



The Native American LINK Ministry Prepares to GO FORWARD

It is said that time stops for no one. Yet, when our world was hit with this devastating pandemic of 2020, many things did come to a halt. Stores and businesses closed, eating establishments shut down, some never to re-open, travel was cancelled, events were cancelled. The most difficult to accept as Christians was the fact that most of our churches would not be able to gather in worship.

Early on, our Native American people were greatly affected by COVID-19. One in every 475 Native American has died from the virus. The first Oklahoma death was a Cherokee minister. The third Oklahoma death was a full-blood Native American woman of Muscogee Creek-Seminole heritage. Native Americans live in tight-knit communities where our people help one another in times of need; yet, this pandemic robbed us of what tradition had taught us. No visits, no bedside prayers, no attendance of final moments. This was the beginning of many, many deaths of people we all personally knew, people we loved, people we respected, people who impacted our Christian walk. Before the pandemic, we had over 50 pastorless churches; now, the numbers are higher, as we bade farewell to many pastors and ministers.

Now, God has seen fit that we now have vaccinations that will help to guard our health from this horrible virus. We praise God for survivors of COVID-19. The majority of our Native people are taking the vaccine. Churches are gathering again, exercising caution, but thankful that doors are now opened.

And now, the question comes to us; what would God have us do in our remaining time on earth? Jeremiah 29:11 reminds us, "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." What do we do now? We live out God's plans for us, with urgency. We proclaim Jesus Christ at every opportunity. We GO FORWARD!

"To whom much is given, much will be required."

Luke 12:48

We are held responsible for what we have. We have been blessed.

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CHOIR NOTES...

After over a year of no contact or singing together, the Native Praise Choir will be back to practice on May 1, exercising caution as we gather together. We look forward to being used of God for His Glory, through the singing of our tribal hymns. As we reconvene, we will see some new additions to the choir. It has been our prayer that our younger generations might capture the spirit of the learning our hymns. Some have responded, which encourages us. Invitations are beginning to come to the choir. Pray for us as we follow after God's plans for this choir.

The choir has been asked to participate in a choir concert, sponsored by the Tulsa Ministerial Alliance. The concert is to commemorate the Centennial of the Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921 to be held at Victory Tabernacle Church of God in Christ on Sunday, May 16 at 6PM.

Lord willing, Native Praise will sing at the Wednesday evening service, August 4, 2021 at Indian Falls Creek. We have been blessed to be invited to sing at this gathering of Native churches for several years.

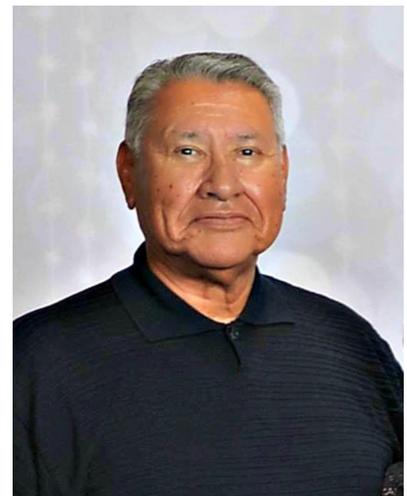
On Sunday morning, September 19, 2021, God willing, the Native Praise Choir will participate in the morning worship service at the opening of the First American Museum in Oklahoma City.

Many of our choir members assist with camps and church Vacation Bible Schools in the summer months. We continue to pray that we will be able to resume our Christian service opportunities this year. Summer presents itself with significant moments for Christians to share the message of Jesus Christ.

Pray with us as we strive to bring the name of Jesus to our Native people. Pray that the message will be well received.

From Chi-Ka-Sha Baptist Association

Blue (Okchamali) Baptist Church will host a weekend revival. The evenings of May 7-8 and the morning of May 9th. The guest speaker is Rev. Jr. Pratt of First Indian Baptist Church, Cushing.



Glorieta Pastor to Retire

Rev. Ledtkey "Lit" McIntosh pastor of Glorieta Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, has announced his retirement at the end of May, 2021. Brother Lit, has served Glorieta twice as pastor, with a total of 20 years of ministry for the largest congregation of predominantly Native Americans in Oklahoma. We wish Bro. Lit & wife Beverly many blessings.

**Western OK
Indian Baptist
Family Camp will
Reconvene**

Plans are underway for the WOIBFC to meet once again.
DATE: July 5-9, 2021
LOCATION:
Cedar Hills Baptist Youth Camp, 19192 D2593 RD, Binger, OK.

CAMP PASTOR:
Rev. Kellos Walker,
Pastor of Spring Baptist Church, Sasakwa, OK.

CAMP THEME:
"Be Strong and Of Good Courage"

The Native American LINK ministry will be conducting VBS for Pre-School (4 yrs) through Grade 6.

Registration will begin on Monday, 7-5-2021 at 2PM.

Registration Fees:

Age 18 & over -\$90
Ages 12-17—\$75
Ages Birth-11
\$47.50
(Includes Meals & Lodging)

**Indian Baptist Associations Plan for
Summer Camps 2021**

Cherokee Baptist Association:

Family Camp dates are May 22, June 26, and July 24. 9AM-7PM with evening services each day. Held at Cherokee Baptist Assembly Ground, Tahlequah

Choctaw Baptist Association:

Family Camp dates are July 5-8, 2021. Held at Kiamichi Baptist Assembly Ground, Talihina.

Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Baptist Association

Baptist Assembly Camp dates are July 5-9, 2021. To be held at the MSW Assembly Ground, Henryetta.

**AWAKEN: United in Prayer
John 17:20-23**

**August 1-5
2021**

**INDIAN
FALLS CREEK**

Mark your calendar! It's IN-PERSON camp this year! Watch for details !

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Christine Fleming, Norman, OK
Martha Johnson, Morris, OK
Norma Lee, McAlester, OK
Elsie Little, Shawnee, OK
Suzanne Russell, Ada, OK
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- **Pray for all our camps as we gather. Pray for salvations, safety, and health. Pray for all classes, the teachers and speakers.**
- **Pray for our Executive Board as we prayerfully seek God's leadership in adding a member to the board. Also, as we implement plans for mentorship.**
- **Pray for the Native Praise Choir as the choir returns to practice sessions and accepts invitations to sing.**
- **Pray for our Native churches as many return to in-person worship. Pray for our pastorless churches.**