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May – June 12, 2010

As the Lord's work continues growing at Twin Lakes, we are no longer afforded 2-3 months of what we once called "downtime". The "to do list" pretty well keeps us busy 12 months out of the year, which may be what the Lord meant by "occupy till I come"! In any event, we continue pressing on while trying to hold on to our sanity!

We hosted our first church group the last week of May. The visiting group built our volleyball pit, broke up and removed concrete, washed church windows, created bulletin boards for the classrooms, helped dig and haul dirt for landscaping around the church, gave out flyers in two communities for VBS, assisted teachers at the local elementary school with packing



and preparing their classrooms for the summer, purchased and served lunch for those teachers, and helped the custodians clean the school grounds. In addition, we were able to secure permission for the group to sing for the school, at a local nursing home, and even at the Indian dances held at the courthouse square in Gallup! After they sang at the Indian dances, the group gave out free bottles of water to tourists and other spectators, along with gospel tracts!



Our latest visitors came through with the Navajo taco meals on two separate occasions in May!!! And as if those were not enough, we enjoyed a church cook-out at our home one Wednesday (complete with a sunset praise service) and a Sunday evening hot dog supper after services. Prior to that Sun. evening service our adults and young people were treated to an afternoon of relay games, volleyball, crafts, hiking and a piñata bashing, thanks to Calvary Baptist Youth team from MS. The evening was topped off with a splendid choral concert as the group lifted their voices in praise to our Great God! A special moment for me occurred one Sunday morning when our oldest granddaughter sang a solo, "Above All", just before I preached. It brought tears of rejoicing to this "Pa's" eyes!



With winter snows FINALLY passed, our van driver is now able to return to picking up children (and adults) for Sunday services! For a while I was beginning to wonder if the snows would ever cease when we had snowfalls as late as the 2nd week of May!



The oldest of 5 granddaughters of a local medicine man graduated from high school with honors this year. When she first came to church she was only 10 years old. She was the first of the 5 to be saved and baptized. Due to her work schedule she is unable to attend church much any longer, but we remain thankful to be a part of her life.

One of our 8th graders was selected as valedictorian of her graduating class at a local Christian school and we had the privilege of attending that event with her family.

"SNO-CONES...LET THE FUN BEGIN!"



Each year's summer ministry officially arrives for us when the elementary schools begin scheduling their "track and field" days! The last week of May over 500 pounds of shaved ice, 10 gals of cherry syrup, and 15 cartons of cups were purchased to serve up over 1500

sno-cones at 5 schools on the Reservation. All 5 principals permit and even assist us in making sure every child receives a flyer that advertises when VBS will be held at their school! We've already begun receiving calls from parents and students to confirm VBS sessions! Those churches who return year after year to conduct VBS for the children are making an impact! And now the children are anxiously awaiting your arrival!



"TRACTOR NEEDED!"

After the five feet of snow this winter it is evident that before next winter we must get a tractor to remove snow from the road and parking lot. We have a tractor fund started and hopefully by October we will be able to purchase one that will suit our needs. We would appreciate your input regarding the purchase of a tractor equipped with a front loader, box blade, four wheel drive, and about 65 horse power. Give me a call if you have any expertise or knowledge of what type of tractor would be best to purchase.

"WATER FOR THE CAMP"

I've spoken with the architect and he hopes to have plans complete very soon. However, prior to construction of the camp a water supply will be necessary, making a well mandatory. It simply is not feasible from a financial nor a physical standpoint to try to haul the amount of water a youth camp facility will require. Please make this an object of your prayers. We have been advised that the depth will be about 1500 feet at a cost of approximately \$30.00 per foot.

"PASSED STATE MECHANICAL INSPECTION!"

A huge hurdle was overcome when the state inspector gave his approval of our plumbing and HVAC system! . Our greatest difficulty occurred when our state licensed plumber died, forcing us to get another plumber to sign on and obtain the final inspection without first-hand knowledge of the work previously performed. It took nearly a year of dealing with the state on the issue, hiring a new plumber, and obtaining new permits, but it is now accomplished! The final inspection is the only one now remaining, which consists of another state inspector taking an overall look at the building and grounds, his primary concern dealing with handicapped features. Due to state code, approximately 15 feet of sidewalk is also being replaced. Hopefully this will be completed and ready for a final inspection in August! Inspections may be tedious at times, but we will always be confident the ministry is in compliance with local, county and state ordinances.

"CHRISTMAS PROJECT"!

It's not too early to make plans to be a part of our annual Christmas project, involving sharing a gift with over 1500 children in 11 different Navajo elementary schools, middle school and headstart programs! Tentative plans are to rent a moving truck in Birmingham and make our way back across I-40, picking up gifts at designated points to deliver to the Navajo Nation. Funds are needed to help with rental cost as well as fuel. Let us know if you'd like to be a part, whether in helping with providing gifts or funds for the trip!

"THANKS"!

Once again we are grateful for friends and family who come our way to see what God is doing through Twin Lakes Baptist on the Navajo Nation! Drew and Tina Patterson from Benton, AR came for a visit as well as our youngest son, Rustie, and family. Our two oldest granddaughters are still with us! Recognizing this endeavor is a perpetual mission point due to the extreme overall poverty of the Navajo people, we trust your visits help reinforce the need of continued support. We rely on God's provision, through your gifts! Thank you for caring for us!

