

INDIAN MINISTRIES OF NORTH AMERICA INC.

Hope for First Nations

Fall / Winter 2018

Volume 17 - Number 4



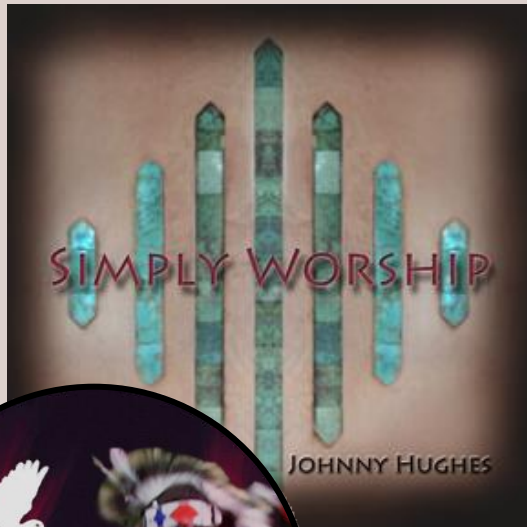
James Hughes assists a young Choctaw archer

The time has come for the generation of bows to launch the arrows of youth from their quiver.



Native American Flute Music

By Johnny Hughes



Holy Spirit Inspired



\$15.00 Each / All 3 for \$40.00

Order Today

Email: info@indianministries.org



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

*Fall 2018
Volume 17 – Number 4*

Founder

James A. Hughes

Executive Director / President

Johnny K. Hughes

Asst. Exec. Dir. / Board Secretary

Becky Hughes

Vice President

Rock Slaughter

Directors

*Chris Allen
Fred Carder
Johnny Crumpton
Troy Dailey
Benita Earl
Rodney LaVallie
Doug Payne
Tommy Walker
Kelley Watson
Clayton Williams*

Home Missionary / Cherokee, NC

Lindsey Slaughter Hughes

Operations / Mentoring

Elizabeth Hughes

Office

Indian Ministries of North America, Inc.
P.O. Box 3472
Cleveland, TN 37320

Physical Location

911 Keith St. NW
Cleveland, Tennessee 37311

Phone: (423)479-3831

www.indianministries.org

... from the heart

by James A. Hughes



A time of refreshing... that is how I would describe my recent trip to the homeland of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. Located in southern Alabama, this reservation and its people hold a special place in my heart. It had been approximately 12 years or more since I had ministered on the Reservation. In August, I had the privilege of ministering alongside my wife, Imojean, and our son, Johnny, to a group of people at the Friendly Holiness Church. This congregation truly loves God and their worship to God is inspiring, invoking a move of the Holy Spirit that was uplifting and contagious.

These power-packed services took me back to the times in my early ministry, the 1960's—1980's. Oh, how I have longed to see the power of the Holy Spirit manifested so freely in our local churches once again. I thank God that my wife and I are still able to travel to the Reservations across the United States and minister, fulfilling the vision that God inspired me with in 1967.

Following this revival in Alabama, we had the privilege of returning to IMNA's Grace Point Ministry Center in Hammon, Oklahoma, where we kicked off a new year of youth mentoring. This is an area of ministry that I have recently become involved with. IMNA's Impact Warriors

Youth Mentoring Program is active in Hammon, Oklahoma and the Choctaw communities in Mississippi.

During our October mentoring in Conehatta, Mississippi, I had a very rewarding time of teaching the children about life-skills, and traditional Native American skills from generations past. Skills, many of which are being lost, that their ancestors relied on to survive and that gave them the ability to move forward in life.

I watched the eyes of the children light up and their faces seemingly shine as they learned how to shoot the bow and arrow, throw a spear, shoot a blow gun, and toss the corn cob darts at their target. The youth learned the traditional ways of cooking in the old iron pots over the open fire.

Mentoring these young boys and girls, is truly an experience that I am enjoying. Passing on the knowledge and the anointing is what we are all called to do!



A New Member of the IMNA Fleet

The time had come for IMNA to begin raising funds for the purchase of a new diesel truck. We are pleased to announce that God blessed our efforts tremendously. With nearly 600,000 miles on our 2003 truck, our friends and partners came through in a mighty way, and in December, the funds for a 2018 Dodge Ram 3500

crew cab had been raised. God blessed abundantly, and a very generous donation from the Poarch Band of Creek Indians in Atmore, Alabama, put us over the top. The outpouring of support for this project was so great, that we are now looking to purchase a new gooseneck trailer with the additional funds. Thank you to everyone who gave to make this project a success, and if you would like to give toward the new trailer:



Donations can be mailed to:

**IMNA
P.O. Box 3472
Cleveland, TN 37320
(Note in the memo: New Trailer)**

**Donations can also be made through:
indianministries.org**

Grafted
Lost State of Mine

See us to receive for your Special Edition

Info.graftedmusic@gmail.com @GraftedTN



DOWNLOAD



Available on



amazon music

You Shop. Amazon Gives

Hey all you Amazon shoppers!

You can support Indian Ministries of North America just by shopping with Amazon, just go to the site below and register our organization and we will receive .5% of the eligible purchase price. Each time you shop, remember to login to: smile.amazon.com

IT'S THAT EASY!

amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Dance of the Falling Leaves

By: Walking Woman - Southern Cheyenne

She thought if she ever got to speak to a leaf, and ask it to look back on its life and recall its most animate moments, it would say to her, there was no finer moment than letting go of all it knew and had experienced in life. To free itself from its security and comfort zone, and surrender to the wind as it sung to it of its coming leap of faith. To take that plunge in the delicate and dreamy rays of the afternoon autumn sun and not know where it may land, nor care, for it was lost in the magic of its own flying.

She often got that feeling under the looming magic of the autumn song, as the leaves danced what in essence was their last waltz with the sunlit skies and yet seemed their most blissful moment of all. Perhaps the dance continued inside them, she thought, even as they lay on the ground, seemingly deteriorating. Perhaps the joy of having the wind carry them carefree and captivated in the charms of nature surrounding was the currency that invoked the journey deep to a new spring, to new life, another spiral on the flight of eternity. Who says the dance stopped there? One could always dance within, regardless of all that was happening and not happening around it.

She wondered about the falling leaves in her life. The moments that were calling upon her spirit to take flight. The opportunities upon her where she could let go and in turn let her soul dance the waltz within her, or the flamenco solo where she would make fierce, passionate rhythms on the soil of her todays and tomorrows.

As the winds blew through her beating chest she thought of all the times she had been too scared to let go, too scared to dance. Scared her dance would offend or confuse or attract something she wouldn't be able to handle. But she envied the leaves as they floated so free and she was inspired. She was inspired by their bravery, by their embrace of the short life they lived. She was living a short life too. The winds began to sing. The leaves took the lead. It was time for her to dance, to let it all go.

The safe spaces in her mind that had dried because they needed new water. The safe conversations she had because she was always too worried her honest expressions would be rejected. The safe patterns of existing that drained her of her passion, her liveliness, her interest in living. It was time to let the safety go, the winds wanted to take her on the flight that bubbled in her blood and her bones.

It was the fear of pain that had stopped her dance up to now, but she was tired of being scared of pain. Actually exhausted. Exhausted of trying to control everything. Trying to keep everything in its place. Life was messy, spontaneous, all over the place like the leaves sprayed on the ground. And she would often get hurt. It felt imperative to find a way to be okay with that. To really consider she was able to heal from anything like the rustled, drying leaves would soon be new and fertile again. And that if that was so, perhaps any blisters or injuries along the way could bring her deeper into her life and her hearts depths. Perhaps everything was there to take her deeper into her soul dance. She had to love. She had to open. She had to give it a go. She was dying to dance. She was dying to let herself out. She was dying to do it all. It turned out to be such an adventure, she never went back to the days of not dancing again. And every autumn, she made it a priority to dance with the falling leaves around her for at least one brisk afternoon.

Learning Skills from the Past



The Choctaw youth, involved in IMNA's Impact Warriors youth mentoring program, recently had the opportunity to step into the past. They were able to try their skills with games and hunting devices from their ancestors. Each youth learned that it is very important to maintain a connection with their culture and the skills from the past. Some of the activities included was the basics of archery, shooting a blowgun, throwing a spear, and tossing darts made of corn cobs. From the youngest to the oldest, the youth enjoyed the activities and teachings that were offered. The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians are very active in maintaining their traditional culture and language.



Blowgun



Darts



Archery

FRYBREAD!!

The smell of smoke drifted through the air and the sound of boiling water and crackling oil could be heard from the cast iron pots under the shade of a large oak tree. That was the way this early morning started in Conehatta, Mississippi.

Darnell Willis and Eleanor Vaughn, both mentors with IMNA's Impact Warriors, prepared to teach the children the traditional ways of cooking from generations of their Choctaw ancestors.

The youth learned how to prepare and roll out the dough to make their own frybread and learned the ways of cooking hominy. Following the teaching time, we all sat down and enjoyed a traditional Choctaw meal.



LEFT: Impact Warriors race each other in a raingutter regatta. Each child assembled their own sailboat to race.

RIGHT: Warriors assembled their own personal stool. Volunteers from Alabama assisted with the project. Kits were created by David Klocke.





Hammon, Oklahoma

September was a month of cooking. During this time, IMNA's Impact Warriors partnered with the Hammon Senior Center to learn and practice a few cooking skills. First, they taught them about baking cakes and each child was able to decorate their own personal cake. Next, they learned how to follow a recipe to mix and bake cookies. Finally, with the help of their mentors, the youth learned how to cook French toast and macaroni and cheese. According to one child, "I love learning to cook, and especially getting to eat it afterward."

Cooking Skills



Finger Weaving - God's Eye

October was National Month of the Arts. IMNA's Impact Warriors Youth Mentoring Program took this opportunity to partner with Ms. Stephanie Hughes, the art teacher from Hammon schools. Each week, she taught the youth new art skills and activities, such as drawing techniques and finger weaving a God's eye medallion. She loves working with the youth and getting the opportunity to teach

certain activities that are more suited to a small group than to a large classroom. It is the goal of Impact Warriors to identify the strengths of the and help them develop those areas in their life. Artistic talent is very prominent in many of the youth in this program, and by developing these skills, self confidence will strengthen.



“Transforming Lives and Communities”

Youth from the Grace Point Impact Warriors program recently assembled Christmas gifts for the elders who attended the Grace Point Christmas Celebration. The gifts were made from glass building blocks stuffed with Christmas lights and then wrapped with ribbon and bows.



**CHRISTMAS
GIFTS FOR
THE ELDERS**

Pure Dance Performing Arts



IMNA's Impact Warriors of Hammon, Oklahoma has partnered with Pure Dance Performing Arts as a part of our youth mentoring. Under the direction of owner, Sage Showers, a group of the Cheyenne girls meet each week, along with other girls from the area, to learn poise, posture, and the basics of ballet and dance. The girls were a part of a community Winter Showcase where they were able to demonstrate the various techniques they have learned this semester.



Boha Tribe

Recently, Hannah and I (Boha Tribe) came to Grace Point Ministry Center in Hammon, Oklahoma, to reunite with our friend and brother in Christ, Johnny Hughes. We had an awesome time in the presence of God, and really felt at home ministering and loving on the people with Johnny and Indian Ministries of North America.

We joined with Community Fellowship Church for worship on Sunday morning, and held nightly services at Grace Point. Having two Native flutes together in worship, with the acoustic guitar and harmonica, was quite a combo of wind & strings!

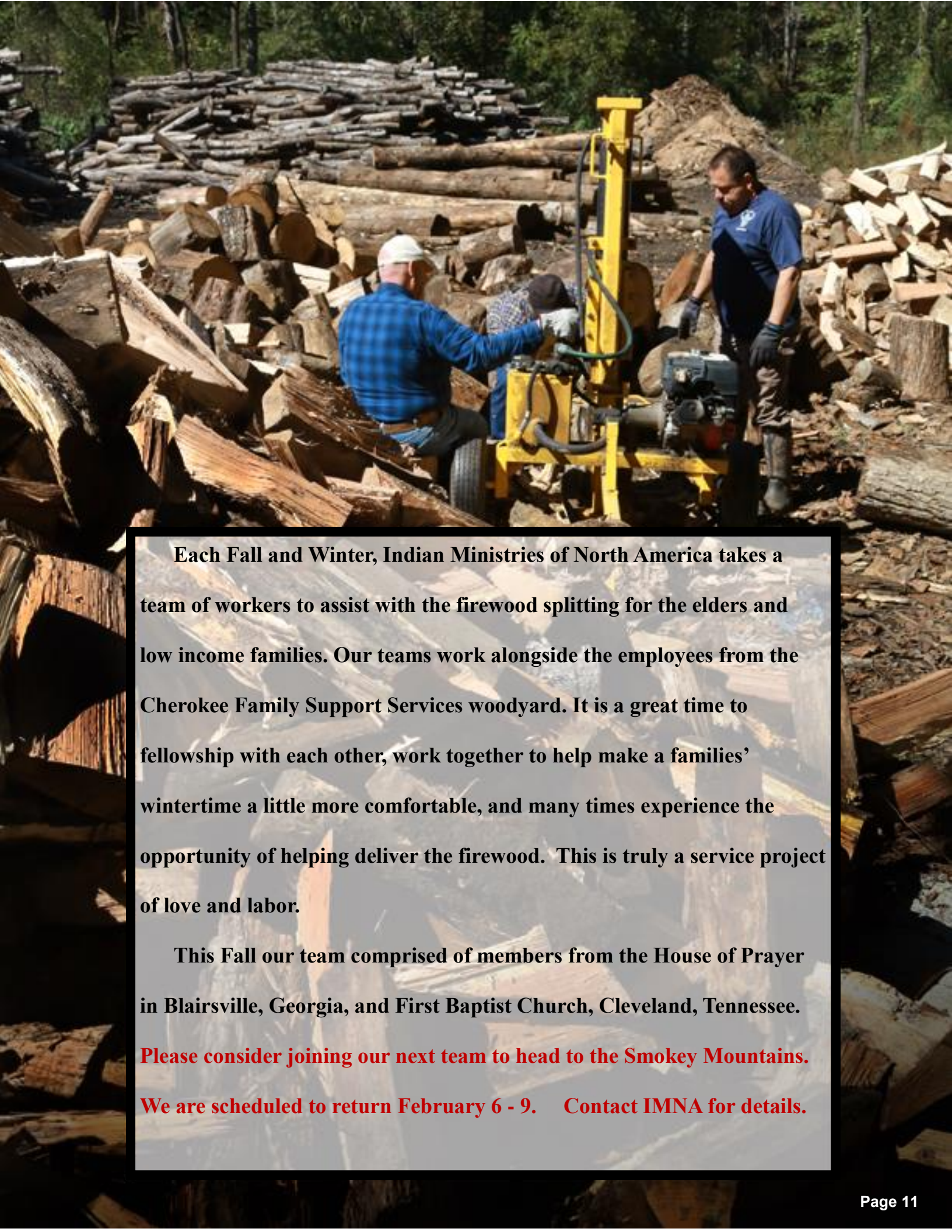
On Sunday morning, the pastor poured out his heart to the people about being "hot for God," and refusing to stay lukewarm. I sensed a humble community being primed for renewal and revival. Later that evening, we ministered through testimony, worship and the Word, as the Lord led us in an amazing ministry time with Johnny and friends at Grace Point.

We believe strongholds were broken off of families and individuals, young people received the revelation of beloved identity and walls of separation between cultural differences began to crumble that night by the Spirit of God.

Hannah and I look forward to investing in the ready soil of western Oklahoma & believing God for heaven coming to earth in our midst in the days to come.

By Bobby and Hannah Morrison





Each Fall and Winter, Indian Ministries of North America takes a team of workers to assist with the firewood splitting for the elders and low income families. Our teams work alongside the employees from the Cherokee Family Support Services woodyard. It is a great time to fellowship with each other, work together to help make a families' wintertime a little more comfortable, and many times experience the opportunity of helping deliver the firewood. This is truly a service project of love and labor.

This Fall our team comprised of members from the House of Prayer in Blairsville, Georgia, and First Baptist Church, Cleveland, Tennessee. Please consider joining our next team to head to the Smokey Mountains. We are scheduled to return February 6 - 9. Contact IMNA for details.

CHRISTMAS

Hammon, OK

IMNA teams celebrated Christmas by providing toys, clothing, and household supplies for hundreds of individuals. This year we were able to bless families in Cherokee, North Carolina; Durant and Hammon, Oklahoma; and Conehatta, Mississippi.

In Hammon and Conehatta, community celebrations were held for the families, and numerous local volunteers from various churches joined together to make the occasions a great success. A service was held in Hammon, where the youth from Impact Warriors mentoring program presented gifts to the elders and showcased their talents on the keyboard. In Conehatta, a Friday night Christmas concert was held at the Macedonia Indian Baptist Church, featuring Southern Gospel artist, Rock Slaughter, along with Christopher and Lindsey Hughes.



2018

Conehatta, MS



Signs of Christmas

Lindsey Slaughter Hughes, IMNA's Home Missionary to Cherokee, North Carolina has been working with youth from the Chief Cornerstone Ministry Center. She has been teaching the youth to sign and do interpretive movements to worship songs during the services. This Christmas season, they led the congregation in Silent Night in the Cherokee language, along with Mary Did You Know.



He Dog Elementary Receives Gifts

Recently, Steve and Melinda Holder of Cleveland, TN, traveled to the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota. They delivered numerous gifts and school supplies for the He Dog Elementary School. Included were stuffed dogs and cats given to IMNA for the children. Melinda also had the opportunity to teach classes during her visit. Thank Steve and Melinda!

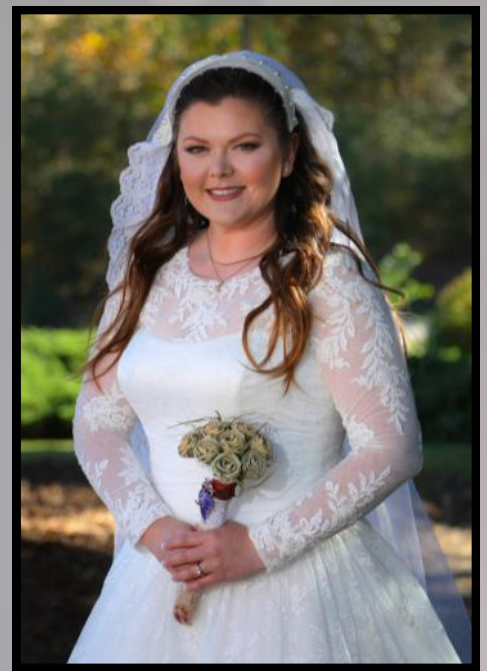
"Thank you so much, Johnny and James Hughes for the WONDERFUL stuffed animals you gave us for the first and fourth-grade students at the He Dog Elementary School in Mission, South Dakota. This is the poorest county in America. The suicide rate is very high and alcohol and drugs are prevalent. Showing love and planting a seed of compassion to these precious students is very important!!"

"Wish that all of you had been present and seen the excitement when each of these Lakota Indian children received their gifts!! This was an experience of a lifetime!! We could never thank you enough for your rich labor of love!! You are giving hope to the hopeless!!"



Wedding Bells

On November 3, the celebration of the union of Lindsey Slaughter and Christopher Hughes took place in South Carolina. Christopher is the son of IMNA's Directors, Johnny and Becky Hughes, and Lindsey is the daughter of Rock and Suzette Slaughter. Rock currently serves as the Vice-President of IMNA. The couple met at very young age while serving with their families at the Navajo Nation in Gallup, New Mexico. Lindsey currently serves as an IMNA Home Missionary and directs much of IMNA's work in Cherokee, North Carolina. The couple will reside in Cleveland, Tennessee, and continue their ministry together among the Cherokee and other communities throughout the United States.



Congratulations

*Christopher
&
Lindsey
Hughes
Nov. 3, 2018*



IMNA Itinerary

Morning Service
Summit Church
Pigeon Forge, TN
Jan. 13

Firewood Splitting
Family Support Service
Cherokee, NC
Feb. 6 - 9

Navajo Nation
Mission Trip
Gallup, NM
March 3-13

Grace Point
Work Project
Hammon, OK
April 7-14

Community Visitations
Grace Point Ministry
Hammon, OK
Jan.

Missions Conference
Cooper City COG
Cooper City, FL
Feb. 20-24

Mission Conference
House of Prayer
Blairsville, GA
March 22-24

Revival
Chief Cornerstone
Bryson City, NC
April 18-19

Impact Warriors
Youth Mentoring
Conehatta, MS
Feb. 2

Impact Warriors
Youth Mentoring
Conehatta, MS
March 2

Impact Warriors
Youth Mentoring
Conehatta, MS
April 6

Impact Warriors
Youth Mentoring
Conehatta, MS
May 4

CHEROKEE, NC

Interpretive Class each Wednesday night

Women's Ministry January: 10th and 24th

February: 7th and 21st

March: 7th and 21st

April: 4th and 18th



Connect with IMNA

423-479-3831

Indian Ministries of North America, Inc.

P.O. Box 3472

Cleveland, Tennessee 37320

www.indianministries.org

LIKE US



Indian Ministries of North America, Inc. - Hope for First Nations