

mission info

Graduates

Eleven eight grade graduates leave our school this year. They will be dispersing to different area high schools. Please pray that the transition will go well. Pray especially that they take the name of Jesus with them.

Challenges Ahead

During the last couple years, we have carefully laid the groundwork for upgrading our mission facility. We are poised to initiate a capital campaign with the first building phase in view. This is a huge and challenging venture for us. God has graciously confirmed this direction as we have taken little steps. We believe that He will continue to affirm our plans as we take the big steps. Pray that we will, in every way, follow the Lord.



The old Mission

The fire

Current facilities

Blessing the Bosmas

Kent and Rachelle Bosma have served at Zuni Christian Mission School for the past four years, Kent as our Administrative Officer and Rachelle as our 5th and 6th grade teacher. Because of family health concerns, the Bosmas have decided to move to Michigan where health support services are more accessible. They have blessed us enormously and richly. With us, we ask that you will bless them as they also follow where the Lord leads.



Meeting the Challenge

Zuni Christian Mission School supporters have blessed us throughout our entire history. As the school year ends, we again see God's goodness to us through your gifts. Many of you responded to our mid-April letter, announcing that any gifts up to \$50,000 that we receive before the end of our fiscal year will be matched by one of our supporting foundations. As of May 18, 2009 we have received close to \$35,000 that will be matched; and we still have more than two months to go before the end of our fiscal year! God has placed our mission on your hearts and has placed you in a supporting role. We thank God for your generosity. We can't do it without you.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Torch

ZUNI CHRISTIAN MISSION

June 2009



Presenting the ZCMS graduating class of 2009: (back row) Kris Haskie, Leeona Boone, Mariah Charlie, Chadd Simplicio, Micheal Laiteyse, Sheldon Tamez; (front row) Brandon Weekoty, Tyrell Natewa, Tamara Tsattie, Shawna Lesensee and Allycia Gashetewa.

ZCMS
EDUCATION WITH A MISSION

CHALLENGES AHEAD • BLESSING THE BOSMAS

principal's desk

"The butterflies are hatching!" the third and fourth graders announced excitedly one spring afternoon at recess time. Frankly, I'd never seen a butterfly hatch. And as it turned out, neither had the third and fourth graders. For a couple weeks, the cocoons hung from little paper disks in the butterfly house. Then one day they hatched—silently, miraculously and inconspicuously. And though the children had watched diligently on the day the butterflies hatched, no one actually saw the sacred moment. Curious, I went to the classroom to investigate. A dozen or so butterflies carelessly fluttered their newly unfurled wings. Two dark cocoons hung next to the empty shells on the net walls. Then one cocoon jerked gently and a dark wet wad appeared on the end of the cocoon. Then all was still. The kids, their teacher and I stayed clustered around the butterfly house, our eyes glued on the dark mass. We talked softly about the mystery of observing the signs of hatching without ever catching the moment of hatching. Then, the cocoon jiggled purposefully, like a child scrabbling free of his bed sheets, and the crumpled form of the butterfly appeared. Around me, the children gasped. Maybe I did too. We watched for some time while the wings stretched and formed. It was a glorious thing.

It struck me that this butterfly hatching business is similar to a teacher's experience. We are surrounded by children packed with promise. We know, without a doubt, they are learning and growing (though largely out of sight). Sometimes, we see the gentle shaking of minds and spirits and believe that we will soon see the broad bright sweep of their souls' colors. Day by day, though we keep a sharp lookout for moments of epiphany, most times we miss it. Whether or not we catch these glorious moments, there are times when we simply have to sit back, shake our heads and marvel at who these children are becoming.

Perhaps, I wouldn't have made the connection so easily if it hadn't been for an interesting reflection made by a perceptive first grader in my classroom. One afternoon, I read the children a picture book by Robert Kraus called *Leo, the Late Bloomer*. Leo, the lion cub, (so the story goes) cannot do what most of his animal friends do—tie his shoes, draw and color, read and write....until one day. He blooms! Shortly after storytime, I was checking the children's work. I stopped to look at an illustration of one of the students; it was uncharacteristically well-done and I complimented him, "Wow! Nice job!" The first grader sitting behind him raised her head in delight and joyously proclaimed, "He's blooming!" And so it is. We are witnesses of transformation. Brightest and best are those times when a child hears his name on the lips of God, when a child claims her name as a daughter of the Most High.

classroom scene

Magic at Work

For a week in spring, we watched magic at work in our school. We watched two very different groups of kids build relationships—thirteen high school students from Valley Christian High School in Bellflower, California, and our student body of 68. Friendships were built as the kids worked and learned together.

Heidi Furlong makes friends with Andria Tsabetsaye (K), Caysie Johnson (5th) and Hope Becker (6th).



1st-2nd graders act out a scene from *The Doorbell Rang* by Pat Hutchins.



Kristin Roddy shares a hug with kindergarten girls, Devanna Martinez, Katelynn Laiwekete and Aaliyah Littlebird.



7th-8th grade boys walk together.



3rd-4th graders learn about butterflies.

