

INDIAN MINISTRIES OF NORTH AMERICA INC.

# Hope for First Nations

Winter 2023-2024

Volume 22 - Number 3

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**Indian Ministries  
of  
North America, Inc.**

*Winter 2023-2024  
Volume 22 – Number 3*

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**Executive Director / President**

*Johnny K. Hughes*

**Asst. Exec. Dir. / Board Secretary**

*Becky Hughes*

**Vice President**

*Rock Slaughter*

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**Cover Photo: Elizabeth Hughes**

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**Indian Ministries of North America  
Hope for First Nations**

Newsletters are published:

**Winter Issue - February**

**Spring Issue - May**

**Summer Issue - August**

**Fall Issue - November**

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Since the formation of Indian Ministries of North America, Inc. in 2002, God has provided a group of men and women, full of wisdom and Godly character, to lead as members of our Board of Directors. These members are chosen through much prayer and seeking God's wisdom. Along with myself, Rock Slaughter has served faithfully since the initial meeting of the Board of Directors in 2002. I would like to honor all of our past Board Members who served faithfully through their terms, some who have now gained their reward in Heaven:

<b>James A. Hughes</b> , Founder	<b>Greg Casto</b> , Macomb, MI	<b>Larry Timmerman</b> , Cleveland, TN
<b>Tom Swartz</b> , Blairsville, GA	<b>Rodney LaVallie</b> , Cleveland, TN	<b>Clay Williams</b> , Granbury, TX
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<b>Doug Payne</b> , Blairsville, GA	<b>Chris Allen</b> , Cleveland, TN	

## CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Johnny K. Hughes**, Executive Director, President

**Becky Hughes**, Asst. Exec. Director, Board Secretary

**Rock Slaughter**, VP, Special Projects Coordinator

**Tim Melton**, Cherokee, NC

**Fred Carder**, Cleveland, TN

**Robbie Slocumb**, Cleveland, TN

**Eric Bates**, Independence, KY

**Tim Burton**, Pigeon Forge, TN

In addition to these, I would like to introduce the two newest members of the IMNA Board of Directors:



**RANDALL WARD**, Atmore, Alabama, is a member of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. He is a very active member of the Friendly Holiness Church, where he leads their Outreach Program and works as a construction contractor in his personal business. He served over 13 years in the United States Army, advancing to the rank of Staff Sergeant in the 18th Airborne Corp. He was stationed at many bases around the world, and he served for five years as a youth minister with Malachi Ministries, while deployed to Germany and stateside at Fort Stewart, Georgia.

**ALAN WATSON**, Cleveland, TN, currently serves as the President and CEO of the MEDIC Regional Blood Center in Knoxville, Tennessee. He is certified through the American College of Healthcare Executives and a certified Nuclear Medicine Technologist. Alan has served in the Healthcare field since 1982, and has served as an Executive in numerous facilities since 1994, with many of those being the Chief Executive Officer. Alan has always been very active in the local church and community service organizations, where he has served with the Maury County Chamber and Economic Alliance, the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs, and served as a member of the First Farmers and Merchants Bank Board of Directors.



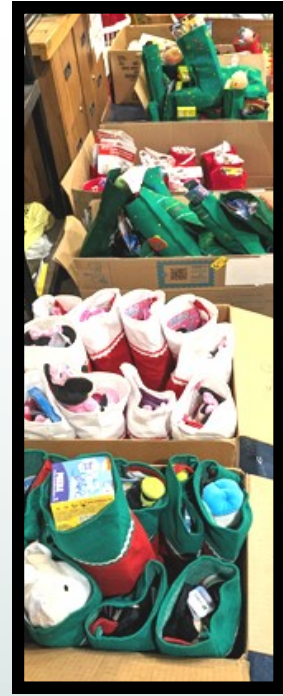
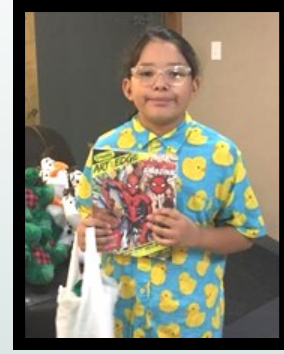
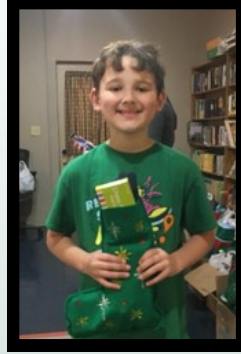
# CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

Each year, IMNA is blessed to be able to share the joys of Christmas with the people of Hammon, Oklahoma.

We provided a meal for over 100 people at the Community Fellowship dining hall. Following the meal, we transitioned to Grace Point Ministry Center for the distribution of clothing, household items, hygiene, and children's gifts.

A team from Freedom Church in Westminster, Maryland, came to assist with the Celebration. We are thankful for every church, ministry, and individual who provided resources and finances to make this a wonderful Christmas for the people of Hammon.

*Each child received a fully stuffed stocking, along with their choice of other gifts. The handcrafted stockings were provided by Faith Temple Church, Wauchula, Florida, and Oklahoma Church of God congregations assisted with stuffing the stockings.*



Hygiene



Family Boxes



New Blankets



Diapers



# Standing Rock Christmas



I am so thankful that this Christmas season, Life Spring International had the honor of partnering with Indian Ministries of North America to make Christmas a lot brighter for children on the Standing Rock Reservation in McLaughlin, South Dakota. Life Spring's ministry team drove to McLaughlin to take Christmas presents to the youth and young adults at McLaughlin Church of God. The church is under the leadership of Pastors Carl & Anna Nobles. Along with the items that Life Spring was delivering, we also delivered toys, winter gloves, and other items donated by Indian Ministries of North America. I am so thankful that ministries can work together, helping each other, all for His Kingdom. Our team is praying that 2024 will be a wonderful year for IMNA and many will be reached and lives transformed through this ministry.



*Blessings, Belinda Ross*



**Indian Ministries of North America also had the privilege of providing stockings full of gifts for many of the students at Conehatta Elementary on the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indian Reservation.**

**Likewise, we were able to bless the Family Support Services' Christmas Store in Cherokee, North Carolina, with several new toys for the low income families.**



# Conehatta, Mississippi

We continue to work with the Choctaw youth in our Impact Warriors Youth Mentoring Initiative. We are so thankful that the Macedonia Indian Baptist Church has allowed IMNA to base our operations at their facility.

Volunteer teams continue to challenge the youth with new and creative skills. We will be identifying their specific talents and challenging them to develop these skills. Our goal is for them to increase their self-esteem and self-worth, so that they know the value of their life.

Pictured on this page are some of the youth learning sewing skills, flower arranging and décor creations from volunteers of House of Prayer, Blairsville, Georgia. One of the youth stated about the sewing, "I could do this and actually make an income."

Other trades and life-skills that are being taught are: cooking, woodworking, traditional beadwork, pottery, and basic construction techniques. All training is done with a Biblical foundation.



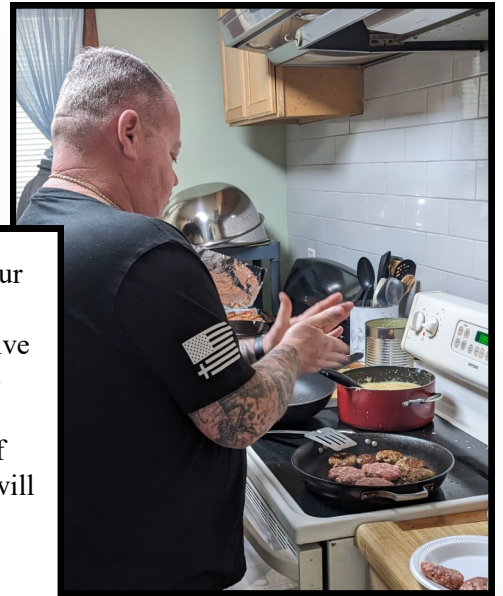
## Flower Arrangements



## S e w i n g



# Men's Breakfast



In January, IMNA held the first of our monthly men's breakfast in the Conehatta Community. We had twelve men in attendance at this first breakfast. We are challenging the men to become more engaged in the lives of their families and their church. We will be involving the men more in our monthly youth mentoring program, Impact Warriors.



**FRIDAY NIGHT ENCOUNTER** for the month of February was a special night to share the love of God with His "special people." Dave Luzader, teacher for the Exceptional Ministries of First Baptist, Cleveland, Tennessee, shared his love for working with those with special needs. He challenged the church to start a ministry for the Choctaw special needs individuals. He, along with First Baptist, Cleveland, supplied a full curriculum to begin the class.



# Scroll Sawing Basics



## Drawing

# Serving the Navajo Nation



On November 8, a team of three left Cleveland, Tennessee, for the little community of Iyanbito, New Mexico. Johnny Hughes, Rock Slaughter, and Brent Heath met Pastor Mark Thomas and other members of the Gospel Lighthouse Church to assist them in laying new carpet in their sanctuary. This would be a quick trip to Navajo Nation, with two days spent laying the carpet and Sunday worship services. We were blessed to fellowship with the congregation each day and observe the love for God that they hold in their heart. Sunday services were powerful, with many experiencing an real encounter with the Holy Spirit, bodies physically healed and spiritually delivered from the bondages of sin.

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*“I’ve known Johnny Hughes and IMNA for more than 10 years. I thank God for Johnny, Rock, and Brent, who sacrificed their families, jobs, and time to obey the Lord. They drove many miles to come to Iyanbito, which is on the Navajo Nation, to install a brand new carpet in our sanctuary. It looks beautiful, and our people are overjoyed and inspired by their dedication, commitment, and obedience to the Lord. We pray that God continues to bless the ministry of IMNA. The doors are open for the gospel and the harvest of lost souls.”*

**Pastor Mark Thomas**



Johnny Hughes (Center), along with Kendall Yazzie (left) and Pastor Mark Thomas (right), following Sunday services.

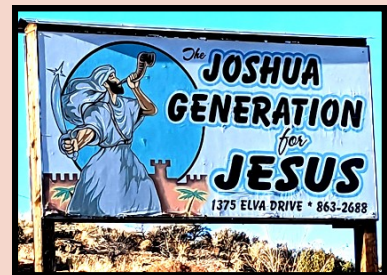


**LEFT:** Brent Heath puts the stretch on the new carpet.

## Gracious Hosts

Thank you Pastor Dennis and Corrine (PeeWee) Gallegos for your hospitality while we bunked at the ministry center of The Joshua Generation for Jesus.

The couple are native to Gallup, New Mexico, and have led this non-denominational church for 21 years. The church started in a basement, then to a store front, a pool hall and then establishing its current location.



As a team, the pastors are dynamic and powerful in the sharing of the Word of God. “I want to see all of Gallup saved, all peoples and nations,” Pastor Dennis



**BELOW:** Rock Slaughter works at tucking the edges of the carpet.





**ABOVE:** Exterior and Interior of the Iyanbito Gospel Lighthouse Church, Iyanbito, NM.  
**BELOW:** Brent Heath and Raymond Jim install baseboards, while Rock Slaughter and Joe Peterman reset the pulpit for Sunday service.



# CONNECT WITH IMNA

## NEW WEBSITE DESIGN

### SCAN THE QR CODE



2024 brings new ways to participate and be a partner with Indian Ministries of North America, Inc.

Look for more to come on our Warrior Circle Partnership and Prayer Warrior Ministry. Check out the new website and follow us on Facebook.

 Indian Ministries of North America - Hope for First Nations

# indianministries.org

# Canaan Construction Begins



The Lord is blessing the efforts of the small congregation at the Canaan Indian Baptist Church in the Pearl River community of the Mississippi Choctaw. Under the leadership of Pastor Mark Patrick, they have witnessed God's blessing of land to build the new church facility.

The present facility has been condemned and electricity has been removed from the building; however, the faithful members have continued to meet. They have been believing for several years that God would provide a new facility, and now they are witnessing it's reality.



IMNA has been blessed to be a part of this project. We will have volunteers working throughout the project, and thank you to World Vision, North Texas for their donations of flooring, kitchen / bath fixtures and lights for the new facility.

Pray for Pastor Mark and the Canaan congregation!



**LEFT & ABOVE:** Volunteers from various churches and organizations have joined in to help bring the new church facility to reality.

**BELOW:** A Navajo team from Arizona ministers in music, following a workday. They will return to run the electricity.



A donation to IMNA from World Vision, North Texas will assist with several items needed for the newly constructed Canaan Baptist Church. It is truly a blessing to come alongside Pastor Mark Patrick as he brings new life to the vision for this congregation.

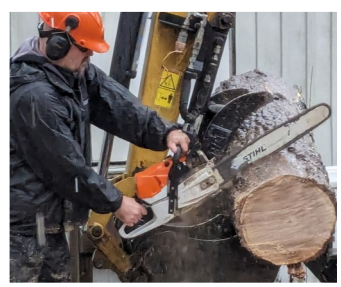
# Bring on the Heat

One of the highlights for many of our IMNA volunteers is the annual wood-splitting trip to Cherokee, North Carolina. Each Fall and Winter, teams of volunteers partner with IMNA to assist the Cherokee Family Support Services. The teams spend three days splitting loads of firewood for the tribal elders, low-income families, and special needs families. IMNA is honored to have the Western North Carolina Church of God State Offices come alongside to assist this outreach.

This past October, a team from the Summit Church, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, worked to make sure that there were approximately 100 loads split and ready for delivery.

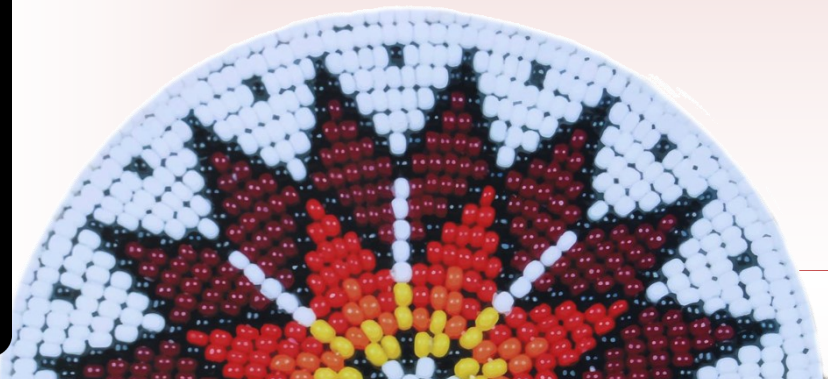
In January, a team from Community Family Church, Independence, KY, joined the team from Summit Church to once again “bust” approximately 100 loads of firewood to help supply the families to the end of the season.

The families sign up to receive the free wood and can request a load every two weeks. Delivery begins Oct. 1 and runs through April 1; however, elders may request through May 1, if needed. If you are interested in becoming a part of this mission, contact the IMNA offices at 423.479.3831 or email: [beckyhughes@indianministries.org](mailto:beckyhughes@indianministries.org).



# MISSION:

To be frontline Warriors,  
restoring the broken,  
healing the wounded,  
and setting the captives free.



**Connect with IMNA**

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**Indian Ministries of North America, Inc.**

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