



AMERICAN INDIAN CHRISTIAN MISSION

EVANGELIZING AND EQUIPPING NATIVE AMERICANS FOR CHRIST.

Smoke Signals February 2026

AICM Outreach

All in God's timing, right? That is a very hard thing for me; it always has been. I want to see the fruits of one's labor right now, not later. It takes moments like this, writing about what's happening on the reservation, for me to see how God is working at His pace and His timing, and He has been very busy.

Since I started here at AICM, we have been looking for opportunities to extend the Blue Bus ministry into the school year. This March, we will be having two consecutive weeklong Blue Bus VBS events on the Reservation. One will be at the Cibeqe Christian Church, and the following week will be at the Children's Home in Whiteriver. I am very excited about these opportunities and about seeing God at work, not just with the kids we are serving, but also within those who are coming to serve. We also have five weeks of Blue Bus planned for the summer, and we are all very excited to see how God will use us all in that time.



One-on-one discipleship on the reservation is also a growing part of our outreach ministry. Currently, we are discipling seven people on the reservation. We are also discipling 12 students on campus who have given their lives to Christ. AICM has also been asked to help a church on the reservation to start a discipleship program. Although we will not be doing the actual discipling, we will be coming alongside, encouraging and supporting them where and how we can. As their ministry grows, we hope to learn from them as well and apply the lessons they learn to our ministry. – Aaron Gorsuch

AICM is helping struggling students

AICM is offering a path for students to stay in school while helping them with Vape and THC addiction. Here is what one student wrote that is in our Student Retention and Protection Program that we have piloted this year. There are strict requirements to stay in the program and stay at AICM. This student has done very well, and we are praying that God will heal and raise up a generation of young Native American men and women to spread the hope of Jesus Christ on the Reservations.

My year is going good. I am so glad I decided to come back to AICM I worked so hard to come back to AICM.

Nezbah in College

Greetings from Flagstaff, AZ!

The second semester has started here at IBC. All new classes and one ongoing class that remains the same throughout the school year. I am so excited to be here and gain so much knowledge and wisdom to be able to share with others and in the next season to come. Some favorite classes already are Christian Family, which will include singleness, dating, and marriage, and Evangelism and Discipleship. I was so blessed to be put on the President's List for the work I put in last semester. I am very grateful and keep in continuous prayers for AICM and families.

Ana is doing well and enjoys the Christian school here in Flagstaff. She had a long Christmas break and is now getting back into the rhythm of our routine. Her birthday is coming up soon and she is looking forward to seeing some family in warmer weather in Phoenix.



Thank you all for all your prayers and support! This has been so amazing and such a privilege to be here. I pray you are all well, also body, mind, soul, and spirit. May our wonderful Father be with you all and give you His love and embrace this season. God bless you! – Nezbah Kearns

A look inside one of our student homes

It has been a busy year in the Emmaus House. The school has had more opportunities for students to participate in sports this year, which has been fun for our girls. One of our girls participated in cross country, followed by several participating in volleyball. Currently, basketball season is happening. As a house, we have enjoyed attending meets and games to cheer for AICM. It has been a challenge to get in homework at times, and the girls are learning that sometimes the “fun” stuff has to wait.

We have had some changes in who has lived with us throughout the year. We know that Satan is working hard to keep them from having a relationship with Jesus, so we ask that you join us in praying for the ones that leave. While it is always hard to lose the daily opportunity to witness to them, Aaron, Jeff, and I (as well as others) have continued to maintain relationships with them and their families.



We had two fifth-grade girls join us in October. Aaron and I have enjoyed getting to know them, love them, and see the relationships develop between them and the older girls. It has also brought out some leadership skills in the older girls as they help with homework and in being positive role models.

Four of our girls were all at AICM last year and have been in our house all year. They have all been in 1:1 discipling relationships since last year and continue to meet weekly with someone. We do Bible homework daily as a house, pray at the start and end of each day together, and most nights of the week, I do a devotion with the girls. They have been learning to bullet journal during this time, and we have worked on ways to study scripture. We pray constantly that their time at AICM will strengthen their faith enough that when they leave AICM, they continue to have a saving relationship with Jesus. Thank you for continuing to pray for our girls, Aaron, and me. – Tricia Gorsuch

How is school going?

Each year the AICM school is committed to providing the best education we possibly can. We help students that are accelerating to advance and get struggling students the help they need to succeed. Education is not a high priority on the Reservation, so getting students to engage in learning is a constant challenge. This doesn't seem to just be a Native American problem but a nationwide issue. We are committed to finding ways to help children find purpose and pleasure in education. We have utilized more computer-based learning this year along with our classroom instruction to develop the abilities of this younger generation. We realize we are the ones that are going to have to adapt to the new learning styles of our students and use the technology they're familiar with to educate them. Some plans for next year are to add hands-on media training to help students understand the effects of media on their world view and teach them what is appropriate and safe. We also want to add more hands-on experience into various skilled trades. Adding more sports this year has also helped students work through adversity and to work together and individually to accomplish a common goal. Education isn't easy and our school is not perfect, but we are willing to do whatever we can to help students fall in love with Jesus first and to give them the skills needed to live for Him wherever He may send them. AICM utilizes volunteers throughout the school year for tutoring, athletics, and other areas. If you would like to volunteer for a week or more in the school, please reach out to us.



AICM Needs

God is moving and we need to fill some full-time and part-time positions over the summer and next school year.

Staff needs

1. We will need teachers that have some teaching experience and/or professionals teaching their field of study.
2. We will need maintenance workers to help maintain our building and grounds.
3. We will need volunteers for discipleship and to mentor students and adults.
4. We will need a bus driver with Class B with a Passenger (P) endorsement and a School Bus (S) endorsement.

Other needs

1. We need to add contributions to our general budget. With the rise in cost for everything, we need funds to keep up with inflation. The communities AICM serves do not have the resources to afford the services we are providing them with. Therefore, we are diligently looking for ways to be sustainable and to grow so we can continue to reach many of these communities for Jesus.
2. We need a good used minivan and one, maybe two, 15 passenger vans.



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Christian School with Student Housing



Student/Family Outreach



Reservation Outreach

