

Mission Report - Pine Ridge Reservation June 24 – July 2, 2016

32 Missionaries – 18 adults, 3 high school, 11 children

Friday & Saturday – Travel Days

- Larger engine (450 vs 350) engine was the better of the two busses. The larger engine bus also had the overhead storage and a larger rear storage area. Overhead storage was needed.
- Traveled the Omaha/Valentine/Martin route going to SD. There is minimal difference in mileage, but our return trip through Gordon/Thedford/Grand Island/Lincoln was a much smoother easier drive.

Sunday – Worship @ Community #9 church in Manderson. Several families did site seeing at Mt. Rushmore and enjoyed sunset at the Badlands National Park. The rest of the missionaries spent time in ministry prep for the week. We spent time with a family as we drove them to Rapid to visit with their premature baby in ICU. This was an unplanned trip, but planned by God as while we were there the baby's heart stopped. We were able to pray with the family and medical staff and the physicians were able to get the heart started and stabilize the baby. The evening was spent time in the communities of Manderson and Wounded Knee visiting with the families, re-connecting with our Lakota friends and passing out ministry flyers and popsicles to the kids.

Monday & Tuesday – The morning was spent in preparing and setting up ministry stations. We ran the busses through the community for pick up and drop off to Bible study. Bible studies in Wounded Knee were held at the Wounded Knee Church of God. The men's ministry took the Lakota men on a fishing trip where they, using various Scripture references, focused on men stepping up to be the head of their household in the way God designed. The women's Bible study focused on helping women see themselves with the value that Christ sees them. We used multiple Scripture references and outside materials to assist. We also focused on teaching life skills. These included how to make 5 gallons of laundry soap for under \$5 and how to feed 4 for \$4. Feed 4for4 taught women how to feed a family of 4 for under \$4 using only their commodity foods and how to make a gallon of 3 different soups using ONLY the commodity foods. The men completed some minor maintenance projects for the WKCOG. Monday evening NBC hosted a cookout at the WKCOG. We served over 150 Lakota a menu of hamburgers, hotdogs, ice cream and cobbler. In conjunction with the cookout, there was a horseshoe tournament with 6 teams participating. TJ Jernigan is a missionary at the Community Church #9 and helped us run the horseshoe tournament. TJ took the opportunity, during the opening of the games, to say an opening prayer over our evening of fellowship.

Tuesday evening was spent in the Manderson community visiting, re-connecting with our Lakota friends and passing out flyers and popsicles.

- Average Lakota attendance: VBS 50, Women 10, men 5

Wednesday & Thursday – The morning was spent in preparing and setting up ministry stations. We ran the busses through the community for pick up and drop off to the Community #9 Church. The Bible

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studies and fishing trips for Manderson mirrored that of Wounded Knee. Wednesday evening we played our annual softball game (NBC lost again) with a cookout serving over 100 Lakota a menu of hamburgers, hotdogs and watermelon. The following evening NBC hosted a horse shoe tournament at the Community #9 church with ice cream and cobbler. Again, TJ opened the evening with prayer and we had a wonderful evening of fellowship. We also distributed new toys to children courtesy of a member of NBC, children's books courtesy of Redeemer Classical Academy and toothbrushes/toothpaste courtesy of Wild About Smiles.

- Average attendance: VBS 25, Women, 12, men 10

Friday & Saturday – Travel Days

Wounded Knee – The people were very much withdrawn this year, even more so than usual. Many of friends that usually meet us at the church on Saturday night I had to go look for this year. The feedback from the women pointed back to issues with the staff of WKCOG. I did have a conversation with Stanley Hollowhorn, the pastor of WKCOG and his wife. They expressed concern over the issues and a desire to correct the problems. Stanley did follow up with me 2 weeks after our trip with an update on our conversation.

Chunku Waste Day Camp – I had been hearing many good things about this camp. I meet with the camp managers and then returned with a group of women from NBC to assess possibilities for a future relationship. "The Good Road in The Bad Lands" is a day camp for children all over the reservation. This camp is run by Matt and Amanda Hayden. Matt is the pastor at Sharps Corner Baptist Church. They run the camp along with Sarah and Jeremy Mouw. TJ and Janice assist with some of their daily bus runs to pick up and drop off children. This camp is located about 20 minutes from Manderson. I visited the camp and spent time with Amanda several times during the week. God's presence is so evident as soon as you set foot on the campus. They are working with kids from kindergarten up through high school. In addition to the day camp, they are working with the Lakota teen boys in teaching them how to build motors and offer a national certified welding course so by the time they finish high school they have a skilled trade. I had the opportunity to meet one of the young men who just completed the course, graduated high school this past spring and has enlisted in the military as a welder. The Lakota men help on the camp with various construction projects. Currently, mission teams and the Lakota are building a home for the Mouw family and a retired school teacher couple. They have plans in the next year to open a year around Christian school on the campus.

Manderson – There is a change in the people of Manderson that are attending #9 church and in the children. There were 3 commitments to Christ between the week before we got there and the week we were there. TJ and Janice are also discipling these young Christians in small group Bible studies in their home on Sunday nights. Even with us not getting back from Rapid until late evening, Lyle and Lisa were waiting at TJ's house for Bible study that went until after midnight. Several men thanked us for the fishing trips and evening events because it offered them something to do with their time other than

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drink and gave them the opportunity to spend time around other Christian people. The children were much calmer when they were at the church than in the past. I credit that to the Jernigan's ability to set a certain expectation of behavior.

Manderson Service Projects:

- Trimmed trees and cleaned out landscaping at Jernigan home
- Filled and organized "food pantry" in Jernigan basement
- Built and installed shelving for church supply closet
- Cleaned and organized church office
- Cleaned and mopped the church
- Moved, repaired, cleaned and organized outside storage buildings @ #9
- Dug out and built 4 regulation horseshoe pits for the community @ #9
- Large regulation volleyball post installed and concreted @ #9
- Mowed the Manderson softball field
- Repaired the concrete sidewalk @ #9
- Repaired, installed and painted the handrail outside @ #9
- Filled in water line ditch @ #9 with dirt
- Cleared brush, cut down a tree, picked up trash @ #9 and hauled it off

Future plans:

1. Summer family mission trip to serve both Chanku Waste Day Camp and Community #9 Church.