

# NORMANS serving with NAIM Ministries

January 2004

As tears trickled down my cheeks I had an incredibly intense desire to "peek." We had just finished our Christmas play and Pastor McKinney had preached a short, but powerful, message. As he invited others to join those who had already raised their hands to accept Jesus' gift of salvation, I wanted to see how many? Who? It was such a rich, rewarding, exciting time. Nothing compares to witnessing the birth of a new believer, or of one who desires to turn back to the 'Jesus way.' After spending hours, days, weeks of sewing costumes and rehearsing the play, this was the final culmination. In all, ten people responded. Our children, teens, and many adults from Tacoma Indian Baptist Church had invested lots of time into this one-night performance. God's Word says, "those who sow sparingly will reap sparingly." I believe God was honored by the hard work of all those involved, and we were all rewarded with a harvest.



Thank you for being a part of bringing these dear ones into the kingdom of God. Your partnership through finances, prayers, and encouragement means YOU share in the harvest, also. Rejoice with us!

I'm writing this as we travel to the interior of British Columbia for a wedding. When we left Tacoma it was raining. A couple of hours into the trip it turned to slushy. And now it's fluffy. Having grown up in Minnesota, this looks like home. Big fluffy, white flakes. I love it.

Several significant things have happened since our last letter in October. In November we attended a large Native Christian Conference in Auburn, WA. About 500 people attended, the majority Native Americans. It was a time of honoring and respecting the culture, while at the same time proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For years most Native people were taught they had to abandon all aspects of their culture in order to embrace Jesus. This new movement says, "No, you can be Native AND Christian. It's okay to wear regalia. It's okay to use a drum to worship the Lord." There is no culture that perfectly follows God. Many aspects of the Native culture can be redeemed and incorporated into worship. As these dear Christians 'danced their prayers' in full regalia, like David danced in the Bible, we were honored to be a part of this celebration.

*The picture of Vincent was taken @ this gathering. He was blessing his grand daughter before she danced her first dance.*

Also, in November, Dave began working once again in the Bethel School system as a Native American Coordinator, 21 hours a week. This has been a significant answer to prayer for us, as it provides both medical and dental insurance.

## FAMILY NEWS

We had a wonderful Christmas celebration with our children, Karel and Myra; playing games, reading, fonduing, scrapbooking, bowling, golfing, attending a candle light church service, and sharing gifts. We are so blessed to have them near us. Our daughter and her family celebrated in Minnesota and our other son and his wife celebrated in Florida. We were rather spread out this year by distance, but close in spirit. Thank you for praying for our children and grandchildren. They all bring us much joy as they walk with, and serve, our precious Savior.

I just saw a flock of snow geese flying overhead as we travel. God has given us such beauty to enjoy.



This has been a year of blessings for us. Each day I wake up and thank the Lord for my faithful and godly husband, children that love and serve the Lord, the comfort and warmth of my wonderful home, safety in all our travels, health, a fulfilling ministry, faithful friends... I just pray that I will continue to have an attitude of thankfulness should any of the above circumstances change. They could. But this I know. My God never changes. My security rests in Him. He lives and I shall live with Him eternally.

Thank you for your love throughout all the years.

Feeling blessed,

*Dave & Diane*

Dave and Diane Norman

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*Robert, you've sure been  
in our thoughts & prayers  
a lot lately. your emails  
sound so up beat in spite  
of all you have had to  
face in recent weeks.  
Thanks for keeping us  
posted.  
Love you,  
W. D. N.*