

INDIAN MINISTRIES OF NORTH AMERICA INC.

# Hope for First Nations

Spring / Summer 2022

Volume 21 - Number 1



Rock and Al Slaughter



**Slaughter Family**  
**30 Years of Missions**





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

*Spring / Summer 2022  
Volume 21 – Number 1*

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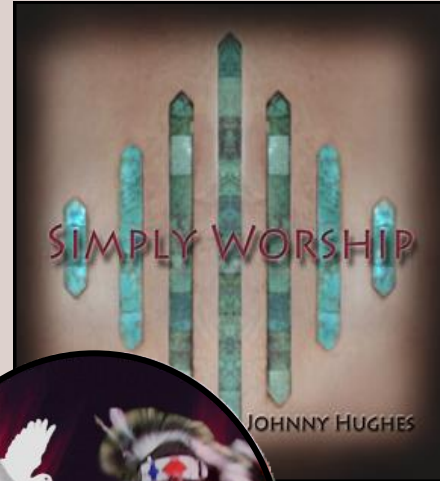
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# ... from the heart

by Rock Slaughter

IMNA Vice-President

In June 1992, we made our first trip to the Navajo Nation to partner with the Southwest Indian Ministries. My father, Al Slaughter, had gone out a year or two before with the Church of God Men of Action from his church. Upon his return, he told me that this place and people were special and that we needed to help out. That began our journey into missions with the Native Americans.

Little did we know, God had much in store for our family. Our first trip out west was just our immediate family. We were introduced to the Overseer, Brother Doug Cline. In my opinion, he was the most dedicated and hardest working missionary I had ever met. Our relationship with the Clines has been such a cherished blessing. The following summers were filled with taking others out to experience this beautiful land and wonderful people. We have had groups that were able to accomplish many projects such as painting churches, laying down carpet, installing insulation, roofing, repairing buildings, and much more. I have always told the work groups, "All jobs on the mission field, big or small, are of equal importance." Cleaning the paint rollers and brushes is as important as painting the outside of a church. The budget for these mission trips are often tight, so if supplies are not cleaned, they

can't be used the next day for another paint job.

My favorite project was placing a cross and lights on top of Prayer Mountain, a very special place. To some, it's just a small mesa on a simple campground, but for myself and many others, it has been a place to find comfort, peace, joy, resolve, and much more. Placing the cross on Prayer Mountain came about when Brother Cline and my father were sitting outside talking about more work that needed to be done on the campground and the reservation. He mentioned wanting to place a cross on Prayer Mountain, and my father immediately wanted to make that happen.

The summer of 1997, we built the cross and placed it on Prayer Mountain. That afternoon, we had a special reflection service at the base of the mountain. Later, Brother Cline and my father were talking, and decided that lights were needed at the base of the cross. Brother Cline was always looking for ways to bring the love and salvation of Christ to the Navajo Nation, and this would make the cross visible at night for those passing by on I-40. In July 1999, the lights were placed! My father went to his heavenly home in February of that year. Although he didn't get to see the lights shining on the cross,

countless others have and have been blessed. Today, the lights continue to shine, now illuminating 3 crosses!

It has been an eventful and exciting 30 years working on various reservations. I am thankful that my parents started us out on this journey, encouraging us to serve the Lord together. Going back to the Southwest this summer, where it all started, has been refreshing and brought back many memories. Although Brother Cline and my parents have made the journey to their heavenly home, my family wants to continue to do our part for the time we have left. Our hearts are to serve our Native brothers and sister in the name of Jesus! We want to be gap fillers for the Lord, serving where we can, praying for whoever we can, and loving all as Jesus called us to love.



Erecting the cross on Prayer Mountain  
1997



Reflection time on the mountain, after erecting the cross, 1997



Members of the Slaughter family with Doug and Linda Cline

# friday night ENCOUNTER



**Bryson Foulks**

**ABOVE:** Bryson Foulks, Greenville, TN, brings the message to the youth.

**RIGHT:** Blake Chavis and Bryson lead worship with a young person.

**BELOW:** Scenes from the altar time.

IMNA began conducting Friday night Encounters at the Macedonia Indian Baptist Church in Conehatta, Mississippi. At each of these services, we have seen an amazing move of the Holy Spirit, and at our first gathering in March, we saw over 20 young people give their hearts to Jesus Christ.

God is bringing together various churches from the area, and we are seeing people of various denominational backgrounds gathering to worship God and experiences His goodness. For the last four months, we have been learning who we are as children of God, and how to find our identity in Christ.

We have seen many adults touched and challenged by the Holy Spirit in their own lives. God's call on their lives has been enhanced and

clarified, as they began to see the purpose that He has given them. We have witnessed physical, spiritual, and mental healings and restorations each time we have gathered together. God is on the move with the Choctaw of Mississippi.



# IDENTITY



**Ben Chavis**

**ABOVE:** Ben Chavis, Asheboro, NC, brings the message to the people

**ABOVE AND LEFT:** Scenes from altar time

**BELOW LEFT:** A young man learns the Word as he follows Ben in Romans 8.

**BELOW:** First Baptist, Lake, MS, leads worship as Johnny Hughes ministers in the altar.



# Sweet Smell of Homemade



The Impact Warriors youth in Hammon, Oklahoma, have been learning various skills in their Camp Tuesday after-school program. Under the teaching of Jacque Rivera, assisted by Myrna Campbell, they have learned how to make clay jewelry, and cook biscuits, gravy, and other breakfast entrees. They also learned how to make homemade chicken and dumplings.



Also, under the direction of Betty Eaton, the youth continued improving their sewing skills, and keyboard lessons. Thank you to all of the parents for sending your youth, and to the volunteers who make this possible. We are very proud of these young ladies.



## Camp Tuesday Showcase 2022



This year's Camp Tuesday held an end-of-year Showcase for friends and family. The girls were able to display their sewing skills in making their ribbon aprons and stuffed cats. Sharon Marie performed a 10-song recital on the keyboard.



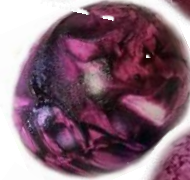


## Conehatta, Mississippi

The Impact Warriors of Conehatta enjoyed a variety of Spring and Summer activities. During the Easter season, they learned creative techniques of coloring eggs. They also had the opportunity to learn about different ways of decorating cookies.

For the Mother's Day time, they learned how to take a towel, submerge it into a concrete mixture and form it over an object to create unique pots. They were then able to paint their own designs and plant Summer flowers.

We are already looking forward to Fall, when they begin to learn sewing, woodworking, and beadwork.



# Conehatta Vacation Bible School

IMNA partnered with Christ First Ministries of Cullman, Alabama, to facilitate this year's Vacation Bible School at the Macedonia Indian Baptist Church in Conehatta, Mississippi. Over 60 youth, plus adults, attended the VBS to learn more about God's Word. Pastor Phillip Ashley and his team provided an exciting and life-transforming experience for the attendees. "I was honored to be a part of the VBS. The youth and parents that attended were so attentive and enthusiastic to receive God's Word! This church is serious about reaching their community, and are eager to share Christ. I look forward to continuing our partnership in the future," Todd Greenlee, Christ First Ministries team member.



# "She Traded Her Hats for a CROWN"

Sis. Mary Gibbs...I met her on our first trip to Atmore, Alabama to visit the Poarch Creek Community many years ago. The things I will always remember about her is how she loved Jesus, her family, her church, gospel music, her front porch (as long as it wasn't too hot), antiques and her hats; oh the hats. It was rare to see Sister Gibbs without a hat. Her home was like a museum, not the stuffy kind, a welcoming place where antiques, food, conversation and hospitality abound. My family and I slept in her home on many occasions and she always made us feel like part of her family. We spent much time over the years, on her front porch chatting away.

Sister Gibbs was a true prayer warrior. She had a prayer closet in the back of her home and spent many hours there. I have a shirt with the phrase that reads: *I want to be the kind of woman who, when my boots hit the*

*floor in the morning, the devil says, oh no, she's up.* This was Sister Gibbs. Her prayers, her praise and time spent in God's Word made the devil and his evil host tremble.

She was close with her family; she loved them and was very proud of them all. There are simply too many memories and not enough pages to share them all. When I would think of Sister Gibbs, I would picture her at church, sitting off to the side in her chair, wearing one of her hats, clapping her hands, singing and praising her Jesus. Today, when I think of her, I see her wearing a crown, standing with her Jesus, praising Him and watching out for the rest of us.

By: Becky Hughes



Mary Gibbs

## Believing for Holy Spirit Waves

God created you for a purpose, and like a stone cast into a pond, the ripples and waves of your life will affect the world around you. This was the theme and focus of the Grace Point Vacation Bible School this Summer.

The children were taught and ministered to by the team from Summit Church, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, for the fourth Summer. They have witnessed the physical and spiritual growth of these youth, and they continue to love on them and encourage them that God has placed them in their "pond" of influence. The waves they make for Jesus in their families, their school, and their community will last forever. We are believing for a tidal wave of the Holy Spirit!



Hammon, OK VBS



# Opening New Gates



**Johnny Hughes**

The Friendly Holiness Church, Atmore, Alabama, had the pleasure of going on our first mission trip this year. We partnered with Indian Ministries of North America and traveled to the Navajo Nation.

As youth leaders, our goal for this trip was to teach our teens about servanthood and to help them see how blessed they are. During our time in New Mexico and Arizona, we had the opportunity to work and clean at the Southwest Indian Ministries campground, and minister at several local churches.

While our goal was to be a light and pour into these churches, our teens also received so much during this trip. Some of them had their first encounter with the Holy Spirit, and since returning home, so many people within and outside of our church have commented on the outward change that they can see in these teens. They have been born again through Christ and their countenance is not the same.

It was a great experience for the youth to see that hard work and dedication that they committed in the months leading up to the trip was well worth it, and that God honored their efforts by the

outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the services that we participated in.

A huge thank you to Bro. Johnny Hughes, his Dad, James, and to Bro. Rock Slaughter for an amazing experience. We look forward to working with IMNA again in the future.

*By: Shelly Chavira*



**James Hughes**

**IMNA Founder, James Hughes, and IMNA Vice-President, Rock Slaughter also ministered during this trip to the Southwest.**



**Rock Slaughter**



## PHOTOS FROM NAVAJO NATION:

Members of the Friendly Holiness Church, Atmore, Alabama, worked and ministered in various locations of the Navajo Nation. They ministered through song and drama.



# THE IMNA MISSION:

*“To be frontline Warriors impacting lives, restoring the broken, healing the wounded, and setting captives free.”*

## Supplying Warmth with Love



Each year, IMNA takes teams to assist the Family Support Services of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians with firewood for their clients. We plan one trip in the Fall, and one in late Winter. In addition to those trips this year, the men's ministry group from Summit Church, Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, spent a couple of Saturdays in early Spring splitting the final loads for the elders and low-income households. It is a wonderful time of service to the low-income families and the elders, and it is open for anyone over 18 years old.



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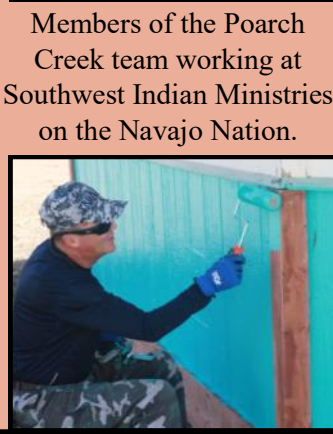
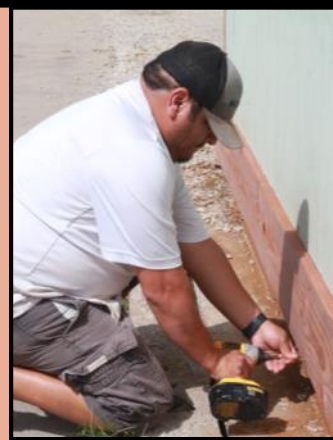
# Construction: Building Community

This Spring and Summer has seen a flurry of construction projects, with various teams working in Oklahoma, Mississippi, and New Mexico. Team members from various churches in Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, and Tennessee participated in starting, continuing, and completing several projects. These projects will benefit members of the Cheyenne / Arapaho, Choctaw, and Navajo people. Other projects are in the works, so contact our office if you are interested in partnering with IMNA.



**ABOVE:** New awnings were added to the warehouse at Grace Point by Joe & Linda Nickerson.

**BELOW:** Jerry Hurst adds a new tile backsplash at the church in Conehatta, Mississippi.



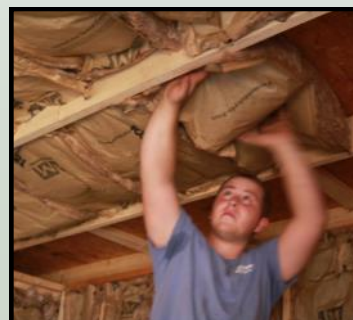
Members of the Poarch Creek team working at Southwest Indian Ministries on the Navajo Nation.



Work projects at Macedonia IBC, courtesy of Christ First Ministries



Various stages of the construction of the new mentoring building in Conehatta,



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