

INDIAN MINISTRIES OF NORTH AMERICA INC.

Hope for First Nations

Spring 2018

Volume 17 - Number 2

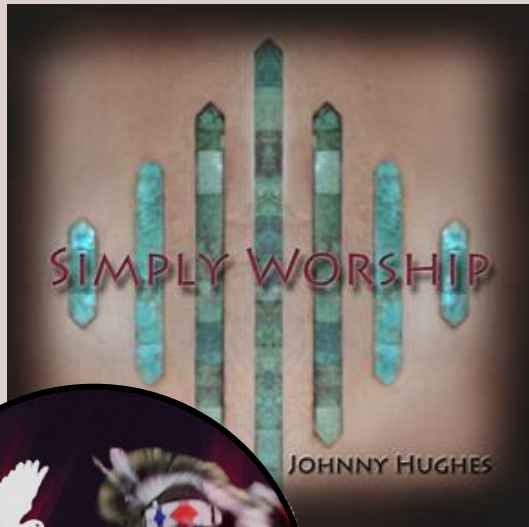
**"Flowers appear on
the earth; the season
of singing has
come, the cooing
of doves is heard
in our land."**

Song of Solomon 2:12

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

*Spring 2018
Volume 17 – Number 2*

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Gateway Church Purchases Forklift

Indian Ministries of North America was recently blessed to be able to purchase a much needed forklift for our warehouse space at Grace Point Ministry Center in Hammon, Oklahoma. Thanks to a generous donation from the Gateway Church in Southlake, Texas, the ministry was able to purchase an electric Crown forklift and have it shipped to Hammon. This gift will allow for more product to be delivered and stored for distribution.

Gateway Church, under the leadership of Pastor Robert Morris, has partnered with IMNA on several projects, and we consider it a great honor and privilege to have a divine connection with this church family. We greatly appreciate all they are doing to assist with reaching our Native American people with the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Earl and LaVallie Voted to Serve as IMNA Directors

At the 2018 annual Board of Directors meeting for Indian Ministries of North America, Inc., the members of the board elected Benita Earl to serve alongside them. In addition to this new appointment, the board also reappointed Rodney LaVallie to a new term with the board. Both of these individuals have been associated with IMNA for several years and are a vital part of this ministry.

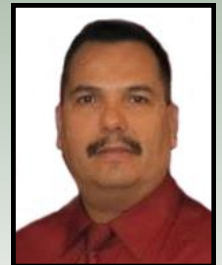


Benita Earl

Benita came to know the Lord at the age of 10 and God has used her to serve several roles in the Center Hill Baptist Church in Hanceville, Alabama. Through the year, she has served in puppet ministry, children's church teacher, Sunday School teacher, church treasurer, and women's Bible study teacher. She graduated college with an accounting degree and currently works with business and ministry bookkeeping and tax preparation.

She, and her husband, Robbie, became involved with IMNA in 2013, and have participated and lead various mission trips to Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Tennessee. "Through all my life experiences, God has used each one to bring me to a deeper love of Him and His people," stated Benita.

Rodney LaVallie, a long-time IMNA friend and partner, rejoined the Board of Directors for another term. Rodney, from the Turtle Mountain Chippewa tribe, first became associated with IMNA over 14 years ago. He was pastoring in Minnesota at the time, and several years later moved to Cleveland, Tennessee, where he is currently residing. A few years ago, he assumed the pastorate of the Christ Fellowship Church in Cherokee, North Carolina. Under his leadership, the church has seen tremendous growth and IMNA is grateful for the close partnership that has been developed between these two ministries.



Rodney LaVallie

IMNA Recieves Youth Mentoring Grant



In 2018, Indian Ministries of North America, Inc. received a youth mentoring grant in partnership with the Leadership Foundation of Washington state. This grant has allowed IMNA to begin a new Impact Warriors Youth Mentoring program in Hammon, Oklahoma.



The program meets after school on Tuesdays, and under the direction of Beth Ann Showers, the youth are learning life skills, self-worth, social skills and serving their community. In addition, they are also learning Biblical principles for life and receiving homework assistance.

This grant also focuses on family engagement. We hope to see family bonds strengthened through intentional family gatherings and trainings.

“Transforming Lives and Communities”

IMNA’s Impact Warriors began in 2012 with the Choctaw youth in Mississippi. It was birthed from the youth revivals, youth camps and our summer training program, RELEASE. We want to find the strengths and talents of these youth to help them to develop those gifts, to insure a stronger self-worth and confidence. We believe that encouraging them in their strengths will help them in their confidence to strengthen their weaknesses.

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UCW OIP WMC "One Full Basket"

One Full Basket is a group of women that meets monthly for 2 hours of fellowship at the Christ Fellowship Church in Cherokee, North Carolina, and is lead by Lindsey Slaughter, IMNA's Cherokee Coordinator.

This group has been going strong this year, especially in their Zumba exercise class, where they have been getting their moves down. In addition to taking care of their physical bodies, they have been working on their spiritual life as well. They have been learning the different names of God in Hebrew, along with their intimate meanings. The group has also been doing various craft and cooking activities each meeting. Their last meeting, they used their creative side to paint rocks with messages for those who find them around Cherokee.

According to Lindsey, "The women are having a blast and it is touching to know that God is using this time to bring women closer to Him."

One new venture for the group will be adding some younger members. One of the leaders from the church has started working with a group of girls on music during the same time the ladies meet, Following their music lesson, they have started joining in for the Bible study.

Lindsey stated, "Please pray for the growth and quality discipleship to continue. I am very excited to see what God has in store for One Full Basket and Cherokee."



Cherokee youth signs for worship

If you would like to financially support this group, please send your donations to IMNA and designate as One Full Basket. If you would like to donate craft supplies, snacks, or your time, please email:

Lindsey@indianministries.org





Hammon, Oklahoma

In 2018, Indian Ministries of North America began an additional youth mentoring program at their Grace Point Ministry Center in Hammon, Oklahoma. Under the direction of Beth Ann Showers, we have begun to see a steady growth in the youth participating in the program. She and her husband, Scott, the Pastor of the Hammon First Baptist Church, have a real passion to see the youth in Hammon have a chance at a successful and productive life. The emphasis of the program is to build relationships with the youth, as well as their families, and provide after school activities such as homework assistance, life skills training and Bible studies.

BELOW: The true meaning of Easter is taught to the students by Beth Ann Showers



“Transforming Lives and Communities”



LEFT: The newly remodeled reading room at IMNA's Grace Point Ministry Center.

BELOW: A group of mentoring students enjoying the reading center.



LEFT: Elizabeth Hughes assists with crafts with the girls at the Hammon Impact Warriors mentoring.

BELOW LEFT: Bobby Gwartney helps a young boy with his Easter project.

BELOW: Pastor Scott Showers, First Baptist, Hammon, works with homework help and arts & crafts.

Craft Time





IMPACT WARRIORS

The Choctaw youth in Conehatta, Mississippi, have been learning life lessons from their mentoring meetings at the Macedonia Indian Baptist Church. Volunteer mentors from various regions and the local community come together to teach hands-on skills to school age youth.

Recently, dozens of youth came together to put their skills to the test, as they learned how to construct a wooden toolbox. They learned how to safely assist with the use of a few power tools, as well as, hand tools. The lesson that day was about the toolbox of their life and what it should contain, such as, faith, hope, love, gentleness, kindness, respect, and etc.

Others, learned about leathercraft and were able to help in making their own name arm band. Also, in the near future, elders from the tribe will be teaching many of the youth in the basics of traditional beadwork, cooking, and other cultural crafts and activities.

We are so excited about the Choctaw Impact Warriors and are looking forward to a great summer together. Our youth are our future and the values that we are able to instill will influence that future for their lives.



TOP: Mentor Paul Gilstrap teaches a youth how to use a power drill.

ABOVE: Becky Hughes helps with the leathercraft, which was lead by IMNA Founder, James Hughes.



Conehatta, Mississippi



Johnny Hughes, Belvin Willis and David Klocke, assist youth in constructing their toolboxes.



Smoky Mountain Firewood

A group of workers, from the First Baptist Church in Jackson, South Carolina, traveled to the Cherokee Reservation of North Carolina, to help split firewood for the elders and low income families. Nestled in the Great Smoky Mountains, this has been a colder than normal Spring for area residents, as they have seen snowfall into the month of April. Over 200 families are served each year by the Cherokee Family Support Services, with free firewood from October through April. During this year over 500 loads were split and delivered.



Ramp it Up Recipes



Fried Potatoes and Ramps

6-8 medium white potatoes
2 cups new ramps or 3 cups chopped with tops
1 package of bacon
Salt and pepper

Fry bacon till crisp, set bacon aside to drain. While bacon is cooking, peel and slice potatoes into 1/8 inch thick slices. Place in cold water to prevent them from turning brown and drying out.

After bacon is removed turn down heat and allow to cool a bit. Drain the potatoes and pat dry with paper towel. Place potatoes in skillet with hot bacon grease, add salt and pepper to taste, brown gently. Add ramps and cover with lid. Let simmer for 8-10 minutes or until ramps are clear.

Place ramp and potato mixture in bowl and sprinkle the crumbled bacon on top. Serve hot!

Cherokee Buttermilk Biscuits with Ramps

4 cups all-purpose flour
1 Tbsp. baking soda
1 tsp. sea salt
2 heaping Tbsp. baking powder
1/2 cup shortening or canola oil
2 cups buttermilk
1 cup uncooked minced fresh ramps

Sift flour, salt, baking powder and baking soda together. Cut in shortening until mixture is the size of coarse crumbs.

Add ramps and enough buttermilk to make a soft dough ball, making sure ramps are mixed well into the dough. Turn out onto floured surface.

Knead dough from north to south, east to west, adding flour if too sticky. The more you knead, the lighter the bread. Flatten the dough and cut out biscuits or just leave as flat bread or pone."

The ramp finds its native home in eastern North America. Ramps typically grow under the shade of deciduous trees in rich soil.

They have been gathered wild for generations among the many Eastern tribes. Because they were one of the first greens to appear in spring, ramps are considered an important "tonic" by providing vitamins and minerals that had not been available during the winter months. The Cherokee boiled or fried the young plants, while the Iroquois consumed them seasoned with salt and pepper. Both the Objibwa and Menominee dried and stored parts of the ramp to be stored for winter months.

The ramp's bulb and its leaves are consumed when the plant is still young. The ramp is similar in taste to the spring onion, but with an aromatic pungency closer to garlic. In Appalachia, they are commonly consumed by frying them in butter or animal fat, though they are also consumed raw in salads. They are frequently consumed with potatoes or scrambled eggs, and used in soups and other savory dishes.



Preheat oven to 425 degrees and place biscuits on a lightly greased pan.

Lightly caramelize a small amount of ramps in a bit of butter. Strain the ramps and brush the top of the raw biscuits with the ramp infused butter before baking them 15-20 minutes or until golden brown.

Actual baking time depends on your oven and the thickness of the biscuits - when the bread is done, the ramps will be also.

Serve immediately with real butter.

IMNA Itinerary

Impact Warriors
Youth Mentoring
Conehatta, MS
June 1-2

Work Project
Grace Point Ministry
Hammon, OK
June 11 - 23

Vacation Bible School
Cherokee PHC
Cherokee, NC
July 23 - 27

Fall Revival
Shady Grove UMC
Blairsville, GA
Sept. 23-25

Morning Service
Journey Church
Blairsville, GA
June 3

Warrior Leadership
Summit
Carlinville, IL
July 2 - 7

Revival Services
Community Fellowship
Hammon, OK
July 29-31

Mission Conference
Princeton Pike COG
Hamilton, OH
Sept. 25-30

Morning Service
Shady Grove UMC
Blairsville, GA
June 10

Vacation Bible School
Grace Point
Hammon, OK
July 18- 27

Vacation Bible School
Macedonia IBC
Conehatta, MS
July 30 - Aug. 3

Impact Warriors
Youth Mentoring
Conehatta, MS
Oct. 5-6

CHEROKEE, NC	
<u>Women's Ministry</u>	<u>Interpretive Class</u>
May 3, 17, 31 June 14 & 28	May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 June 6, 13, 20, 27

Impact Warriors
Youth Mentoring
Conehatta, MS
Aug. 31-Sept. 1

Firewood Splitting
Family Support Service
Cherokee, NC
Oct. 10-13

Morning Service
Parkway COG
Sevierville, TN
Sept. 16

Impact Warriors
Youth Mentoring
Conehatta, MS
Nov. 2-3



Connect with IMNA

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