

*joining God in reaching the nations through aviation.*



## the Lord gives work and rest

His hands darkened with carbon, the aviation maintenance student paused work on the aircraft in a moment of realization. Marveling and slowly turning his darkened hands, he declared with awe, "I'm a mechanic. Wow, guys, look---I'm a mechanic." His excitement was contagious. He reached out for a high five and the carbon transferred to my (Zoë's) hand. I looked at my hand and joked ironically, "I'm a mechanic now too!" We laughed, recognizing all the hard work and dedication required of a student of missionary aviation. Though uncommon, these fleeting moments make maintenance instruction all the more rewarding. God gives Derik and me a front-row-seat view of the students' growth as pilots and mechanics for the gospel!

### COLD TO COLDER

Over Christmas break, Zoë and I (Derik) spent nearly three weeks in Alaska visiting family, friends, and partners in ministry. After visiting family for Christmas, I was given the opportunity to speak at Solid Rock Bible Camp's Teen Winter Retreat on Ephesians 2, life and purpose in Christ, and about what the Lord is doing in world missions. One of the counselors had many questions for Zoë about missionary aviation; since then, she has applied to Moody and we hope to see her here in the Fall!

### DARK TO LIGHT

On our return to Spokane, my supervisor and I (Derik) were asked to present the final report of the internal safety audit to our staff. The internal safety audit was a refreshing process of bringing to light topics that had not yet been formally discussed, such as finances, fatigue, and communication. We were encouraged by one staff member who told Garry, the day after he shared the findings and brought one particular topic to the table, "Today was the first morning in a long time that I woke up feeling hopeful about this."

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## PROVISION TO PRAYER

Recently, we were given a front-row-seat view of God's faithfulness to us. Proclaim Aviation, our mission sending agency, informed us our income had been increased to account for inflation and recent changes to minimum wage, meaning our minimum fundraising goal was upped by over \$1,000 a month. In view of a recent dip in support, we wondered and prayed about how the Lord would bring us to this new funding goal. A week later, we were invited to a meeting with Jim Conrad (MA's Program Manager) and our supervisors, where they shared their appreciation for the part we play at Moody Aviation and then informed us that the budget now allows Moody to join our team of ministry partners, in the same way it partners with many of its missionary seconded staff. This raised support over our new minimum funding goal (see picture below)! Then, Jim asked us to begin praying about remaining on staff at Moody longer-term. We are praying about this, confident the Lord will establish our next steps when the time comes.



We were blessed by time with our good friends Noah and Courtney Procter at Solid Rock Bible Camp.



Derik's brother-in-law took us ice fishing. Zoë caught her first fish through the ice!



Zoë teaches engine lubrication systems to 4th-year Moody students during a week-long engine seminar.

## WORK AND REST

Each year, Moody Aviation's Safety Department (including Derik) organizes a Safety Seminar for staff and students. Fatigue is a common thread in the findings of many aviation accident investigations, so the seminar topic this year centered on work and rest. The guest speakers explored the topic from a biblical perspective, giving me (Zoë) new thoughts:

- Work is a gift rather than a necessary evil; Adam and Eve were given good work before sin entered the world.
- All good work improves creation in terms of productivity, order, virtuousness, beauty, and fun; it displays who God is.
- God does good work, so, as His image-bearers, we are made to do good work.
- How I relate and think of work reflects how I relate and think of God too.
- Rest is stopping work and enjoying God's work and the work of others.
- If my rest is not helping prepare me to return to work, it is not rest.



God has given us good work to do (Eph 2:10) and we want to receive both the work and the rest in joy! What work and rest is the Lord inviting you to receive today?

*Derik & Zoë*

**pray**

We are asking God for our next steps, whether He sends us elsewhere in missions or if we should stay at Moody longer-term • As our apartment lease is up this summer, we are asking God for housing • Growth in our dependence on Christ • Wisdom in friendships and mentorships of Moody students