

Oostdyk Odyssey

SERVING THE LORD THROUGH MISSION AVIATION IN THE WEST INDIES



Missionary Flights International

Attn: Ray & Tammy Oostdyk

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www.missionaryflights.org



PRAYER:

- Pray for those affected by the Chikungunya virus, including MFI's auto mechanic, Bob Ramsey
- Pray for the "wing pull inspection" on DC3 turbine N200MF during the month of August
- Pray for the provision of a 3rd turbine DC3 for MFI and the sale of the piston DC3, N400MF

PRAISE:

- Praise for safety on our flights during the summertime storms in the Bahamas
- Praise for a successful emergency evacuation flight out of Jamaica for a missionary wife who had extreme back pain
- Praise for the annual pilot evaluations that have been completed

Chikungunya - (chicken-GOON-ya)

Unless you live in the Caribbean or South Florida, you might not know about this virus that is now affecting our ministry. Chikungunya is a virus spread by mosquitoes and is currently infecting nearly half the population of Haiti. Like Dengue fever and Malaria, there is no cure, but for the most part it is a non-fatal disease. The symptoms include high fevers for a couple days and joint pain that can last for several weeks to



months. At this time some mission teams have cancelled or delayed their travel and ministry plans, but MFI is continuing regular service. We have taken some precautions by using strong mosquito repellents. Pray for wisdom for the teams that are deciding whether or not to delay trips. Pray that the flight crews and missionaries will be protected from these viruses.



A hospital waiting room in Haiti

George Knoop (1936-2014)

George had been faithfully serving in Haiti since 2010, after the earthquake in Port au Prince. He learned of MFI's need of a mail room manager and felt God calling him to fill that need. When he wasn't at the airport serving the missionaries, he was involved with leading Bible studies in his church. At age 74, he commented he wanted to serve the Lord in Haiti for his final years here on earth.

Sadly, George was brutally attacked in his home at Port au Prince on May 13, 2014, and passed away a few hours later at the hospital. As you can imagine, it has been a difficult time for the staff at MFI and for the missionaries in Haiti who served with George. He will be remembered as a great prayer warrior in the faith, who was compassionate for the lost in Haiti.



Ray with George, outside of his house in Haiti (photo was taken last year)

Family News



Josiah was recently the ring-bearer in a wedding at our church. As you can tell, he enjoyed that role VERY much!



For this year's string recital, the students had a challenge to play their pieces for as many people as they could. We played at nursing homes, church functions, and even the food court in the mall (pictured above). Micah had a total of 1200 listeners and Matthew had over 1500 - and won the prize! The recital theme was, "Under the Sea", which explains why Micah was performing barefoot (and wearing swim shorts).



We had a group of missionary mechanics over for dinner while they were helping with the "hot section" at MFI (a detailed inspection). Julia managed to get all the guys to play UNO with her at her little table! Sure is tough being the little princess...

Emergency Flight to Jamaica

Recently, MFI had a request to help a missionary wife in the mountains in Jamaica. After weeks of visiting doctors in Jamaica and not receiving an accurate diagnosis, Ray was asked to transport her back to the U.S. for treatment. Among other issues, she had severe back pain and was unable to travel back to the U.S. by airlines because she could not sit, only lie down. Her symptoms were getting worse and she would not be able to travel at ALL if she did not leave soon. The Lord graciously provided beautiful weather for the emergency flight in our small Cessna twin, N911MF. The flight involved paying a fee for a special permit to fly through Cuban airspace. We had to go through a broker, because you cannot pay the Cuban government directly. God moved the heart of the broker to discount the fee for us! After arriving in Fort Pierce, FL, her brother was able to pick her up in a motor-home to travel to her doctors in Ohio. We were so thankful that God worked out everything, down to the smallest detail. Please pray for her to get an accurate diagnosis and treatment so she can get back to serving the Lord in Jamaica!



Walking to customs with some assistance

*This is the day the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

In His Service,

Ray & Tammy Oostdyk

