

INDIAN MINISTRIES OF NORTH AMERICA INC.

# Hope for First Nations

Winter 2017

Volume 16 - Number 1

**Ponder the path of your feet,  
And let all your ways be established**

Proverbs 4:26 NKJV



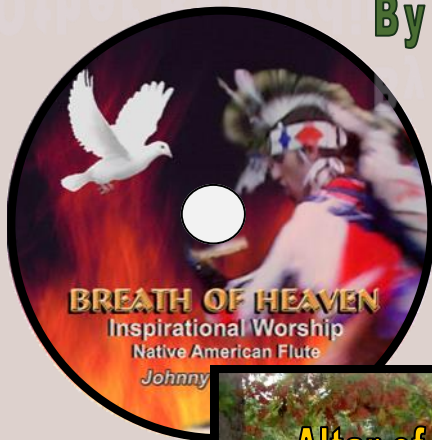
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of  
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*Winter 2017  
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# TRIBUTE TO REV. DOUGLAS CLINE

James A. Hughes

Bishop Douglas Cline passed away in November, as he prepared to enjoy a hunting trip. Doug was used of God to make a most remarkable impact in ministry to the Native Americans, especially when he served for 20 years as the Overseer of the Southwest Indian Ministries, Gallup, New Mexico.

In January 1998, at the Church of God overseers meeting in Cleveland, TN, I was talking with my friend, Rev. Douglas Slocumb about our ministry to Native Americans. He then introduced me to Douglas Cline.

After the introduction, Bro. Cline and I sat and discussed our mutual interest of working with the Native Americans. He then invited me to fly to Gallup and spend time observing the work of SWIM and ministering in several of the Navajo churches.

Doug and his wife, Linda, were true friends to the Native people. They were always ready and willing to go the extra mile to facilitate anyone who was interested in winning them to Christ. Doug was a true friend to IMNA and instrumental in helping us become more involved with tribes of the Southwest.

He is a friend that we are truly going to miss. We will miss the smile that he always had when talking about our work. Our prayers continue to go out to the family. Doug, we look forward to seeing you again.

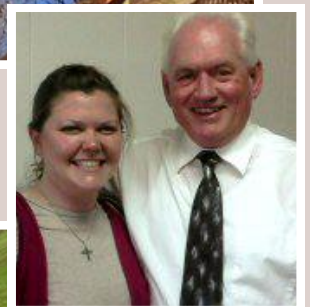


Douglas Cline

*Doug's life was miraculous, full, and blessed. When he was told he wouldn't live past the age of eleven, God healed his heart condition. In return, Doug lived his life to the fullest; personifying what it meant to live each moment Christ-like, with purpose and intention to change lives for the better. Everywhere he went, he planted the seeds of Christ's love, and he touched lives in ways that defy explanation. Throughout his life, he played in the National Little League Baseball Championship in Cincinnati, OH., and he was an honored veteran of the United States Air Force, having served in Europe and Vietnam. He also became a fast-pitched softball champion, and trained to become a world-class boxing champion. While still serving in the military, he built two churches outside his military base in France. He spent 20 years working with the SW Indian Ministries for the Church of God, and helped build 57 worship centers on the Navajo Reservation in New Mexico and Arizona, where he was adopted into the Navajo Nation. He ministered at seven churches in OH and WV, worked as a coal miner in Logan County, WV, trained new ministers, coordinated youth camps, refurbished guns, collected knives, fished, camped, hiked, and gardened. When God called him home, he was pastoring a church plant in Rolla, MO, but most of all, he loved his family, who were the greatest blessings in his life.*



Doug with IMNA's Lindsey Slaughter



Doug with his wife, Linda

# Make an Eternal Investment Today

*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](mailto:BeckyHughes@indianministries.org) for additional details**

## MARTINEZ SERVING AS IMNA



**E**mylia (Mia) Martinez will be serving as an IMNA intern, working with the staff in the Cleveland, Tennessee offices. We have had the privilege of being in Mia's life for the last 13 years. As a child, she attended worship services and Vacation Bible

School at our Grace Point Ministry Center in Hammon, Oklahoma.

"We are extremely excited to have Mia working alongside us, sharing Christ with our Native American brothers and sister," stated Johnny Hughes, IMNA Executive Director. "Having observed her growing up, and getting to know her heart for God, has been a real joy."

Mia, a Southern Cheyenne, knows first-hand the struggles of growing up as a Native youth, and longs to see Christ make an impact in the lives of the younger generations coming behind her.

"This internship with IMNA is a huge blessing. I have prayed so hard that a door would open and I would be able to be back in Cleveland. I am excited to be here," stated Martinez.

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### IT'S THAT EASY!





## EXPECTED EXPANSION

2017 is expected to be a breakthrough year for the IMNA Impact Warriors. We are planning to expand our program into an after-school program at the Conehatta Elementary School in Conehatta, MS. We will be incorporating cultural activities, such as beadwork, basketry, Choctaw conversation / reading, and recording stories of the elders. We have the opportunity, to not only increase their skills and knowledge, but to sow the seed of the Gospel into possibly 100+ students. Please be in prayer for this endeavor and the entire Impact Warriors program.



## Blessing Elders

During the holidays, the youth at the Macedonia Indian Baptist Church made personal greeting cards for the Choctaw elders in the community. Along with the cards, homemade ornaments were constructed and fresh baked cookies were made. The youth then traveled through the community singing Christmas carols and blessing the elders with the gifts. Each gift carried the love of Christ.



*Charles Neal and a mission team from Community Family Church in Independence, Kentucky recently visited ministers in the Amazon Region of Peru. While there, they blessed many of the ministers with solar lights assembled by the Choctaw youth of IMNA's Impact Warriors in Choctaw, Mississippi.*

# Smiling Faces, Happy Hearts

Christmas 2016 marked the 13th year that Indian Ministries of North America has conducted a Christmas Celebration in the town of Hammon, Oklahoma. IMNA established the Grace Point Ministry Center in the town of Hammon and are continuing to minister to the children and families in the community. The annual Christmas Celebration has become one of the highlights of the year among the Cheyenne / Arapaho people living there.

For the last two years, the Saturday morning of the event, everyone in town awakes to the smell of barbeque chicken in the smoker. A group of volunteers, from Mena, Arkansas, travel to Hammon to prepare meals for the community and assist with the gift distribution. This year we served over 150 people and another 100 plates home for families to enjoy. John Stubbs commented, "It was exciting to be able to partner with IMNA and see God use those who participated. From giving gifts, to cooking and serving the guests, it was a great experience for our church to be able to share the love of Jesus Christ."

The event began with a worship service on Friday night, followed by a distribution of clothing and household items. Then, on Saturday, lunch was prepared and served to the community, and then toys, educational material and other gifts were given to the children, along with family gifts for the parents and grandparents.

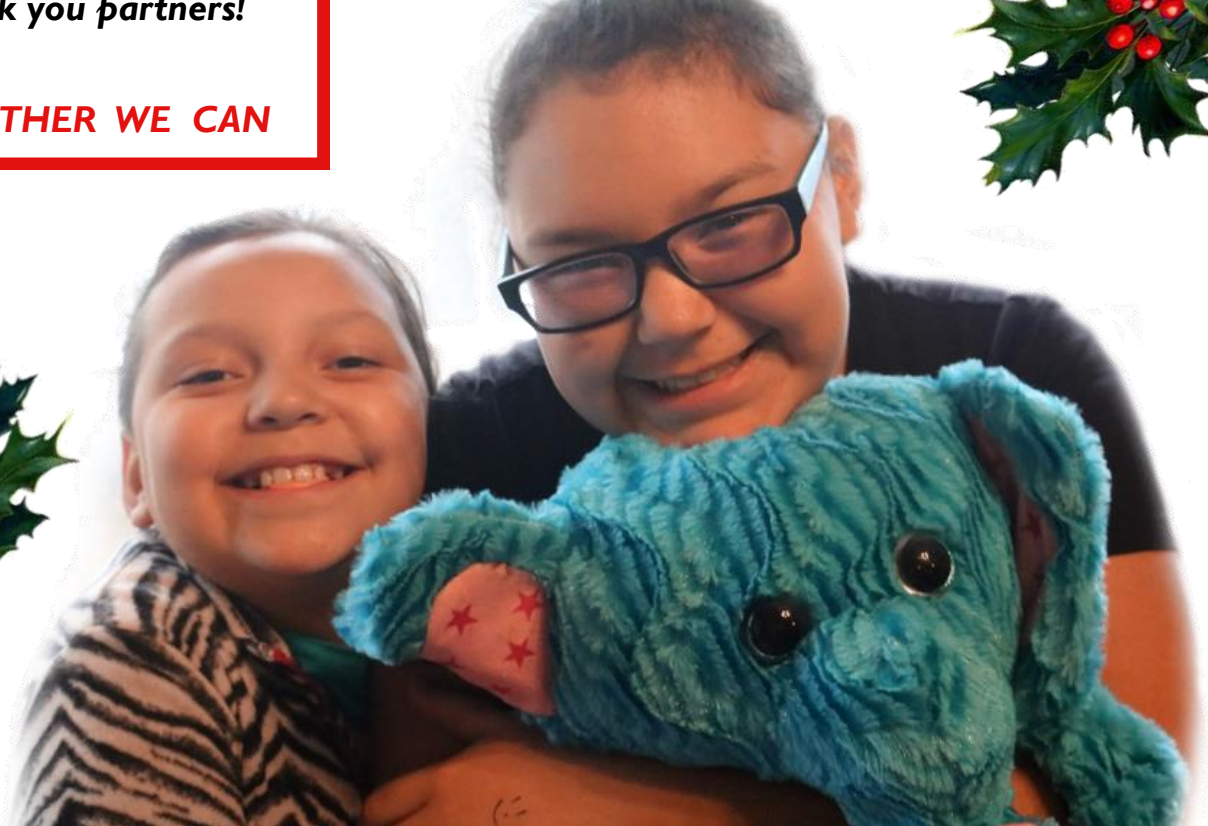
"We met their needs physically, by feeding them, spiritually with the Word and hope with the gifts," stated Sonja Stubbs.



# Christmas 2016

*2500 people served*  
*11 communities*  
*500 plates of chicken*  
*4000 miles driven*  
*Thank you God and*  
*thank you partners!*

**TOGETHER WE CAN**



**LEFT:** Johnny Hughes with a young boy who listened to the message, “having peace on earth, by finding peace in your heart,” and then asked how he could have that peace. He surrendered his life to Christ!

**RIGHT:** A Cheyenne brother comes in and asked for prayer for his health.



# Bennington, Oklahoma

## Small Town, Big Heart



Bennington, Oklahoma is home to approximately 350 people. Even though it is small in size, the people of that community have really big hearts. This year, IMNA had the honor of partnering with Butch and Patricia Blagg with Ministry in Action, to bless the citizens of this great community.



From the very onset, you could witness the care that people had for one another, as they waited patiently in line while the elders were served their meal first.

Then when it was time to start the clothing and toy distribution, families were assisting one another to find that perfect fit or gift. Even the children waited in orderly fashion to go through to pick out the gifts.

Sonja Stubbs, Mena, AR, stated, "I am thankful to have been a piece of the puzzle that blessed so many families...when you look at the relief on the parents' faces, you know that you have planted seeds of love."

Following the evening festivities, the items that were left were given to Ministry in Action to add to their collection of gifts and they were able to bless other churches and communities: Grace Indian Baptist, Achilli, OK; Yellow Springs Methodist, Ada, OK; White Sands and Sulphur Springs Methodist Churches; About the Father's Business and several individual families from the area.



Hygiene kits from the youth at Conway Church of God, South Carolina







Serving food at the Bennington, OK outreach



Child meets a new friend for Christmas

# Blessed to be a Blessing

This Christmas, IMNA had the privilege of supplying gifts for the Henning, Tennessee community of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. We were blessed to be able to bless the community with a variety of gifts for the entire family. Prior to the distribution of the gifts, a traditional meal was prepared in iron kettles over an open fire and then served to those in attendance. Approximately 100 people attended the event, sponsored by Davita McClelland, MBCI Tribal Council Member. McClelland stated, “Several people came forward expressing their gratitude for the meal and gifts for the children and grandchildren. One lady came up to me, with tears in her eyes, and said she was going through financial difficulty and was very thankful to us all that her children was able to receive gifts for Christmas. God bless to all.”



**ABOVE:** Elizabeth Hughes, left, and Lindsey Slaughter, right, are greeted by their friend and Princess, Karsyn Wallace from the MBCI Bogue Chitto community in Mississippi.



**LEFT:** Child and mother anxiously awaiting gift distribution.

# We Bless You, Lord

The time had come, following a delicious Christmas meal, for the children to come forward and listen to a teaching by Pastor Tom Camacho, Blue Ridge Vineyard, NC. Each child then prayed for the love and peace of Christ in their lives. IMNA once again was honored to partner with Pastor Tom and his team to celebrate Christmas with the Cherokee Snowbird Community.

We were greeted by the current reigning Miss Cherokee, as well as, the Principal Chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Patrick Lambert. This is a time each year where the families of the community come together, and are blessed with bags of groceries, a turkey, new clothing and hygiene items. Also, each child receives new toys and other gifts and treats. This year, with the help of many organizations and individuals, IMNA and the Vineyard, were able to bless the Snowbird community immensely. Thank you God for your unfailing provisions and for the love and willingness of people to be the hands and feet of Jesus.



**Chief Patrick Lambert**



**Stockings from the ladies of Wauchula, FL**



**Gift bags from the students of Mrs. Versch's class, South Aiken Baptist Christian School**

# From Disaster to Blessing



Following our trip to serve the flood victims of Lumberton, North Carolina, we felt a real desire to assist in some way for Christmas. After contacting Alisia Oxendine, Southeastern Health, we learned that over 150 employees were affected by the floods, with over 60 losing almost everything and living in motels. We asked God to provide and we were willing to add another stop to Christmas 2016.

We made the decision, since family finances were heavily affected, to set up a “store” in a conference room at the medical campus. Throughout the day, employees were able to come and pick through the hundreds of gifts to find that special one for their family members. “Our staff truly appreciated all the toys, clothing and other items donated that helped us provide Christmas for our loved ones after

having lost so much from this natural disaster. We appreciate your generosity and kindness as we work to rebuild after Hurricane Matthew devastated our region,” states Southeastern Health Executive Director, Sissy Grantham.



Jim and Gina Hudson, Church of God World Missions and Johnny Hughes, gather with members of the administration from Southeastern Health.



**In the time of need, God always provides**



# Prepared for the Cold



Splitting firewood for the elders and low income families in Cherokee, North Carolina, has become an annual series of events. Each year, in the months of September, October, January, and February, IMNA assembles teams to spend three days helping the Cherokee Family Services' wood yard prepare firewood for the winter season. Over 200 families are served and it is such a blessing to be a small part of their lives. Donovan Crowe and Ritchie Wolfe, who oversee the yard, have become true friends of IMNA. Over the last few seasons, IMNA teams have split several tons of firewood that has helped keep thousands of people warm in the winter months.



It is refreshing to enter into the House of God and immediately feel His presence. That is what we experience each time we enter the doors of the Cherokee Pentecostal Holiness Church in Cherokee, North Carolina. Under the leadership of Pastor Tim Melton, the church has been experiencing the stir of revival. We were honored to conduct weekend services in the Fall, with IMNA Founder James Hughes, Johnny Hughes and IMNA Board Member Chris Allen ministering the Word. Chris and his wife, Joy, also blessed us with their anointed singing. God's power was experienced through the manifestations of salvations, healings and deliverances. Cherokee, revival is here!



# Cherokee Pentecostal Holiness Church



**James Hughes**

**"Stand in the ways and see,  
And ask for the old paths,  
where the good way is,  
And walk in it;  
Then you will find  
rest for your souls..."**

Jeremiah 6:16 NKJV



**Chris Allen**



**Johnny Hughes**



# In the Time



IMNA Volunteer Jim Hudson with Pastor Hunt from the Riverside COG. Jim also works with COG World Missions.



# of Crisis

In October, Hurricane Matthew slammed the Eastern Coast with strong winds and devastating floods. Thousands of homes, businesses, churches and even entire communities were flooded from the rains that accompanied the hurricane.

Indian Ministries of North America, along with many other relief agencies, answered the call to meet some of the needs that surfaced. We traveled to Lumberton, North Carolina, where we assisted the Bladenboro Church of God and the Riverside Church of God with donations of insulation, paint, bath fixtures, cleaning supplies and several other necessary items. Thank you to World Vision, North Texas and some individual families for their assistance in supplying the product.

IMNA then returned for a second trip to Socastee, South Carolina, where we delivered insulation for a community that had several homes engulfed by the floods.



**LEFT:** Johnny Hughes with Pastor Oneil Parker, Bladenboro COG.

**ABOVE:** Carpet stripped, sheetrock and insulation removed.

**ACROSS BOTTOM:** Community Scenes



# IMNA Itinerary

Impact Warriors Youth Mentoring Choctaw, MS Jan. 8-9	Morning Service New Covenant Church Thomasville, GA Feb. 5	Missions Conference House of Prayer Blairsville, GA March 17-19	Impact Warriors Youth Mentoring Choctaw, MS April 24-25
Worship Services Wake Forest COG Wake Forest, NC Jan. 22	Impact Warriors Youth Mentoring Choctaw, MS Feb. 6-7	Impact Warriors Youth Mentoring Choctaw, MS March 20-21	Mentoring Leadership Conference Dallas, TX April 24-26
Impact Warriors Youth Mentoring Choctaw, MS Jan. 23-24	Evening Service All Nations Church Cleveland, TN Feb. 19	Community Family Church Mission Trip Hammon, OK March 19-25	Lee University Global Perspective Trip Navajo Nation May 15-25
Missions Class Westmore COG Cleveland, TN Jan. 25	Mission Trip Navajo Reservation Gallup, NM Feb. 20-26	All Nations Church Mission Trip Hammon, OK March 25-31	Impact Warriors Youth Mentoring Choctaw, MS May 22-23
Missions Conference Cooper City COG Cooper City, FL Jan. 27-Feb. 1	Firewood Splitting Cherokee Family Services, NC Feb. 22-25	Morning Service Cottonport Rd. COG Decatur, TN April 9	Revival Bluewater Pentecostal Bluewater, NM June 14-18
One Full Basket Ladies Meeting Cherokee, NC Jan. 27	Impact Warriors Youth Mentoring Choctaw, MS Feb. 27-28	Impact Warriors Spring Event Conehatta Elementary April 20-22	Vacation Bible School Grace Point Hammon, OK June 19-22



## Connect with IMNA

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