



AMERICAN INDIAN CHRISTIAN MISSION

EVANGELIZING AND EQUIPPING NATIVE AMERICANS FOR CHRIST.

AICM Smoke Signals Newsletter November 2025

We have been so blessed to see God working in the hearts of those who have gladly received the good news of hope found only in Jesus Christ. The AICM Christian school is focused on helping our Native American students to clearly understand the bad news of God's wrath because of our sin and how we can be free from sin through faith in Jesus. We have daily bible classes and devotional time each day. Many of our students last year and six so far this year have made Jesus Lord and Savior of their life. We have staff members and volunteers in the community meeting with each one of these new believers weekly for discipleship. Our director of outreach, Aaron Gorsuch, is facilitating our disciple/mentorship program to ensure that each one of them is getting fed and growing in their faith.



The AICM Christian school led by our principal Richard Van Nostrand is committed to giving our students the best education possible. Each one of our teachers loves Jesus, loves our students, and are working hard to help the students succeed. Teams of volunteers from across the country come to help with one-on-one tutoring throughout the school year. Many of our students have already exceeded the goals we set for them educationally. Our students do not have access to this kind of care and education on the Reservation.

This year we have access to a Christian counselor with a trauma-informed therapy background. We have several students meeting with her weekly and it is slowly helping them to verbalize how they are feeling and talk about some difficulties they face at home. We are praying that next year we will have room in the budget to add this position and hire her to work full time on our campus with our students and their families.

Student Homes

God has provided the staff to open four student homes this year. These homes are where most of the life skills are taught and spiritual growth happens. Five of the older boys along with one older girl made Jesus Lord of their life and were baptized together November 3, 2025. Please keep them in your prayers.



AICM Sports



AICM has been working hard to get back into having a successful athletic program. Last school year our volunteer AD, Richard Kelly, made many connections to other Christian and private schools to put together a league that our small school could compete in. This school year we were able to compete in cross country and Volleyball. Volleyball is new to our students, but they are catching on quickly and have done well. Basketball will be the next sport we will compete in. Having an athletic program has been so beneficial to our students. They are learning to work together as a team, working through adversity, getting fit, and providing an outlet to be competitive. The students are also keeping their grades up and controlling behavior to stay eligible to play.



Mission Teams

Over the Summer we had three camps and many Blue Bus VBS events. Our summer team ministry is more than getting to know the children and having fun. We take the time to educate each team about the Native American culture they will be ministering to and how to clearly present the gospel of Jesus as the only way to have peace with God. We consider every mission team member a future missionary and pour into them the training needed to minister for the week they are on campus. We also challenge them to pray and consider becoming missionaries and to go wherever God might send them. During one of our White Mountain Apache summer camps some of the campers gave their life to Jesus along with several of the high school age ministry team members. We want to thank all the teams that came out to minister over the summer.



Nezbah and Ana College Update

Greetings, my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ! I wanted to share a brief update with everyone. I pray everyone is well in health and spirit also. I truly have been in much prayer for AICM. The Lord is always working and moving!

We will be ending our semester by mid-December here at IBC. It was a rough start at first, but it's much better now. Each day, I am thankful for being here and learning so much. I currently have 7 classes each week. I really enjoy two classes, which are "Human Relationships" and "Old Testament History and Literature". My least favorite is all the nightly homework and reading! HELP! Haha, I can now tell all the AICM students that I can understand their pain and suffering. Being here has helped me to be even more self-disciplined in many areas. This experience has caused me to see new areas in my life that I need to work on; also, some areas of strength. I have to say, this is just an incredible blessing from the Lord and AICM to be in this very place. Thank you all so much for your prayers and support.

Anabah is doing well, also. She has adjusted fully now to being here in a new place and school. Ana, like many other students, is looking forward to Christmas break. Right now, we do not have many plans for any travel. Praying that our good old car keeps holding up for us.



What is new at AICM?

At the AICM Christian school we are testing a pilot program to help children that are struggling with addictions break free, and stay in school. This program works with the families of a child that wants help and wants to continue their education at AICM. It starts with a mandatory six week stay on campus with monitored family visits. They will attend a Biblically based modified drug education/recovery class focused on building them up to have the strength to say "no". This kind of help is needed due to the easy access to substances and peer pressures our students face in their communities. Pray that God will give us wisdom as this program unfolds and the provision of respite house parents, counselling, and the funding to make it work.

Thanks to some generous donations of labor, equipment use, and funds, we were able to add some new playground equipment next to the gym.

*Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord,
and he will repay him for his deed. Proverbs 19:17*



How you can help AICM evangelize and equip Native Americans for Christ

1. Pray

- a. For our staff and their families
- b. For our students and their families
- c. For the volunteers and teams that come each year to help
- d. For guidance as we make our plans for the future
- e. For God to bless all our partners in ministry

2. Come

- a. Fill one of our open full-time or part-time ministry positions
- b. Volunteer to help in our school, camps, and Blue Bus VBS
- c. Help with projects on our campus and on the reservations
- d. Stop by and take a tour of the ministry and see what God is doing
- e. Prayer walk the campus

3. Give

- a. Make a one-time donation
- b. Sponsor one of our students through our child sponsorship program
- c. Make an IRA contribution
- d. Commit to supporting the AICM monthly
- e. Purchase items from our website needs list
- f. Donate physical items needed throughout the year
- g. Arizona residents can give to ACSTO or School Choice Arizona in AICM's name to directly offset their AZ state tax obligations and help with our students' tuition

4. Promote

- a. Raise awareness of the work God is doing through AICM with your church, businesses, friends, and family
- b. Make AICM the focus of a VBS or Camp
- c. Hold a missions Sunday
- d. Ask to work with our promotions team to help get the word out



Make a donation

