



“Each one should use whatever gifts he has received to serve others.”

1 Peter 4:10

Nizhoni Partnership Navajo News

THE ANGELS ARE DANCING AND THE HEAVENS ARE REJOICING

Another Native lady has joined the Saints!

Irene experienced deep love and learned how God loves us even more than we are capable of loving one another! She started asking a lot of questions. She was noticing that when help was needed in the community, it was the Christians who came to the aid of those in need. Then, she ‘heard’ God speaking to her from all angles: She received a coin with John 3:16 in English on one side and in Navajo on the other side; she found her deceased son’s Bible (which was previously unknown to her) and started wondering about his faith; then, she discovered that her son had ear-marked John 3:16 and other related scriptures.

Irene learned how to find scriptures in the Bible. The first study she completed was about love – how love motivated her to care for someone who had treated her poorly – and how God’s love for us is indescribable!

Then she asked for scriptures to help her learn about who Jesus was! And she started coming to Bible Study every week.

But she declined when we offered to lead her in the Sinner’s Prayer... We assured her that it must be *her* decision to accept Jesus and that no one could force her. Her choice had to come from her heart. We offered to pray with her if she decided to accept Jesus as her Savior. She simply acknowledged our offer – but made no outward movement towards Jesus.

One day she asked for a ride to Flagstaff so she could take care of some personal business. On the way to Flagstaff, we were just chatting and she made reference to “Jesus, *our* Lord and Savior”!!! I just about drove off the road! She explained that after seeing the Passion of the Christ at

Bible Study a couple of weeks before, she thought about what Jesus went through for her and all she had to do was believe in Him! She explained how she prayed a Sinner’s Prayer on her own!



Praise God!!! We had a absolutely beautiful, joyful day in Flagstaff!!! Please pray for Irene, our new sister in Christ!

WHO SAYS YOU CAN’T TAME THE WEATHER?

Rain, snow, wind, sand – they were all welcome at Mike W’s place! The wind made it sound like thunder was rolling through the house as the metal roofing on Mike’s mobile home rumbled in obedience. The sand piled up on command. The rain welcomed itself – right through the roof! The snow made its own quiet entry long after it had settled on the roof – drip, drip, drip... In the summer, the sun pounded its relentless heat into Mike’s home like a tin can sitting in a hot fire!



Thanks to your prayers, the work of Boise State Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) mission team, and your financial support, the efforts of the elements have been halted in their tracks by a free-standing roof built over Mike

W's humble little mobile home.

Mike, one of the few Natives who was raised in a Christian home, knows that his blessings have come through the grace of God. Mike started with a shell for a 10 x 50 mobile home. He initially used ½" Styrofoam in the ceiling as insulation -- the only insulation in the place. He installed a wood stove for heat. The only problem was that his stove didn't have a damper. So he either had no heat or uncontrollable heat – which melted his Styrofoam insulation!

We were able to give Mike a used wood stove with a damper, which he installed himself. We were then able to locate some roll insulation for Mike. He put in the roll insulation, and some dry wall – one piece at a time as he was able to afford it – but the weather was still getting in and there was no way he had the financial resources nor skills to replace his roof or build a free-standing one for himself. Now he doesn't have to worry because he has that free-standing roof!

Mike reports that he cannot even hear the wind when it blows now! He is so thankful and encouraged by being the recipient of his new roof! Mike's new roof will also protect his home from the scorching summer sun!



Interestingly, Mike has become more confident in witnessing since he got his new roof! It's as if his confidence was boosted by having a home which is safe and secure from the elements. Mike has been witnessing to a man he met when Mike helped the man by giving him a ride. The man had just asked for a ride to the junction, but Mike took him all the way home and made sure the 'stranger' got into his home safely. He has since gone to visit the 'stranger' and has been sharing the gospel with him! Pay it forward? It's a blessing to be a blessing, isn't it?

WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT!

Just as “he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion” (Phil. 1:6), Colorado State University RUF completed the good work they started in Tony's house!

You may recall that the CSU RUF team tore Tony's house down and laid a firm foundation for his new home.

This team renewed their friendships with Tony and Nellie and joyfully put the finishing touches on the house with new siding and paint!



We were able to pray over the home and to offer praise and thanksgiving to God for His provisions for a new home for Tony and Nellie. Tony honored CSU RUF by hosting them inside of his new house for lunch! The people on this team were the very first guests to share a meal in Tony's house with him! He was delighted!

COMMUNITY HONORED BY GUEST CHEF



In February, Tolani Lake community dinner participants were honored to have a guest chef, Talie, prepare the menu and dinner! Talie loves to cook – especially Asian food. Although Talie has her passions about certain issues, her overall demeanor is quiet, pleasant and soft-spoken.

But when Talie asked to head up the community dinner, she definitely knocked our socks off! She's known as a good cook, but who knew what a power-house she really was!?

Talie treated the community to sweet & sour chicken – not the overly battered, fried, greasy kind – but a tender, juicy rendition



complimented by her perfected recipe sauce -- light, but flavorful.

Talie's sous chef was her sister, Sunshine.

Shine and some of the community ladies assisted with preparation of veggies, upon which Talie worked her magic to create the most audacious stir-fried vegetables ever!

It was such a pleasure to see this beautiful lady open up with righteous pride when her first ever large-scale dinner was a raging success. . . especially knowing she powered through it with her rheumatoid arthritis! Talie is now considering opening an in-home food service to help her neighbors who work in town (no less than an hour away). So great to see this lady encouraged and desiring to now help her neighbors!

HOME OF VETERAN DISABLED IN IRAQ BROUGHT TO COMPLETION

Mike, an Army veteran who is quiet and stoic, is partially blind from being hit with shrapnel in Iraq. He experiences raging headaches and requires shots in his eyeballs each month.

Mike had been working on his house for about four years, doing the best he could on his own to get it buttoned up. But then the wind took off the rolled roofing he had put on; rain damaged his dry wall; and his disabilities prevented him from climbing a ladder! He was in a real pickle!

You see, Mike wasn't asking for much. His whole house is 20' x 24'. Mike had gotten a new door with a door knob and deadbolt. He had electrical wiring, even though he has no electricity – yet. He hopes to get some soon! He has a small wood stove, but no back-up heat of any kind. He has no water – so no need for a kitchen, no need for a bathroom. He simply wanted a dignified place with a door that locks – a place to stay that was out of the elements where he could live and – as a grown man -- not have to live with his mother.

Boise State RUF had the love of Jesus seeping out their pores! Mike was amazed at the amount of work they got done and he observed “they are having so much fun!” Despite his financial limitations, Mike had coolers filled with Gatorade and water for the workers every day! Mike would come hang out with us for lunch every day, smiles occasionally gracing his face as he watched the workers.

Mike appeared to particularly enjoy talking to Steve, who is also a veteran. It was as if they had a special connection.



Thanks to your donations, the hard work of Boise State RUF, Steve and Laurelle (a pair of independent short-term missionaries), and Brian and Patdro (some Native neighbors),

we were able to give Mike a completed roof, new drywall, a door that locks, insulation (surprise!), and a wood stove waiting for its first fire!



But most importantly, Mike received the gift of respect due to a veteran!

IF YOU HAVE FAITH AS SMALL AS A MUSTARD SEED, YOU CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS

Steve and Laurelle came as a pair of independent short-term missionaries. They helped with Mike's house, taping and mudding drywall as well as putting in flooring. They helped put in a water heater for a family; they built a fire pit on our campus; they cleaned and reorganized the work trailer; they shared faith and encouragement with the Native people; they built relationships; they learned about the Navajo people, their faith and their culture; they renewed their own faith by witnessing the works of their

Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; and they learned about the gift of frybread!



The faith of Steve and Laurelle to step out of their comfort zone and serve the Native people moved mountains in the eyes of those whose lives they touched on the reservation.

NEWS FLASH: IT ONLY TAKES TWO WEEKS TO GET USED TO HAVING HOT WATER!

After getting a new water heater installed, thanks to the generosity of partners in our mission, one of the families reported that it only took *two weeks* to get used to taking hot showers! Praise God!!!



NIZHONI PARTNERSHIP ELIGIBLE FOR THRIVENT CHOICE PROGRAM AND MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS

We are pleased to announce that Nizhoni Partnership has been approved as eligible to receive funds through Thrivent Financial's Thrivent Choice® program. By directing Choice Dollars®, eligible Thrivent members can recommend which nonprofit organizations they feel should receive charitable grant funding from Thrivent.

If you have Choice Dollars available to direct, please consider directing to Nizhoni Partnership. We plan to use Thrivent Choice grant funding to continue to reach out to those with housing maintenance and repair needs as well

as to expand our ministry to share the gospel. We will provide you with updates in the coming weeks.

To learn more about Thrivent Choice, visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice. Or call Thrivent at 800-847-4836, and say "Thrivent Choice" when prompted.

Also, you can make your dollars go twice as far by contributing to Nizhoni Partnership through Thrivent! Thrivent will match your contribution dollar-for-dollar!!! To contribute matching funds, please visit Thrivent.com or call your Thrivent representative.

"NEW" BOUTIQUE OPENS ON REZ

Colorado State University Reformed University Fellowship (CSU RUF) totally revamped our clothing room! It now looks like a boutique! We are so thankful for the work, spearheaded by Amy, tirelessly accompanied by Danielle, Jenn, Elizabeth, Ava, Jane and Lily! The room has been painted. The clothes are neatly organized and all labeled by size. You can see in the photo below that our clothing room is now a "Blessing Boutique"!



AFTER 15 YEARS WITH NO KITCHEN CABINETS & COUNTERS –

Desba sits on the concrete floor of her home, weaving her most recent creation, hoping that when it is completed, she will be able to sell the rug for enough money to keep their



electricity running – especially now that she has an electric stove! To go along with her "new" (used) stove, Desba and her husband have kitchen cabinets and counters for the first time in over 15 years!!!

You see, Desba's cabinets became infested with some sort of bug and the only way they could get rid of it was to take

the cabinets out and burn them. Desba has been cooking in a kitchen with only the metal, rusted-out “cabinet” pictured below:



But Desba no longer has to worry about how to efficiently use her tiny little space. She has the wonderful kitchen below, allowing her more time to devote to her weaving!



BELIEVER ENCOURAGED

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact, you are doing. 1 Thes 5:11



BLESSINGS OF PARTNERSHIPS

All of us together are Christ’s body, and each of us is a part of it. 1 Corinthians 12:27 NLT. God calls us *all* to fulfill the Great Commission. Some of us are called to serve as a short-term missionary; some of us are called to be full-time missionaries in the field; and some of us are called to partner in the mission through our prayers and

financial support. God is working mightily among the Navajo people! Please take the opportunity to actively partner with us!

WHAT’S UP NOW?

In this next part of 2018, our plan is to:

1. Assist a single mother in construction of an addition of a room for the children. This family started out with a dilapidated shed, which shone with battery-operated Christmas lights last year. Teachers were concerned for the children living in this one-room shack. Mother added another ‘room’ (meaning she now has two rooms) and she is trying to add one more room. There is no electricity nor running water. The framing is done, but construction halted due to lack of funds and labor. We would like to bless this family with the completion of the children’s room.
2. One married couple is unable to live together because their housing is inadequate. The framing is not fastened to the foundation on half of their hogan. There is no insulation, the roof and trusses are unstable, and there is no drywall. The husband sleeps on a cot in the hogan. The wife drives into Winslow and stays at the home of their son and his wife. We would like to reunite this couple by providing a safe home on a solid foundation.
3. One lady needs a free-standing roof for her mobile home, to shelter her from the relentless desert sun and heat.
4. Sixteen women have committed to attend the Beth Moore Women’s Conference in Chinle in October 2018! The group is a combination of Christians and non-Christians. Please pray fervently for the Holy Spirit to open the hearts and minds of the non-believers to hear the Good News and to strengthen His presence in the lives of the Believers. We have been blessed to receive several donations for entrance fees! Thank you to all of those partners in our mission! We still need to raise funds for lodging which will be an estimated \$730. Please consider partnering with us to fill this need.
5. Three homes have malfunctioning electrical in them. One lady has been totally without electricity for several months!
6. Four homes need new shingles/roofing.
7. Begin Ladies’ and Men’s Bible Studies in addition to our regular weekly study.
8. Start holding church services.
9. Obtain a used van to be able to pick up elderly and children to transport to Women’s conference, bible studies, church services, activities and community events.

PRAYERS ARE BEING ANSWERED: WORKERS ANSWERING THE CALL

We started 2018 with two short term mission teams on the schedule. The Lord has provided four so far; and two more are scheduled for the fall of 2018! We are already booking short-term mission teams for 2019! Dear Lord, Praise be to You! Thank You for sending out workers into your harvest field!

STILL TIME FOR 2018 TEAMS –

We are excited and blessed to be welcoming two new teams during the fall of 2018! We are also looking forward to some additional teams during the late fall/winter... BUT IT'S NOT TOO LATE! We still have room for teams this summer and fall.

PLAN AHEAD FOR 2019!

We are already looking at mission team opportunities for 2019! You can come as a single person, a couple or a larger short-term mission team with youth, college students, adults, senior adults or families.



Nizhoni Partnership
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(2nd Quarter 2018)

Will you help? Your financial support will go a long way in supporting the sharing of the Good News. Your contribution is vital to expanding the Kingdom. Consider providing a contribution for lodging for women to attend the Beth Moore Women's Conference. Help provide safe housing to families and children.

Thank you for your prayers and support! Please consider partnering with us through monthly support in 2018!

Many blessings to you!

In His Service,

Ron & Barb Ornelas

*** Qualified as a 501(c)(3), all donations are tax deductible. Our federal tax EIN is 47-4812379.

No special skills are needed for a short-term mission experience on the Navajo Reservation. All you need is to do is share the Love of Jesus Christ! Are you willing to place your candle on a mountain top? Are you willing to let your light shine?

No age requirements or limitations exist! Missionaries from 2 ½ years to 70+ have come to serve!

In order to open doors to the Word, we work to satisfy the physical needs of the people – so that hearts may open to hear the good news. The Holy Spirit is clearly at work here on the reservation! Is the Holy Spirit moving within *your* heart? Do you feel a tug to share the Good News? *Will you answer His call?* Come and He will equip you...

Please contact us at (928) 319-3061 to discuss scheduling your short-term mission team to stay at our campus on the Navajo Reservation in Tolani Lake, Arizona, to share the Love of Christ Jesus.

YOU are a valued member of our partnership to help expand God's kingdom! Please PRAY for us!

YOUR support of Nizhoni Partnership is priceless in expanding God's kingdom! WE NEED YOUR HELP...