

INDIAN MINISTRIES OF NORTH AMERICA INC.

Hope for First Nations

Summer 2017

Volume 16 - Number 3

Bluewater Revival

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GET UP AND GO!

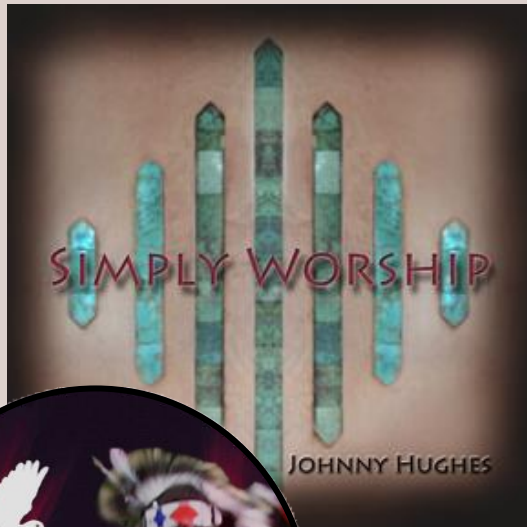
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Canyon de Chelly

Chinle, Arizona

Native American Flute Music

By Johnny Hughes



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

*Summer 2017
Volume 16 – Number 3*

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... from the heart

By: Johnny Hughes

A photograph of Johnny Hughes, a man with a goatee and a red shirt, smiling and looking towards Zachary Begay, a young boy with glasses lying in a hospital bed.


Johnny and Zach

A group photograph of Zachary Begay and his family members, including a woman standing behind him and several people sitting around him.

Zach and Family

A photograph showing a group of people gathered around Zachary Begay in his hospital bed, with their hands clasped in prayer.

Prayer Time

A colorful drawing of a young boy with glasses, wearing a blue robe and a blue hood, with a yellow sun in the background. The drawing is signed "Pastor Zachary Begay".

5th Grade drawing by Zach of his dream of being a pastor like his grandfather, Mark Thomas

Have you ever experienced a time in your life when you know that God has ordained a special event for His glory?

A divine appointment is commonly defined as an incident or meeting that might initially seem to be random but is soon recognized as having been caused by God. So if you have an encounter that seems too good to be true, then perhaps it was a divine appointment!

On May 16, along with some fellow Pastors, I led a group of Lee University students from the School of Nursing on a Global Perspectives trip to the Navajo Nation. As we stopped for lunch, I received an email requesting special prayer for Zachary Begay. He is a 15 year old who was diagnosed with cancer and was told treatments were not working, and his only option was amputation of his leg and a large portion of his pelvis. Hospice had been called in.

As we read the email, the Holy Spirit began to impress on us that we were to pray with this young man. We found out that we would be passing right past his home on our way to Gallup. It was truly a divine appointment. Upon arrival, we met a family full of faith and learned that Zach's dream was to be a pastor like his grandfather, Mark Thomas. This young man's faith was truly unshakeable. We learned that he told the doctors that amputation was not his only choice. In his words, "I have two choices, either God heals me, or He takes me home."

Our group gathered around his bed and began to pray. The power of the Holy Spirit became so real in the room, that we knew God was in the midst of performing a miracle. Most of the college students had never experienced a move of God like we witnessed that afternoon. They began to express how they physically felt His presence and knew that God was moving.

After praying with this young man that afternoon, we learned that they had removed his feeding tube and he was about to "eat them out of house and home." He quit his medication and put his faith into action by trusting God for His promises. According to his grandfather, "He is growing stronger everyday and he recently had a dream that he was running and playing with his siblings." Believe with us for his complete healing and don't miss your next —

Answering the Call to Service

Jesus' instruction to his disciples in Matthew 28:19-20, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.", extends to those who currently identify themselves as followers of Christ as well. Recently, members of Pleasant Hill Church of God in Carthage, Mississippi, had the opportunity to do just that in our "own backyard" so to speak.

Allow me to begin by making an observation or two. First of all, God is not in the habit of checking our schedules when He gets ready to open doors to serve. Secondly, when those doors of opportunity for effectual service open, hesitation, opposition and fear inevitably show up as well. The bottom line is, you either get up and go, or you miss an opportunity to fulfill the Great Commission. This is exactly what happened with our team and the VBS for Macedonia Indian Baptist Church in Conehatta, Mississippi. After completing our own VBS on Sunday night, we packed up and left to start it again at Macedonia. Our team caught their God-given second wind and became energized for the duration of their new assignment.

We met and had the opportunity to serve some of the most gracious, welcoming, spiritually hungry people we've ever met in the Choctaw nation. The evenings were filled with music/drama, bible study, crafts, games and food. Each night, we had an opening and closing session. On Friday night, games and crafts were eliminated and we carried on with Bible study, food, and a closing ceremony in which the children and teens shared the dramas they had learned in music. Children from three years old, up to adults, were ministered to and enjoyed the various activities throughout the week. As a result of this week of VBS, some of the children made a decision to follow Christ for the first time, while others rededicated their lives to the Lord.

The team from Pleasant Hill consisted of church leaders and teens from the youth group. One of those teens who served in the music session shared her thoughts on the experience:

"The VBS we hosted kind of worried me at first. I didn't know what to expect coming from a different culture. I was scared but also a little excited to experience something different. It worried me a little bit to be a 15 year old teaching other teenagers and grown ups. Although I've helped with bible school at our church for the past 3 years, I've never had to teach someone older than me. The music turned

out to be a great success, and it was amazing! It was awesome seeing how we all worshipped the same God, but in different ways. I hope that through the dances, dramas, and singing, at least one person was touched. I would gladly do it again!"

Thank you to the leaders and members of Macedonia Indian Baptist Church, and to those in the Choctaw nation who, perhaps, are not members of that church, but attended and / or supported the VBS program in any way. It was truly our privilege to serve you.



*Story By:
Rick and Michelle Lal*



**Smiling
faces
of
VBS**



Youth Mentoring Begins at Grace Point



Beginning this Fall, a new opportunity and an answer to a long time prayer will begin to emerge. IMNA's Impact Warriors Youth Mentoring will begin at our Grace Point Ministry Center in Hammon, Oklahoma. It has been our desire to impact the lives of these youth by teaching life-skills, strengthening their talents, and teaching them fundamental basics of their walk of faith in Christ.

Pastor Scott and Beth Ann Showers from First Baptist Hammon will be taking the lead on a weekly basis for the program. The youth will be meeting with mentors after school, two days per week. This couple has a burning passion to see the lives of these local children drastically change. Beth Ann stated, "My heart for the youth in Hammon is contained within Ephesians 3:14-21. More

than any program or help, it is grasping the love of our Father and the power of the Spirit that brings life. My hope is to connect our youth with individuals who are committed to this end, and who are available to mentor, encourage, and hold accountable those they are paired with."



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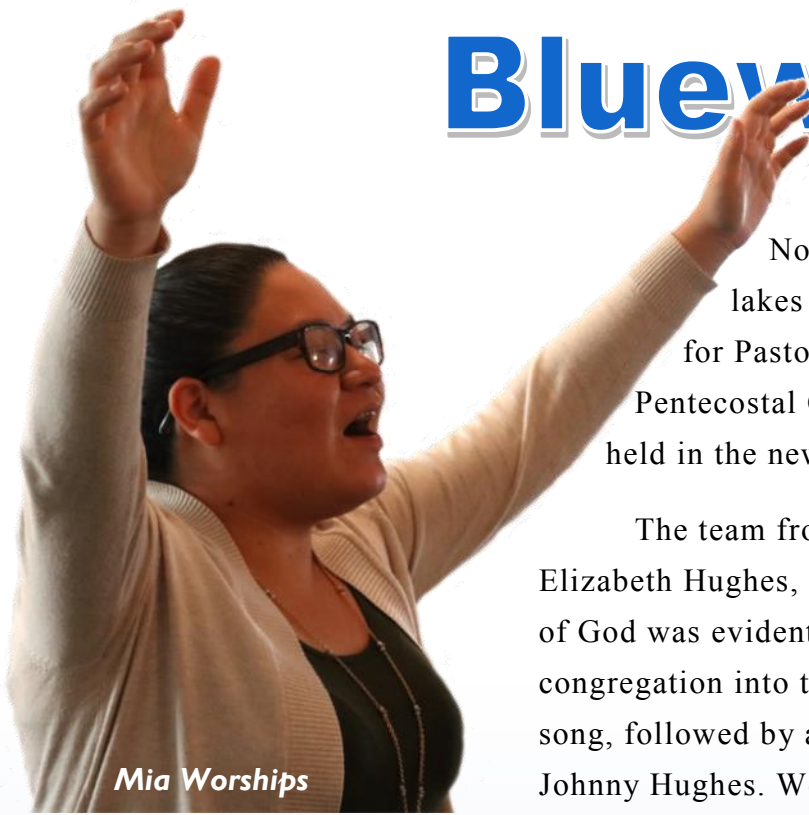
Indian Ministries of North America is believing for a Gideon's Army of 300 to commit their support for the next 12 months. Your gift of \$1.00 per day will support the mission and vision of IMNA. Your gift will help save the lives of those who are battling the spirit of suicide, which is now the 2nd leading cause of death among Native young people under the age of 25. Through Impact Warriors Mentoring, youth rallies, and revivals, young people are finding Biblical answers and their life's value as we direct them to Christ.

Email: BeckyHughes@indianministries.org for additional details

Bluewater Flood

During June, a team from Indian Ministries of North America traveled to the beautiful mesas and lakes of Bluewater, New Mexico, to conduct a revival for Pastors Charles and Alice Tillet at the Bluewater Pentecostal Church of God. This was the first revival to be held in the newly reopened church.

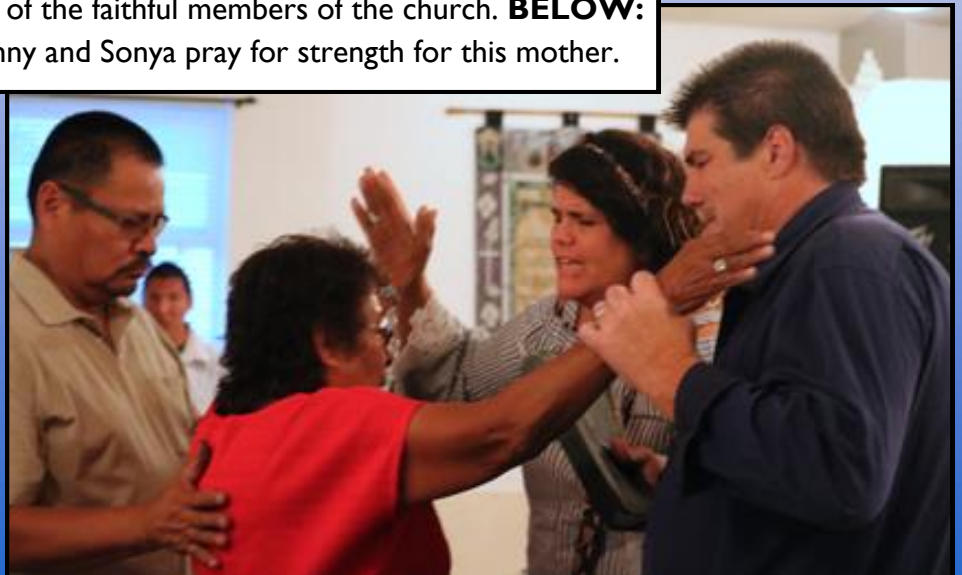
The team from IMNA that made the trip was Johnny Hughes, Elizabeth Hughes, Mia Martinez, and Sonya Dickerson. The power of God was evident from the very first night. Sonya led the small congregation into the throne room with her anointed worship in song, followed by a timely message each night by IMNA's Director, Johnny Hughes. We saw people delivered from strongholds and fear,



Mia Worships



LEFT: Mia prays with a young lady and a girl from the community. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Johnny prays with one of the faithful members of the church. **BELOW:** Johnny and Sonya pray for strength for this mother.

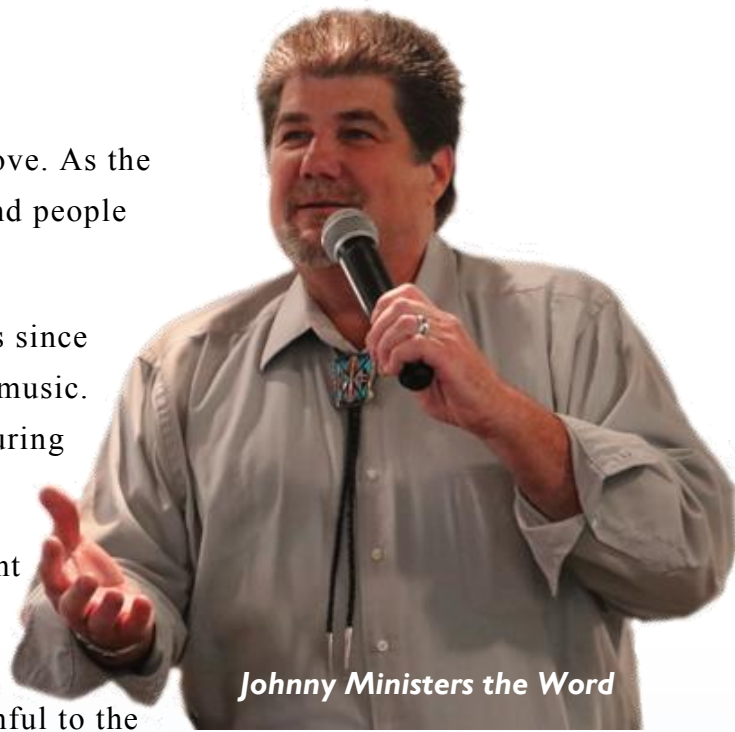


of Revival

physical healings, and the real manifestation of God's love. As the week progressed, we could see the hand of God move and people were being drawn to the church.

One family, anointed with the Word and with music, has since decided to start attending the small church to help with music. Before the revival, there was nobody leading worship during the services.

IMNA has been able to help this church during its recent reconstruction projects by providing roofing shingles, vinyl siding, insulation, and ceramic tile. It has been a real blessing to see Pastors Charles and Alice stand faithful to the call of God to the Navajo people, following 20+ years on the mission



Johnny Ministers the Word

field in Africa. Please keep this church, the pastors, and the people of Bluewater in your prayers.



ABOVE: Sonya prays for Shandell
BELOW: Randall sings with Cheryl Thomas
RIGHT: Cheryl leads worship



Alice Tillet shares from her heart

Get up and Go!

By: Pastor Tim Melton
Cherokee Pentecostal Holiness Church



Jesus was recorded saying, "Go into all the world and make disciples." Yet most Christians have never even shared their faith with the people living right next to them. When confronted, the excuses fly and are usually very creative. The truth is that most Christians are bored with every day "religion" themselves, and see no real value beyond the get out of hell free card.

All of this changes when you begin to place value on others and choose to deliberately make a difference. The truth of this statement has never been more evident than after the results of our trip to the Navajo Nation in May. Lee University (my alma mater) was to send a group of nursing students to the reservation to do wellness checks.

It began like a vacation; everyone was excited to go somewhere they had never been before. As the van was loading there was excited chatter and playful laughter. Little did they know their lives were about to change forever.

The first taste of miraculous ministry came as we made

our first stop in Iyanbito, New Mexico. God had already ordained our steps and was preparing miracles for us before we even arrived. Pulling off the road to ask for directions, we ran into a man who had a grandson that had cancer and was told he had to die. As Johnny and I walked into the room of this child, we knew God was going to show us a miracle. The Spirit of God fell in that room and brought healing to this boy.

Continued on Pg. 10



Nine students from Lee University in Cleveland, TN, traveled to the Navajo Nation of New Mexico and Arizona to conduct a week of physical wellness activities, but found themselves in a spiritual wellness check of themselves.



This spring Johnny Hughes hosted my students and I on a Global Perspectives trip to the Navajo Reservation. The trip had two over-arching objectives, to learn about the Navajo People and their culture, and to teach my students, and any interested Navajo, about lifestyle choices that can promote health and prevent disease. My students and I were overwhelmed at the quality and quantity of informative interactions we had with the Navajo with opportunities tailored to meet our objectives.

We were invited into the homes of a couple of Navajo families to learn about important events and everyday life experiences. My students had the opportunity to encourage and participate in active play with Navajo children at home and at school. We were able to meet and talk to adults from many walks of life and hear their stories. My students and I gained a deeper understanding, love, and respect for the Navajo people. Through visits to historic sites and a museum we gained an appreciation of the Navajo culture.

We left the Navajo Nation enriched spiritually, intellectually, and culturally with new friendships formed. Some of the students and I have made an intentional commitment to continue to work with not only the Navajo, but also other Native Americans closer to home, such as the Cherokee. The trip was an excellent experience for all involved and we are already planning a return trip next year. Our appreciation goes out to the Navajo, Johnny Hughes, and the men of God he brought with him to empower and enrich our experiences, Tim Melton and Ruben Duran. *By: Rebecca Hergert*

When I first left for this trip, I was so excited because it was the first mission trip I had ever been on. I went on this trip with the intent to make a difference, but this trip changed me in return. I am walking closer to God than I ever have. I realized that I had been given gifts from God that I didn't even know I had. I cannot wait to use the gift of healing while caring for my patients as a future, Christian nurse."

- Rachel Epperson



...from page 8 **Get up and Go!**

The students that we brought from the University were so amazed at the power of God. Each one of them began to question their own beliefs in an attempt to reconcile the results of this event. Later, in a time of reflection, one of the students exclaimed, "They lied to me," meaning the religious leaders told her that God didn't work that way anymore, and that these miracles have ceased.

God is still at work. His Great Commission is still just as relevant today as it was 2000 years ago. Miracles, signs, and wonders are real. He is just waiting on someone to take Him at His Word and go tell the world about Jesus. The entire trip we saw these miracles of salvation, casting out demons, healing, and baptism of the Holy Spirit.

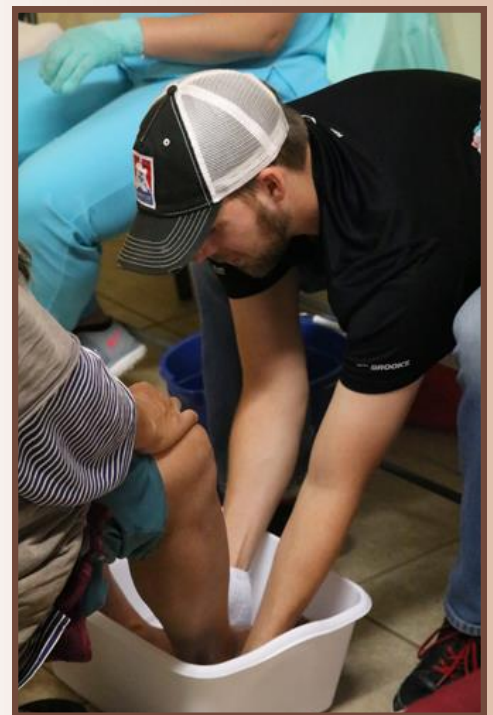
Aren't you tired of religion? Don't you want to see the power of God? This is not possible on your couch. Get up and go tell someone about Jesus, and get ready for

the ride of your life. It may have started out like a vacation, but it ended as a life changing event. An old axiom says "you will get out of something, what you put into it." As you offer this life changing Word to others, it will change your life too! That thing missing in your life is not a new car, a bigger house, that designer purse; it is the newness of your relationship with the Creator.

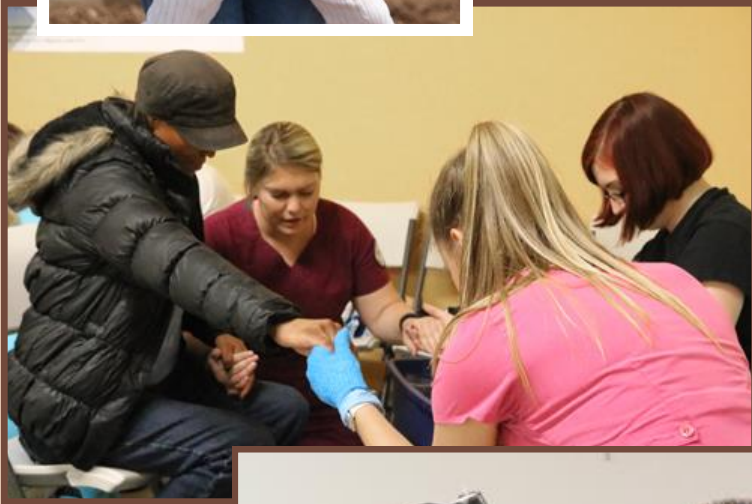
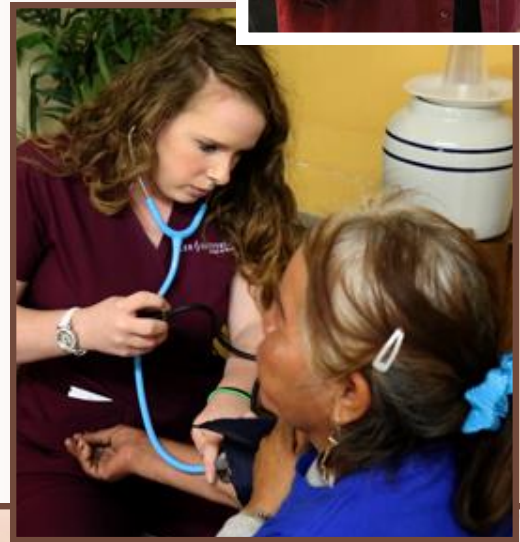
Why not take a mission trip and see for yourself how your life can change. You don't even have to leave your community. Just take a walk to the end of your street and ask the Holy Spirit to make a divine appointment for you. You never know what a difference you can make until you step out and make one through His power and ability. Try it and you may have a story to tell that begins with, it began like any other day and then.....



**Scenes from the Lee University
Nursing Global Perspectives
2017**



Lee U 2017



The Refuge on a Mission

In July, The Refuge Youth from Parkway Church of God, Sevierville, TN, traveled to Hammon, Oklahoma, where they partnered with IMNA's Grace Point Ministry Center to conduct a Vacation Bible School for the children of Hammon. Twenty-three members of the Refuge made the trip. The group, led by Youth Pastor, Adam Wade, and Children's Pastor, Chandra Berry, saw nearly 30 children attend VBS each day to play games, sing songs, make crafts, and learn about Jesus. The students from the Refuge really connected with the local children and families that came each day. "It's hard not to fall in love with these kids after spending so much time with them," said Keeley Carr, one of the Refuge Youth students.

VBS wasn't all the Refuge did while in Hammon. The group spent their afternoons helping demo and clean up a small warehouse that had recently been purchased for the ministry center. "I didn't know work could be so much fun. I really like tearing stuff

up," said Noah Martin, another member of the group.

The week culminated on Friday night at a special service at the Grace Point Ministry Center. Families came and watched as the children danced and sang the songs they had learned during VBS. Adam Wade shared a short message from Colossians 1:15-16 (the memory verse from VBS). After the service, the Refuge Youth had to say goodbye to the children that they had grown to love so much during the week. "We came to have an impact on these kids' lives, but I think they may have had a bigger impact on us," said Jill Berry, a Refuge Youth worker. Forever changed by the experience, The Refuge Youth returned to their home in Sevierville, Tennessee.

Thank you IMNA for allowing us to be part of your ministry, and thank you to the families of Hammon for welcoming us into your community. You will always be in our hearts.

Story Provided by Parkway COG



Hammon children with The Refuge team

New Warehouse

This summer, God provided a much needed warehouse for IMNA. **Pictured Left:** the building is connected to our current Grace Point Ministry Center in Hammon, Oklahoma. The ministry was able to purchase the building debt-free, and it is currently being renovated to accommodate our donations.



FIRE

Hammon Cry for Renewal

This Spring, the Lord laid on the heart of IMNA Director Johnny Hughes to conduct services in Hammon, Oklahoma. This was not to be just another revival gathering, but a time for the community to come together and cry out for an outpouring of the Holy Ghost.

Representatives from local churches gathered at the Community Fellowship Church for two nights of worship. They were calling out for God to open the heavens over Hammon and release a new sound of His glory. As the community entered into His presence through anointed worship, lead by Bethany Ivey, the spiritual atmosphere began to shift and the freedom found in the Holy Spirit became a

reality. Lives were dramatically changed, and a real spiritual awakening began to manifest in the community of Hammon, Oklahoma.



LEFT: Bethany Ivey leads worship for the FIRE services.

ABOVE: Pastor Dolan Ivey, Community Fellowship Church, along with members of the Hammon Community cry out to the Lord for renewal.

Prays from ministers and pastors. **FROM TOP LEFT:** Pastor Dolan Ivey, Community Fellowship, Johnny Hughes, Grace Point Ministry Ctr., Pastor Randy Broadwater, Washita Cowboy Fellowship. **RIGHT:** Evangelist Rick Flores.

WLS 2017 - INVINCIBLE

Warrior Leadership Summit

By: Lindsey Slaughter

INVINCIBLE: the main theme for Warrior Leadership Summit this year. Before attending Warrior Leadership Summit, I felt anything but invincible. The summer laid ahead a lot of responsibilities, one of which was helping lead worship in the morning sessions with the band Paradigm. I was overwhelmed to say the least. Sometimes being a Christian for a majority of your life, you feel like you should have it ALL together. But what is great about God is that He graciously reminds you: you don't, but I DO! I believe this Warrior Leadership Summit was both insightful and encouraging for all. God moved mightily amongst the First Nations people. Many were freed from fear, addiction, hate, and guilt. It was such an honor to see God use the least of these to impact many. It's important to remember that, "I can do all things through Christ, because He gives me strength." (Philippians 4:13) I am not invincible on my own. I mess up and fall down. Through it all though, Christ's love, grace, and strength provides an invincible force to keep me striving for all He has planned. To God be the glory, great things He hath done...and will continue to do.



LEFT: Members of the IMNA team to WLS 2017 were Elizabeth Hughes, Johnny Hughes, Mia Martinez, Brianna Jacobs, Kelly Johnson, Bridgett Johnson and Anna Ramirez.

ABOVE: Christopher Hughes and Lindsey Slaughter helping lead morning worship.

BELOW: Paradigm leading worship



Hope Restored

By Mia Martinez



When the people of Cherokee, North Carolina, had lost hope, On Eagles' Wings came to town. The OEW team of warriors for this summer consisted of 48 young people from over 25 different tribes from the U.S. and Canada. Heartbroken local believers knew that God had sent this team at the perfect time.

On June 1, Cherokee tribal members 18 and older received their per capita checks; however, what was to be a blessing soon turned to tragedy. By the end of June, 86 people had overdosed on heroin and other drugs, and 15 of those died.

Ron Hutchcraft Ministries teamed up with Indian Ministries of North America and other local Cherokee churches to bring the hope of Christ to the Qualla Boundary of Cherokee. A three night event was held at the Yellowhill community outdoor basketball courts.

Night one was very slow and some of the team was battling discouragement over the small turnout. On the second night, more people attended and participated in a 5 on 5 basketball tournament, and then on third and final night, a game was played between the OEW team members and the local Cherokee players.

Each night, between games and quarters, warriors from the OEW team shared their Hope Stories. Expressing how Christ had delivered them from the same life situations that many of the Cherokee people were facing. The totals reached well over 100 people each night and by the end of the final night, over 50 young people stepped forward to receive Christ.

HOPE HAD BEEN RESTORED!



**SCENES FROM
THE CHEROKEE
OEW
OUTREACH**



IMNA Itinerary

Pleasant Hill COG
Morning service
Carthage, MS
August 6

Wood-splitting
Family Support Services
Cherokee, NC
Sept. 6 - 9

Construction Work
Grace Point Warehouse
Hammon, OK
Sept. 29-Oct. 7

Impact Warriors
Youth Mentoring
Choctaw, MS
Nov. 3-5

Youth Outreach
OEW Follow-up
Cherokee, NC
August 11

One Full Basket
Women's Gathering
Cherokee, NC
Sept. 7

Impact Warriors
Youth Mentoring
Choctaw, MS
Oct. 6 - 8

Christ Fellowship Church
Morning Service
Cherokee, NC
Nov. 12

Mission COG
Evening Service
Florence, KY
August 20

Pentecostal Holiness
Sunday Services
Cherokee, NC
Sept. 10

Lee University Outreach
Intercultural Studies
Cherokee, NC
Oct. 6-8

Lakeview COG
Morning Service
Cleveland, TN
Nov. 19

One Full Basket
Women's Gathering
Cherokee, NC
August 24

Impact Warriors
Youth Mentoring
Choctaw, MS
Sept. 15-17

Tent Revival
All Nations COG
Hammon, OK
Oct. 8 - 13

Grace Covenant COG
Morning Service
New Ellington, SC
Nov. 26

Impact Warriors
Youth Mentoring
Choctaw, MS
August 25-27

Mission Conference
COG DelMarva Regional
Pasadena, MD
Sept. 15-17

Wood-splitting
Family Support Services
Cherokee, NC
Oct. 18 - 21

Christmas Celebration
Grace Point
Hammon, OK
Nov. 29-Dec. 3

Youth Mentoring
Fall Kickoff
Hammon, OK
Sept. 1-9

Mission Conference
Princeton Pike COG
Hamilton, OH
Sept. 21 - 24

Community Family Church
Evening Service
Independence, KY
Oct. 29

Christmas Celebration
Choctaw
Conehatta, MS
Dec. 8



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