



Special Issue

“Committed to sharing God’s gifts among all peoples of the world”

Native America 2021

CHOSEN TO SERVE - Karen Moore, Team Leader

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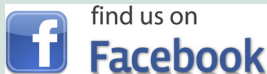
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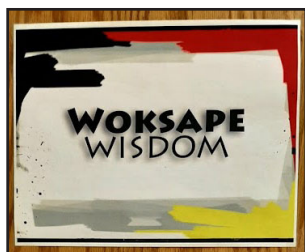
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Then I heard the voice
of the Lord saying,
“Whom shall I send?
And who will go for us?”
And I said,
“Here am I. Send me!”
~ Isaiah 6:8



It never ceases to amaze me how, in spite of our plans, the Lord has surprises in store and they are always good. The leadership and staff at Cheyenne River Youth Project are always so welcoming. We were greeted with signs on each door with a Lakota word for the acts of kindness that they felt we were expressing! Each night they provided an evening meal that was delicious, and a special way to end the day.

The Lord opened doors for us to be able to bring special gifts to the residents of the Medicine Wheel Nursing Home and we were actually able to give a handmade quilt (donated to us by a precious Amish lady named Sadie) to a couple who were getting married.

Another special “surprise” the Lord had in store for us was finding out that there was another homeless shelter nearby. All of the team felt we should check it out. When we arrived we found that they were almost out of food! They were also in need of different types of supplies, which due to the generous donations we were given, we were able to purchase!

During our vision clinic held in Eagle Butte, Carrie and I met, and were able to pray with, a Native American man who is a believer and was also praying that the Lord will send a revival to the reservation!! Even on a visit to a nearby museum during a little down time, I was able to pray with a woman who was in a very difficult place. The children and staff at Takini School always have a special place in our hearts and new friends were made that will make our next trips forward more fruitful.

I have made many trips overseas and in this country with teams of all sizes, but I have never felt a sense of unity and willingness at whatever task was at hand, as I felt among the five of us who were chosen by the Lord to make this trip. I was humbled and blessed each morning as we gathered to pray; each one had a song, a scripture or a prayer to share. I guess if I had to sum up the trip I would have to say, “How good and pleasant it is when brethren (and sisters) dwell together in unity!”



Karen presents Julie Garreau, Executive Director of CRYP, with an original watercolor donated by Matilda Smith.

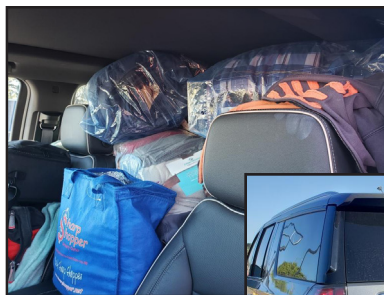


THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD - Ken Moore

The road trip for me was LONG! In total it was 4,148 miles round trip, with a loaded vehicle! The trip was good but I missed Karen who is my traveling companion.

I was reminded how vast this country is as I drove and as I reached South Dakota I realized how the pioneers must have felt as they traveled west. It was good to know that the Lord was with us and provided all we needed in every way.

I worked with Tom moving boxes and organizing the warehouse at the Cheyenne River Youth Project, as well as getting the winter supplies ready for the annual Winter Clothing Give-away. Working with the youth and adults in the vision clinic, as well as the homeless shelter, the veterans food bank and shelter, and the nursing home, caused me to again be so thankful for the lives that we have been blessed to live. We have so much in this country, sometimes we forget those who are not as fortunate. We are already planning for our next trip to Cheyenne River Reservation to see our friends, new and old!



GOD IS IN CONTROL - Carrie Rowe

Things may not have gone as expected, but God is in control and He wasn't surprised by any circumstances. I believe this trip was ordained by God and we may never know the impact we had on the people we came in contact with on this side of Heaven. To God be the glory!

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. ~ Romans 8:28

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ~ Jeremiah 29:11



Above: Iny Hale and Brian Red Buffalo Homeless Shelter Directors



Below: Chelsea Pilgrim Takini School Counselor

Right: McKennon at Medicine Wheel Village receiving donations



Left: Resident of Medicine Wheel Village with Prayer Shawl

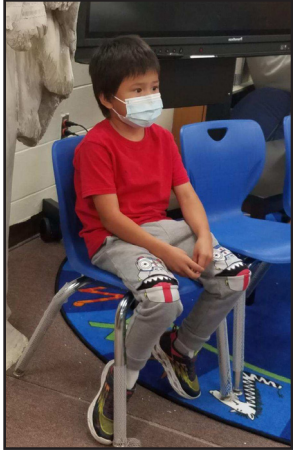


Right: Precious Children

EXPOSING THE NEED - Tom Fanelli

This was my sixth visit to South Dakota to work on the Native American reservations of Pine Ridge and Cheyenne River. I had been asked to lead the Vision Clinics which were requested by Takini School and the Cheyenne River Youth Project (CRYP). While at CRYP I helped organize their warehouse and prepare for the Winter Clothing Giveaway Program to be held in October. I was also happy to participate in our visits to the Homeless Shelter and the Medicine Wheel Village (a nursing home for seniors) to provide some much needed food, clothing and supplies.

At the Vision Clinics we examined more than 100 men, women and children and provided many with prescription eyeglasses. However, while there, we also diagnosed many cases of astigmatism. While we were unable to provide eyeglasses to these people, we were able to give the individuals a script and



explain why they needed a complete eye exam. Many of the children and youth had never had an eye exam and were not aware they were not seeing clearly. We were able to provide information to their parents or guardians about their need for a follow up through their teachers. Even though we were not able to give out as many eyeglasses as we would have liked, I considered it a win-win situation since we were able to educate many as to their needs.



Overall I felt Karen and Ken did a great job in scheduling and organizing the trip as we faced many challenges due to Covid-19. The entire team worked together in harmony, whatever the circumstances, and we shared much fellowship and laughter.

IS GOD CALLING YOU? - Carol Fanelli

Since I started visiting Cheyenne River Reservation in 2015 I can honestly say God is moving on this reservation! On our first visit we were cautioned not to express our Christian beliefs to the people. This culture had been so threatened by the federal government and early missionaries that they wanted no part of “the white man’s God”. They were not interested in a God who allowed strangers to take away their children, reduced them to dependency and attempted to wipe out their entire culture. They needed to heal and learn, in their own time, about the goodness, kindness and faithfulness of a God who loved them.

We respected their wishes and worked diligently to show them Christ through our actions. Karen strove to develop strong relationships and build up trust among the people we worked alongside. Her first question was always, “How can we help you in serving your community?” Then, most importantly, she followed through on the needs that were expressed. Whether it was collecting food and supplies for the shelters, toiletries for the nursing home, or school supplies for both students and teachers, Karen brought those needs to everyone she met. And she expressed the love of Christ as she responded.

Today, Karen and Ken are considered “family” on the reservation and are truly welcomed with joy when they arrive. They are a small piece of the plan God has for restoring these people to Him. We can see a difference

over these past six years. Many people express a belief in Christ and others are open to prayer for healing in their lives. Our God is faithful and long suffering, desiring that all would learn of His love and the healing it brings.

We were pleased to be the hands and feet of Christ on this trip. We shared much laughter but lots of tears at the poverty and desperation that our brethren on the reservation face. We ask you to join us in prayer that God would continue to move mightily in this place and replace despair with hope. We thank you for your past support but there is so much more that needs to be done. Is God calling you to help?





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The 2021 Team

Look at What We Accomplished Thanks to Your Support!!

At the **Cheyenne River Youth Project** we hosted a Vision Clinic, organized the warehouse and helped prepare for the Winter Clothing Give-away. We also cooked meals for the children, organized the dorm linen closet, and organized boxes of food donations to make them more easily accessible to volunteers preparing food boxes.

At the **Medicine Wheel Village** we donated home made lap blankets, prayer shawls, and blankets. We also left Blessing Bags full of toiletries for each resident, as well as craft supplies for group activities.

At the **Elderly Nutrition Services Agency** we provided warm hats, gloves, socks and scarves to distribute to seniors.

At the **Old Agency Emergency Homeless Shelter** we donated warm hats, gloves, socks and scarves. We also supplied paper supplies and staples, and a large enough assortment of meat to provide healthy meals for several weeks.

At the **Takini School** we hosted a Vision Clinic for every student in the school. We also provided a Blessing Bag for each student full of warm hats, scarves, gloves and socks along with school supplies, books, and small toys or jewelry.

At the **Cheyenne River Veterans Association** we donated about 700 pounds of canned meat, soups, fruit, and crackers etc. We also donated warm hats, gloves, socks and blankets.

Are you willing to help?

Visit our website at:
wereallgodschildren.org to learn more about our programs or donate securely online.

*Statue in Takini School
Takini means Survivor*

