play at the beach, and read to their little brother! Josiah is talking more everyday. He loves to sing and we over-hear him singing himself to sleep in his crib! **Please pray for us as we seek to raise these boys to be servants for His kingdom!**



On July 14th, we celebrated 7 years of serving with MFI and want to give our thanks for your support for God's work and provision for us. We know it has been hard for many of you who sacrificially give and we praise God that we have had the finances we need to serve at MFI thus far. Currently, we are about **\$200/month short at 95%** of our monthly support level needed. Please **pray for more opportunities to share with friends and churches** the ministry God has called us to with MFI!

Flying for HIM,

Ray & Tammy