

DERIK & ZOË

F L E N S B U R G

SEPTEMBER 2024

joining God in reaching the nations through aviation



THE LORD GOES BEFORE US

The smell of the smokey charcoal grill and hotdogs spread to our group's noses as we sat in our soggy swimsuits around the picnic table, still shivering from the refreshingly cold lake. With playing cards in our hands, slightly sticky from the huge bowl of devoured watermelon, the mood was lighthearted and carefree with plenty of robust laughter. An evening breeze picked up as the sunset over the lake cast red and orange across the clouds above. This describes a scene from just one of many evenings God has given us to spend with students. We enjoy hosting game and movie nights at our apartment or bringing a meal to share at the lake or river. We were students too, so we recall the need for recreation to balance the rigorous training that Moody Aviation offers. We also had a need for those who were older and wiser to lend a listening ear and offer encouragement and advice, so we're blessed to be that to the students with whom the Lord connects us.

AVIATION CAMP & OSHKOSH

This summer was both exciting and active for us! In early July, Derik and I flew a Skyhawk to Cascade, ID for our third year at MAF's "Aviation Adventure Camp." This week-long camp introduces 12 high school students to the global impact of missionary aviation. The students had daily flights with instructors, ground school, team-building exercises, rafting, swimming, and devotional and staff testimony times. I helped in the kitchen while Derik gave flight instruction, but we were both able to give some ground instruction as well. The camp has become a yearly highlight for us, as it opens students' eyes to how God uses aviation to spread the Good News. →

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OSHKOSH: Right after the camp, we embarked on another adventure, flying a Skyhawk from Spokane, WA to Worthington, MN, returning the plane to Proclaim Aviation Ministries. This trip also brought us most of the way to Oshkosh, WI, for this year's EAA AirVenture, the world's largest airshow. We spent a week with a handful of other coworkers at Moody's booth engaging with potential students, aviation enthusiasts, and networking with others in missionary aviation. The impactful conversations we had reflected how God is at work, and we were grateful to be part of it!



At AirVenture in Oshkosh, we encountered a few of Derik's students and others from both this and last year's MAF aviation camp!



Zoë and her international students celebrate after finishing a 50-hour inspection on one of Moody's Cessna 206's



Derik shares with the new Moody students about living safely in a big city

ZOË'S DAY TO DAY AT MOODY

My supervisor, Dan, and I work with rotating groups of ~5 students in their last two years of flight training. Early in the morning, we begin by sitting around the lab table for devotional time to hear how the Lord is actively working in students' lives, guiding them through challenges with finances, relationships, and other struggles. We then move on to performing routine inspections on our flight training aircraft. During an inspection, students complete tasks such as cleaning spark plugs, performing engine cylinder compression tests, changing engine oil, checking flight control cable tensions, and more. My role is to guide and direct the students, check processes and procedures, verify torques, and offer tips and tricks. Every now and then, I teach from a classroom setting, though I most enjoy the teaching that happens naturally out on the shop floor.

I feel blessed to be a maintenance instructor—thank you to all of those who partner with us in prayer, finances, and advocacy to allow us to invest in these students!

DERIK'S DAY TO DAY AT MOODY

As an introvert, I at first mistakenly thought that safety management would be lonely work. While a large part of my role involves designing safety processes to determine who does what and when to manage safety risks, I've learned that this role is very relational. I have learned to enjoy wandering Moody just to chat with staff and students to gauge morale, fatigue, and to encourage positive safety culture. The safety team at Moody Aviation is a group of experienced missionary aviators, and part of my job is encouraging them in their roles in safety management. God has enabled me to create much of the safety management system processes, so now we are working towards implementing them in a way that fosters buy-in and ownership from everyone that plays a part at Moody Aviation.

I ask for prayer in implementing this work which feels like the culmination of the last two-and-a-half years of my work at Moody Aviation!

Derik & Zoë



pray

- Growth in the desire to walk in the steps the Lord has planned for us
- Miraculous provision for an affordable house near Moody for us to move into
- More workers in missionary aviation—the need is great!