

We are back in the office, after an amazing summer. The summers always seem like a whirlwind experience for us, and this one was no different! We had a great Candidate class of MKs; and a great CS/PFO experience. Our focus this year was "Savor the Journey." That is a theme I found on the back of a restaurant T-shirt in Thailand. What a great theme for our lives! God has placed us all on a journey. Too often we are too focused on the next step of our journey, so much so that we miss out on the entire experience of today! My challenge for the MKs was to enjoy every step of the way. Know that God is using every step to make us into who He wants us to be.

We were all a little bit overwhelmed by the sheer number of MKs this summer at SOM. We were over 300 MKs 0 - 18 years old! Although the numbers were high, we had a great time! We celebrated 35 years of MK ministry - truly marked the moment. 35 years ago the Assemblies of God had its first MK program for the MKs at School of Missions! It is amazing to see how things have grown and developed in 35 years. We will continue that celebration at our annual ski retreat this November, when all the former MK directors will come and be a part of the celebrations!

Definitely one of the highlights of my summer was the MK Missions trip to Honduras. I was so thrilled to be able to take a group of high school MKs to a place other than their "home" on a missions trip. Seeing them interact with a different culture than what they are used to was so much fun. Many MKs have to work with missions teams coming from the States, and never get to have that same experience themselves. I pray that having these kinds of MK missions trips will open up missions, in a whole new way, to our MKs. I stole this quote off an MK's blog that went on the trip with us:

"Honduras was an amazing total God experience and it's definitely made my summer of '07 I'll never forget.....not only did I make a new friend, see beautiful scenes of God's amazing nature.....I got to be blessed by helping others and by being apart of handing out the Book of Hope .....It's probably been the best summer of all: Thanks to you guys who supported me in either finances and/or prayers! God Bless! ><>"

Blessings,

Chad and Dargan Phillips