

"...The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy..." - Psalm 126:3

Hello everyone!



Top: First 206 solo XC flight!
Bottom: Taking off from KAC Ranch



How do I possibly put the past few months onto 2 pages of paper? 😊 This summer in Alaska has been an absolute joy. From all the amazing people I met and the flight experience I built, what stands out is how kind the Lord has been & the joy He's given me in pursuing what He has purposed & called me to do. Getting to live this out daily this summer with others who are also actively pursuing missions has been such a sweet gift. Thank you to all of you who have prayed & supported me in various ways these past months – means so much!

Flying in Alaska

Having the opportunity to build flight experience at Kingdom Air Corps (KAC) in a mission focused setting has been extremely valuable in further preparing me to serve with MAF! From flying a Cessna 206 in the remote mountains (+5 other aircraft types), landing on short grass and gravel strips, completing High Performance & Complex endorsements & flying passengers + supplies up in the arctic, I've been challenged & grown in many ways as a pilot which I'm extremely grateful for. So thankful for all I have learned and how the team at KAC made this possible! Yet again amazed at how the Lord in His perfect ways + timings opened up such a wonderful opportunity for exactly what I needed to better equip me to serve with MAF.

Ministry in the Brooks Range:

Part of my time included helping serve above the arctic circle with Bible camps for native Alaskan kids living in the Brooks Range. We flew 10 small aircraft 400 nautical miles north to a remote no road access location where we held the Bible camps. Getting to serve with a team focused on sharing the Gospel message was a real privilege and we all worked together in various roles as cooks, camp counsellors, leading games, worship, chapel times, cutting firewood, fixing the generator or water pump & flying to surrounding villages picking up/dropping off the kids! While it wasn't easy seeing the heartbreaking challenges many of these kids face it was amazing seeing how Jesus is working on their hearts and the opportunities we had to play a small part in sharing God's love & hope with them.

A few weeks before this I flew up supplies with a team and we all helped build an extension onto the cabin & make repairs from bear damage in preparation for the Bible camps. I helped shuttle in supplies to the Camp with the C206 from Coldfoot the closest town where the road ends (30 min flight). Was a real team effort operating in the remote bush like this and such a valuable experience to be a part of!



Our cabin week 1 Kids Camp



Still a little space left for the mosquitoes 😊
Flying supplies in for Bible camp with the 206

Flying...Mountains...People

I absolutely loved getting to train, learn & serve together with such a phenomenal group of people. Together with staff, volunteers & fellow training candidates we lived on a remote ranch property with a grass strip down the center. We would eat together, flight train each day, help with various chores & maintenance around the property, have mission focused classes & Bible teachings led by guest missionaries. A bustling place where often the dinning hall was filled with around 100 people each meal. The KAC ranch itself is a mission field having many visitors and volunteer groups coming in each week from all over and it was so encouraging getting to meet many different people & have opportunities to help out in a lot of different ways!

Flying the C206 out of the grass strip was epic but my favorite highlights were the conversations I had with such awesome people. Nothing is cooler than talking about why we are doing this and hearing everyone's own stories of how the Lord is working & leading in their lives. Pursuing mission aviation is a challenging one but nothing is more worthwhile and I loved the opportunities I had to encourage others and be encouraged by such a sweet group of people who I'm excited to see again....Hopefully in different parts of the world serving with different organizations all with the same passion and goal that we each have - using airplanes to share the light + hope of Jesus!

Question Corner...

"Was flying in Alaska much different from other countries/places you've flown in?"

Yes! Alaska is known for it's fast changing weather and rugged remote landscape which make it a perfect training environment for pilots! The mountains, bush strips, glacier dust + strong mountain winds were all new experiences which built my skills as a missionary pilot!

"Can our Church sponsor you so we can give to our Church on your behalf or can we only donate directly to you/MAF?"

Yes this is definitely possible! If your church would like to partner with me or you know of other organizations or even businesses that would be interested, please let me know! I would love to connect!

Do you have a question for my next newsletter? Contact me!
annamarielvandermeijden@gmail.com or WhatsApp/Signal! 😊



Special crew sending me off as I left AK with a "see ya later" icecream ❤️



Our flight training team 😊

What's Next Back in NL?

2 weeks after returning to the Netherlands I took the final written exam for my EASA conversion. It went really well! Glad to have this completed & now preparing for the final step of taking a checkride with an examiner. Having the Dutch pilot license I'll be able to continue with some further flight training & assessments required here at MATC. (The Dutch flight school which is MAF's official training provider here in Europe).

Currently I am also working on raising the financial support I need before I can be sent overseas by MAF. I've always been more focused on asking for prayer support rather than finances (I'm more of a "George Mueller approach" when it comes to money 😊) It's truly amazing how God has always provided & the people who have helped me through the years to get to this point - God is so good and I give Him all the glory!

Having said this, the goal is still to be sent out early next year. In order for this to happen I need to raise the necessary financial support. What I really need is people who are able to commit to a monthly donation, regardless of how much, to help me serve with MAF. I need to raise roughly €3,500 more euros (\$5,600CAD) of monthly donations to reach this goal. Would you prayerfully consider if this is something you would be interested & able to help me with? If you have any questions at all please send an email or connect through: www.wingsofffaith.nl

For those of you who are already giving financially - thank you so much for your support & investing into the ministry of MAF. I could not do this without you & I'm grateful for the important part you all have in the ways you encourage, pray and support me forward in this mission! Being able to do this type of work takes a team of people and I'm very thankful + blessed for each of you!

P.S. On the next page I've added a bunch of photos! 😊

Annamarie

Snippets of my time in Alaska.....

Special thanks to all who helped take these pics 😊



Flying into local village with team!



Visiting kids in one of the villages! Our transport back to the airplane 😊



Home while at KAC with 7 other gals 😊



My girls from camp week 1 - visiting their village! (Airplanes or snow machine are the only way to reach these villages)



Unloading a stove + more fuel at camp



Low level terrain flying in the cub!



Survival course, including a surprise night sleeping in the bush



Build trip - adding extension to cabin for the Bible camps



Arriving at camp in Brooks Range



The KAC Ranch (on downwind) see the runway? 😊



Flying up the Matanuska glacier



All 10 aircraft at camp (1AK1) - summer "night time" in the Arctic



Picking up more supplies for camp



Everything fits in a 206! 😊 Freezer with food loaded in for camp



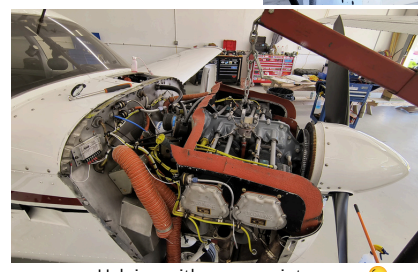
Our favorite spot to warm up at camp



Complex training with MARC!



Kids and all us volunteers Bible camp week 1



Helping with some maintenance 😊



Made sandbags for airplane ballast