

Tuba City Church of Christ/ Navajo Nation Update

Quarterly Newsletter



Summer Groups

With the help of summer visiting groups from The Cherokee Children's Home (TX), an Iowa youth group, The North Atlanta c/C youth group (for the 10th year), the Oregon Youth Group (East County's 10th year), the Texas youth groups, LSU Christian campus Ministry group, and our 3 amazing college interns, we accomplished much through hauling over 40 chords of wood for winter, clearing several burnt homes, building sheds for elderly couples, replacing decks, adding to the church playground, putting in security doors, built a ramp, hosted weekly Wednesday evening outreach movie nights/cookout (with over 200 in attendance), hosted VBS weeks with over 100 kids for the week, and helped start a small food bank pantry to assist families in need when they are short on food/toiletries.



Sunday Evenings

Most Sunday evenings were spent marital counseling a small group of young married couples (through *Boundaries in Marriage*, and *Love and Respect*). Not only have we worked on helping young couples in our church through this material, but we have been able to apply this to our own marriage and improve on areas. God is good and He knows what we need before we do. We are also starting a women's class and craft night on Sunday evenings, hosted by local church members.

Firewood Ministry

We continue to offer community service hours for those working with parole officers. In addition, many high school students need community service hours for various clubs, Honors Society etc. So we get to connect with many new folks in the community helping us split firewood and maintain the church grounds. With our efforts to connect with the community, the 10-15 daily stop ins needing wood or other needs continues to be an ongoing effective ministry.



Indian Bible College



Eric is asked to speak in chapel at the Indian Bible College in Flagstaff, Arizona from time to time. He enjoys getting to know other Christian Natives, who have a genuine interest in spreading the gospel, and growing the Kingdom in the southwest Reservations.



Youth and Children's Church...

Continues each Sunday morning and teen night is thriving through new kids getting involved with our youth night. We hosted our annual lock in for the youth/teen group. They fellowshiped, had bible studies, played games and church members prepared breakfast for them the following morning. We as a church enjoy spending time with our youth and know the importance of praying that God equips them as the next generation to take over the work here on the Rez that began long ago. We are excited to start planning for our 2nd annual ski trip at a nearby ski resort.

Fall Fest outreach

Our annual fall festival outreach was a great success for our church members as they invited many of their (non church going) family and friends. We hosted a soup contest, enjoyed hot apple cider, had a great devotional/songs around the campfire led by Gary Stephenson, roasted Smore's with the little ones and teens, and the 40 of us really enjoyed great fellowship.

Future Goals

We have been approached to help begin a Celebrate Recovery program in Tuba City. With our limited training in behavioral health and our strong desire to see this program get up and running in Tuba City, we will begin to work through the 12 step mentor process and praying for the direction of this important program on the Navajo Nation. Ideally, we are praying for another couple to join us in that program along with other church work teaching discipleship. Praise God that other local Natives are feeling empowered to teach others about Christ and learning about contagious discipleship.

Featured Family (Isabel 10, Briana 8, David 7...pictured at top)

These kids have been dropped off on Sundays by their grandfather for over a year. We have taken them in, and feel blessed that their church going is supported but of course we always wanted to see their family attend as well. The grandfather mentioned many times that the kids are disrespectful to their mother and asked if there was anything we could do. Of course we attempted to incorporate some of that teaching into the Sunday morning children's church but know one hour a week wouldn't help them much without their mother or grandfather joining them at church. We are so pleased to say after a year, their mother is attending with them and God is undoubtedly working through each of their lives. This small step has been a huge encouragement on us in this work! Praise God for working through all ages in such mysterious ways!

The Kee Family

The Kees stay busy with the needs of the community though we continue to learn boundaries with our family, church, community, etc. Baby Kee (girl) is expected to arrive Nov 23rd, in a few weeks! We are grateful and thrilled to utilize the baby gifts sent with the Stephenson's from Downtown church families and those that have given direct to help with her arrival. Cayden continues to do well at the Tuba City Boarding School as a day student and enjoyed soccer this year. Silas will begin Kindergarten next Fall, also played soccer and loves the occasional bike ride with his dad. Tracy continues to assist Eric with church/benevolence/children's church, chasing our kiddos around and teaches 2 business courses each semester at Dine' College across the street. Eric stays busy with preaching, teaching, mentoring, youth ministry, helping, etc but stays healthy with his new outlet and passion for mountain biking that has proven to help with his diabetes.



THANK YOU!

We pray for our supporting congregations and the great ways we see God working through them/you all, and all that are helping with the mission here in Tuba City in various ways. We are thankful for the support, both monetary, and spiritual support we receive from each of you. We are thankful so many can see the need to help those in our own country. We acknowledge God is working through each and every one of us as we continue to share the good news. God bless you and your families during this holiday season!