

Phil and Kris Nelson



MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship)

Bio

Phil and Kris Nelson, along with their children, Daniel, Tim, and Laura, are missionaries with Mission Aviation Fellowship serving in Nampa, Idaho. They share that it is always a joy to work and be a part of the ministry of MAF around the world.

Phil returned to work at MAF's headquarters in 2011, after spending 20 years in Papua, Indonesia, as a pilot/mechanic. Phil and Kris lived at five different bases during their time in Papua, where Phil flew and maintained a variety of types of piston and turbine powered aircraft, operated on wheels, floats and amphibious floats. His years of service have uniquely prepared him to work with the many folks preparing for overseas ministry.

Phil is now working as a Maintenance Instructor in the Training Department at MAF's headquarters. He shares, "I have always enjoyed doing maintenance. During our last two terms I had the privilege of training and mentoring several MAF staff as mechanics. I found it very rewarding, training others and seeing them being successful." Now Phil is able to do this on an even larger scale in MAF's Training Department as he helps evaluate, train and prepare MAF's future mechanics.

Phil was born and raised in Michigan. He accepted the Lord as a high school senior, during a Young Life retreat. Following high school, he attended Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, graduating with a B.S. in Aviation Technology. He also earned a Commercial Pilot's License with Instrument Rating, and an A&P mechanic's license.

Kris was born in Wisconsin and came to the Lord in high school. Her spiritual growth came through involvement with the Navigators in college. She attended the University of Wisconsin, Madison, graduating with a Bachelor of Music Education. Phil and Kris met on a short-term mission trip to Hungary in 1988, and were married in 1990.