

Normans



Serving with First Nations to Reach All Nations



Spring 2014



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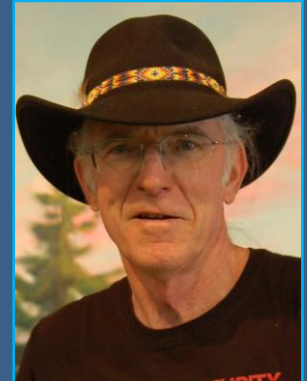
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Our ministry is solely funded through, and fully accountable to North America Indigenous Ministries

IN THE HOLE

A call came from a First Nations mom and friend of ours asking if I would visit her oldest son John* in the local jail.



We have been involved with their extended family for about 15 years. Their grandma was the first one to become a Jesus follower while in the hospital. John was already 'on the streets' when we got involved. His younger sisters became Jesus followers while attending our "Children's Church." When we started the Tacoma First Nations Gathering, the whole family started attending monthly, even John at times.

At our first meeting in jail John appeared smiling and almost 'glowing.' He asked if his mom had told me his history. I said no, so he quickly filled me in.

"I always thought my grandma and sisters and other family members who had become Jesus followers had been 'brain washed.' While in jail, I got in a bad fight and they threw me 'in the hole.' I bottomed out in there and decided to try to cry out to this Jesus and see if He is real and willing to help me. I found out not even 'the hole' can keep Jesus out. I've started reading the Bible and everything else I can get my hands on about the Bible, even some of Lee Strobel's books on apologetics. I attend all the Bible studies that visiting chaplains have here. I'm encouraging my family to get back in church. I share Jesus with new inmates, especially the First Nations ones. I am patiently waiting to get out and reconcile with all those I have offended and find out what Creator wants me to do with my life."

*Not his real name

Family Update: Summer is coming and so are our kids and grandkids. Nothing beats making memories with those we hold most dear. Our hearts are full of gratitude. This year Addy turns 10 so we will take her on a special trip, a tradition we started with our first grandson and hope we can carry through with each of our precious grandchildren. Just have to brag on our 10 year old granddaughter, Kaya. She took 10th in the state gymnastics gold division! She will compete at the YMCA Nationals in FL in July – not bad for her first year of competition.



Sharing Jesus in partnership with our Native brothers and sisters because of you

I've had three meetings with John so far and plan to meet once a week with him until he is out. It is so refreshing to be with him and hear what he is learning and watch him grow. The hour I have with him flies by. I am looking forward to partnering with him when he gets out.

Resting in Him,

Love + Diane

Thank you for your investment in reaching First Nations People for Jesus both financially and with your prayers.

Requests:

1. Pray for funding for five Native teens to go to a National Native Teen Conference for the Presbyterian Church. Two of them accepted Jesus during our Children's Church a few years back.
2. Pray for John* and another man that Dave is mentoring in the jail.
3. Praise for a solid Christian Cherokee woman that has taken over the directorship of Tacoma First Nations Gathering (TFNG). The previous director is starting a new cultural center called "4 Directions" that will house the 35,000 volumes of Native books that were donated to TFNG.



Ministry pics!

Jan at Wisdom Circle



Enkush & Candy



leeta at TFNG



Diane & Francine at Church of the Indian Fellowship on Easter Sunday



Dave at the NAIM conference on Evangelism & Discipleship



Some of our many ducks – oops, guess I can't call these ministry pics, but we sure enjoy 'em!

If you wish to support this ministry financially checks can be made out to:
NAIM Ministries and mailed to: North America Indigenous Ministries, PO Box 499,
Sumas, WA 98295. They should be designated for project #728.