

# Arizona Reservation Ministries

'God's ARMs around the reservation'

Volume 7, Issue 1 February 2008



The adventure has continued and God's hand is evident in the recent stories of our Children's bus. The beginning of December, the engine blew on the bus. This event was certainly unplanned, and a very expensive development. This meant a part of our ministry that is used four days each week was unavailable. It also meant that the lives of over 100

children of the San Carlos Apache Reservation would be affected. (The teen bus is still running and able to minister to them.) We sent out an e-mail to several of our partners asking for them to pray about this situation and perhaps help us financially. We were humbled by the response as many of you responded to let us know that you would be praying AND would spread the word so that even more prayers would be lifted. We were also humbled as many responded with generous donations toward this need. When the Children's "Church Bus" doesn't roll, it truly does impact many! With the funds we prayed to receive, we will not only repair the Children's bus but also purchase a third bus, a "back up bus." This would allow our mobile ministry programming to continue when either bus has future mechanical problems. Such provision has arrived, and we are truly grateful! Not only did God show His great provision through His people by their prayers and generous donations, it was also made clear that this situation was not a surprise to the Creator of the Universe! We had over 450 Christmas stockings and fleece blankets to deliver, and now no bus for the Children's Ministries to deliver them from! God had orchestrated the provision of not just one 15-passenger van, but THREE to this ministry in a short period of time prior to the bus "break-down." From these vans, we were able to transport the children to their usual meeting places in their tribal housing areas, and then distribute all of the gifts from one as well. The weather cooperated so that lessons and crafts could be conducted from a large tarp on the concrete or dirt areas, a game played nearby, and a Christmas treat, all in connection with this "gifting" as part of our annual Christmas parties.

We were thrilled with the visit from Purdue University's Campus Christian Fellowship the end of December/first of January! With their assistance, our mobile ministries continued with vans even then! Please pray as the mechanical repair of our Children's bus continues. Please also pray for the timely arrival of a new bus and its renovation. Again, thank you for your prayers and the many ways you partner with us!

Mechanical difficulties were not the only problems resulting in mobile ministry programming delays. The rains have swelled the creek running between our property, where the buses are parked, and the road to the reservation. The flow was so swift and strong that our only access was temporarily washed away. It is a reminder of our great need for a bridge as well!



P.O. Box 2393 • Globe, AZ 85502-2393 • 928-425-8449  
www.azrez.org • information@azrez.org

## Christmas Thanks!

On behalf of the staff of ARM, the children and teens of the San Carlos Apache Nation, the residents of the Tribal Shelter Care and the Tribal Youth Home, members of Freedom Holiness Church and the Little Sanctuary, Thank you! Over 475 Christmas stockings were filled with toys, toiletries and more for recipients listed above. Over 600 fleece blankets were also distributed. The generosity of ARM's partners was overwhelming! It was wonderful to watch as children received their stockings and wrapped themselves in their very own blankets. You truly were 'God's ARMs around the Reservation' this Christmas!

(We will need seamstresses to create 500 Christmas stockings and even more fleece blankets for our 2008 Christmas project. Directions for both projects may be found on our web site. Deadline for all items is November 1, 2008.)



## Short-Term Ministry Teams

With the gentler climate of ARM's location we are able to host and appreciate the labors of groups from across the United States year round. Groups from the Phoenix, AZ and Tucson, AZ areas come for one day or longer as their schedules allow. Those from outside of Arizona continue to come for more extended visits. If interested in partnering with us in such a practical way, please feel free to contact our Short-Term Ministry Coordinator, Danielle Martens, at the numbers listed in this publication. Groups arrived this quarter from: Grace Church, Mesa (AZ); Northside Christian Church, New Albany (IN); Knott Avenue Christian Church, Anaheim (CA); 1st Christian Church, Yuma (AZ); and Purdue University's Campus Christian Fellowship, West Lafayette (IN). Their labors were a blessing to families needing homes, kids needing a hug, teens enjoying a fast game of basketball, and much, much more. Our spring '08 calendar is filled! Openings are still available during the summer and fall of 2008.



## Special Events

ARM was again this year invited to partner with a Tribal agency, which is responsible for health needs on the reservation, as they provided a Halloween alternative carnival. Thanks to the short-term ministry teams that helped to make this possible. Over 900 tribal members enjoyed the evening of live entertainment, carnival booths, etc. ARM's bus was parked right on the main road, providing hot popcorn from a machine within, spin-art, bean-bag toss and carnival games just outside. What fun to share such a special evening with our Apache friends and to watch as others saw that a small group of Anglos truly cared for their tribe and simply wanted to serve! This task would have been incredibly difficult for ARM's small staff if not for the presence and help of a team from Northside Christian Church.

In November a short-term ministry team from Knott Avenue Christian Church spent a day covering graffiti by painting a playground at Indian Hills, one of the tribal housing areas where ARM ministers. The following day a barbecue was shared with the families of those to whom we minister, complete with great food and a magic show pointing the audience to Jesus Christ and HIS great love.

## The Mission Field is Global

ARM staff members, Tory Satter and Zane and Danielle Martens took five Apache youth to Mexico in November for a missions trip. In partnership with Pantano Christian Church of Tucson, AZ, they were able to build a home there for a family in need. Such an experience allowed them the opportunity to serve on a mission field. They were able to see that although their own needs are innumerable, Christ can use them to make a difference in His global Kingdom.



## The Invitation Accepted

We are thrilled with the response to last newsletter's invitation to take a "prayer journey" of the San Carlos Apache Reservation. Many have joined us for a morning of ministry where the strongholds of the evil one are broken. The invitation still stands! If you are planning a trip to Arizona, please plan to make a trip to visit us and share in such a vital ministry.

## ARM Property Update

The process is continuing with Gila County, where ARM is located, for us to obtain our "conditional use permit." It is our prayer to occupy this property completely in March! We are currently in the process of meeting with our neighbors, attending hearings, and complying with each requirement. Your assistance, both in prayer and financially, is deeply appreciated!

## ARM Staff Needs

Current needs for ARM team members include:

- Godly couples willing to work on our children's bus each afternoon, also forming relationships with the families in one particular tribal housing area.
- A youth minister willing to work long hours mentoring Apache youth.
- An accountant, familiar with the financial situations of a non-profit ministry.
- A cook who is knowledgeable of dietary needs and capable of serving great food for our visiting short-term ministry teams.

All candidates must first be solid in their relationship with Jesus Christ, maintaining daily quiet times, regular Bible studies and familiar with spiritual warfare.

## Prayer Requests

- For the tribal leaders & government of the San Carlos Apache Nation.
- For the health and safety of tribal members.
- For the staffing needs of ARM.
- For Apache pastors to have all physical, emotional and spiritual needs met.
- For the health and finances of ARM staff members.

## Nine Homes for Apache Families!

ARM team members and groups of volunteers from across the United States will be very busy this year completing NINE homes for Reservation families. Walls were constructed in Cincinnati by teens of the National Missionary Convention in November and recently arrived at our 45-acre property. Please join us in praising God for such an incredible provision! Pray also for wisdom as the Lord directs us to the families that should receive them, and for the remaining labor and materials to complete them.



Arizona Reservation Ministries  
P.O. Box 2393  
Globe, AZ 85502  
[www.azrez.org](http://www.azrez.org)

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## Internship Applications for 2008 are now available on our web site • [www.azrez.org](http://www.azrez.org)

### Web site difficulties

We apologize to any of you that might have tried to visit our web site over the holidays, or to contact us via our web site, [www.azrez.org](http://www.azrez.org). We were having technical difficulties, but hope to have everything running smoothly by the time you receive this. If you have problems communicating via the Internet, please feel free to call us at (928) 425-8449. Although we're not always in the office, we will return your call promptly.

### Save your cell phones!

ARM continues to benefit from the contributions of used cell phones from our partners! Feel free to contact us for a postage-paid shipping label and appropriate form to send in the phones from where you live. (If interested in having a special box to collect phones in your church, please contact us.) The refund check will then be sent to our offices to benefit the youth programming of this ministry. However, the company providing this program does not accept phone chargers or other accessories.

### Needs List

- Commercial ice machine
- Bobcat tractor/landscape tractor
- Individually packaged teas
- Bookends
- AutoCAD computer program
- Video game systems in good repair