



Bridging the Gap Ministries Inc.
 3403 Zia Dr
 Gallup NM, 87301
 Cell# 804-614-8386
 Email - btgministriesNM@gmail.com
 Rob - rmcintosh007@gmail.com
 Michele- mmcintosh700@gmail.com
 Website- btgministriesnm.org

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Yá'át'ééh,



The first 3 weeks of camp are completed, and we have 3 to go. The attendance has been good, the kids have had a great time, and the teams have done really, really well. All of our projects for the spring and summer have been completed, and I get to focus on relationship building with the families in the community.

Last week I got to visit the Navajo Nation museum. It is a great place to visit and to re-connect with the history of our community here. While I was there, I saw a

photo that caused me to think, and also I found a similar one online. It is a photo from the 1940's of a couple of Diné (Navajo) families riding to the local trading post in a horse-drawn wagon. These photos have caused me to think about a couple of things. By 1941, 88% of Americans had an automobile, yet I have 2 photos of the Diné still using horse-drawn transportation. This week while I visited one of our summer camp locations, I saw one of the families in the community sitting outside under a tree enjoying the breeze. Between these photos and this family I visited, I pondered how much has changed and yet how much has not changed. These scenarios, although they are separated by more than 80 years, show that the desire for a slower, simpler life remains the same. In one of the photos the family is in their traditional dress, with Navajo jewelry, and full of smiles. This brings me to the second thing. As we continue to love and spend time with our family here, the smiles on the kids' faces never seem to grow old. The joy that is found when family is close by and when we are with one another does not ever seem to run dry.

Speaking of joy, Almost 11 years ago when Michele and I moved to New Mexico we had no idea what God had in store for us. One of the comments I heard regularly was that I would always be a white man and that I would always be an outsider. This comment was made by those outside looking in. When you look at what we are doing with the time driven goal of white man's ministry that may be true. I may always be a white man, but when you abandon the time driven matrix and focus on the one-anothers of Scripture, in many ways I





have become part of the family. Last week another family member in the community passed on. When I was asked to close the family gathering in prayer, I was introduced as Pastor Uncle Rob. Then later, at the community cookout, one of the Moms told one of her little girls to “go say hello” to Grandpa Rob. I struggle to find the words to share how encouraging that was.

On another note of both joy and sadness, as you all know, last fall we launched our First Nations Ministry Boot Camp. The McClures have gone through that program and have served in both Journey Church and at our CF locations for the past year. I believe that they have learned a lot along the way and have been able to put to practice their college education in a different way. In the spring God began leading in their lives, and we all began

praying. Lord willing, this fall Adam and Hannah will be moving to start ministering to the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe northeast of Houston. It is so exciting to see how God used this program here in NM to prepare another couple to take this ministry philosophy to an unreached First Nations people here in the United States. There are a lot of pieces of the pie that still need to come together. Be in prayer for them as they make this transition. Also be in prayer for the church family here as they experience this transition, so that they can see how God used them here to reach another First Nations Tribe with the Gospel. Adam and Hannah’s departure also means that we will have a vacancy in the caretaker position at Journey Church and we will also have an opening in the residency program. Not to mention we will be short staffed again and we will need to find some help. Please pray that God will send us the right couple in a timely manner to fill these slots, and that we can continue to move forward with the work that God is doing here.

Prayer requests

- A newer, more reliable van that can be taken on longer trips and does well off paved roads
- Who’s your one campaign
- McClures transition & The next couple to begin the FNMBC
- Mission teams as they prepare and come

Praises

- We continue to see God’s provision, protection, and compassion.
- A hunger for knowing more of God’s Word

Amazon wish list for Creator’s Fellowship & Bridging the Gap Ministries can be found at https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2PK9LTJ2ZZJK2?ref_=wl_share

Tax-deductible gifts can be sent to:

BTG Ministries (see above address) for ministry or living expenses

OR

Journey Church expenses

**Journey Church
501 South 3rd St.
Gallup, NM 87301**

Creator’s Fellowship expenses

**Creator’s Fellowship
PO Box 1498
Church Rock, NM 87311**