



Our COAT group has people on their way to Kenya, Myanmar, India, Mexico and the home office



Training classes in Fort Myers, FL



Eating leaves at our ECHO field trip. ECHO is an local organization that networks to find hunger solutions around the world



The "Six hats of thinking" activity at COAT

The journey of following God's call

Happy Holidays! I can't believe that December is here already! It seems that each year gets shorter and shorter! This year has been jam packed with fun and exciting things! In June, I officially finished college after 10 long years with my second MA degree in Early Childhood Education. I also made a decision that will change my life as I know it. What, you may ask?

I have decided to follow God's call to become a missionary overseas!

As a result, I have officially affiliated with New Mission Systems International, otherwise known as NMSI. They are a mission sending agency located in Fort Myers, Florida, and serve over 200 missionaries in 24 countries around the world. On December 19, I finished the COAT program—the first step in becoming a missionary through NMSI.

COAT stands for Community, Orientation, Assessment and Training

Is a training and development program is eight weeks long and consists of spiritual formation classes, global missions courses, mission planning and strategy meetings, community building activities, financial planning and much more. My days here in Florida usually began at 8:00 am with meetings, devotions, and classes lasting until 5:00 pm and then two or three hours of homework after that. It is amazing to see all that the Lord has taught me here at COAT!

Where am I heading? At this point it looks like I will be using the gifts and talents God has given me in the area of education to serve youth and teachers in Uganda, East Africa. The first step of doing that was the COAT training, followed by two other training courses in Colorado. In between these two trainings I will be in the process of building an effective prayer and provision team that can partner with me in ministry.

When am I leaving? This is an interesting question to ask. As many of you know I am currently in Florida until the end of the year. I plan on being back to California by January. Ideally, I would like to leave for Africa in July 2009 but that will depend upon the provision team that the Lord provides. I need to be 100% funded before leaving for the field so my departure date is flexible as a result.

I will sing of your praises Lord! The Lord has provided for me in many ways this past year. I have seen him orchestrating each step in order for me to be able to come to NMSI training. He has provided in numerous ways already from time off work, to finances, to providing me with new friends while I am here. I can't wait to see what else He has in store for me as I continue to follow in His leading!

Prayer warriors? As with any adventure in life, it is important to have people standing with me in prayer. Please pray for wisdom in my decision making as well as continued guidance from the Lord. For nothing can be done apart from Him!

