

Spring 2008

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The Oostdyk Family
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MFI Statistics

March 2007-2008

- MFI flew 1463 hours for missions.
- We made 192 flights
- We averaged 3.8 flights a week.
- Our planes and flight crews flew 277,000 miles or 12 times around the world
- We transported 3,100 passengers and their 150,000 pounds of baggage.
- MFI transported 403,000 pounds of mission cargo
- 4 shipping containers to Haiti with food, fabric, clothing, etc.
- 1 shipping container to India with books, supplies.
- The total weight of passengers, baggage, and cargo airlifted to Haiti, the DR and the Bahamas was 1.3 million pounds.

Prayer & Praise

- **March 14** MFI banquet at West Palm Beach
- **August 6** Tammy's due date
- **Fall '08**- traveling to visit family/supporters
- **Praise**- God supplies all our Needs!
- **Praise**- 2 new staff families added- one pilot/mechanic and one mechanic only
- **Pray**- Haiti customs delaying critical missionary supplies

Baby Update

We're having another **BOY!!** Tammy's doctor was wrong! He's been telling Tammy that the heartbeat was too fast to be a boy. Then we had a little surprise when the radiologist told us they were 100% sure we are having a boy. Tammy is still sick half the time and probably will be the whole pregnancy! (She was the same way with her other pregnancies.) The baby is due around August 6. *Pray for patience for us as we await his delivery!*



Missionary Challenges

As with probably every ministry, there seems like challenges every week that can discourage or encourage us. One recent major prayer request we have is for Haiti Customs. Apparently, they are trying to prevent corruption of their officers (that is a good thing) by increasing the paper trail and time it takes to clear the cargo that is brought in nationwide. This means the missionaries' critical supplies are sitting at the airport waiting up to 8 days to get cleared into the country instead of going through the same day. There are meetings with the customs officials scheduled to help expedite cargo, especially because it's all coming in to help the Haitian people. *Pray that this will be resolved soon.*

"While bouncing around in the back of the truck, she fell out and popped her knee out of joint!"

Every flight I am blessed to meet missionaries or mission work-team members. Recently, I met a home-schooled 14 year-old that had her very first mission's trip. She told me about her week and how she enjoyed working with the Haitian children. She also said that the biggest cultural difference was the crazy driving! The roads were so bad that the truck they were riding in got a hole in the fuel tank. Then while traveling, she fell out of the back of the truck and popped her knee out of joint! Now when I hear missionaries say that they wouldn't be able to stay without MFI, I am reminded how critical our service can be to those sacrificing so much to see people saved. *Praise God for our ministry partners and supporters who are such a blessing to both us and those we serve.*

Open House '08

On **March 1st**, we had our 2nd annual Open House. We had food, tours, airplane rides, and a kid's corner with pony rides and contests. We had a good turn-out (approximately 700) from our community- many of whom may not know Christ. Tammy worked the kids corner and organized a paper-airplane contest while I gave rides and tours of the airplane. Also, many tours of our new facility were given, explaining our ministry and how God is working in those countries we are serving. *Pray that God would use the seeds planted in our community to bring some to Christ.*



In His Service,

Ray & Tammy & Boys

Ray and Tammy Oostdyk

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