

Thank you for remembering the children and families of Zuni each year in your giving. We are humbled by His faithful provision!

Our remaining financial need for 2019 -20 is is down to \$360,233!

**Provide Wood for a Family this Winter:** Through the church Benevolence Fund, we work with people from the community to provide wood for families who need it to heat their homes during cold winter months. Not only does your gift provide heat, but also income for those who do the work of collecting and selling it.



**Third/Fourth Teacher:** Zuni Christian Mission School is currently seeking candidates for a full-time Third/Fourth Grade teacher for the 2020-21 school year! Please visit our website to fill out an application or contact the school for more information.



**Kindergarten Teacher:** Zuni Christian Mission School is currently seeking candidates for a full-time Kindergarten teacher for the 2020-21 school year! Please visit our website to fill out an application or contact the school for more information:

[www.zunichristianmission.org/about/job\\_postings](http://www.zunichristianmission.org/about/job_postings)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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P.O. Box 445, Zuni, NM 87327 · Give online at [www.zunichristianmission.org](http://www.zunichristianmission.org)



Zuni Christian Reformed Mission  
P.O. Box 445  
Zuni, New Mexico 87327

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PLANTED IN BIBLICAL TRUTH, SURROUNDED BY GOD'S GRACE



ZUNI CHRISTIAN REFORMED MISSION  
DECEMBER 2019





In church last week, the pastor called the kids to the front of the sanctuary for a children's message. He talked about a prophecy in Isaiah, quoted in Matthew 1, about a virgin conceiving and giving birth to a son, "and they will call him...." At this point, one of our students nearly jumped out of his skin with excitement. His hand shot in the air as he bounced up and down, hardly able to contain himself. The pastor toyed with him for a moment asking if anyone knew what the name was. "Immanuel!" the boy said. Glancing at the people sitting nearby, I saw that they all, like me, had big grins on their faces. You see, Immanuel is also the name of this little boy. The pastor had another question: "Does anyone know what that name means?" Again, this boy's hand shot in the air. When the pastor acknowledged him, the boy answered, "God with us!" then, smiling brightly, he looked at his mom, who was beaming back at him with good reason.



God with us. This is the beauty and the power of Christmas. Jesus "made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness" (Philippians 2:7). When the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us, God showed the world what He was like through the person of Jesus Christ. Through the Incarnation, we have a clearer understanding of the character of God. Unfortunately, we are still capable of misunderstanding, and we quite often do. Nevertheless, through Jesus' life and ministry on earth, God called people to greater understanding. The beginning of this is what we celebrate at Christmastime.

“He shall be called Immanuel--God with us.”

All the same, the celebration of God's presence with his people shouldn't end there. After Jesus' life on earth, His death, burial, resurrection and ascension into heaven, the Holy Spirit was poured out on God's people. In fact, through the Holy Spirit, the God of the universe dwells within His people. God with us. And through His people, God desires to communicate something of Himself to the world. It is exciting to be engaged in this work in Zuni. Even though we are in a time of heightened Zuni religious activity, people are curious about Christ. Please join us in prayer that as we celebrate Christmas, our students and neighbors may seek and find God in the person of Jesus Christ, who came to be with his people not only for a day, a month, or a year - but for all time. He shall be called Immanuel--God with us.

Tim Becksvoort, Principal

## Deep Hopes

As a part of our Teaching for Transformation framework, teachers articulated their "deep hopes" for our students, and "storylines" - which help to infuse and emphasize that hope in all aspects of their learning throughout the year.

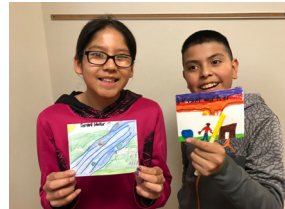


Michelle Becksvoort - First & Second Grades

**Storyline:** Starring in God's Story

**Deep Hope:** "My deep hope for you is that you will know you are deeply loved, that you will discover your role in God's Story, and that you will experience joy as you walk with God and care for His amazing world."

"We discussed how each of us has been chosen to be a part of God's Story. For some of us, this might mean showing kindness to someone who doesn't have a friend. For others, it may mean using a sense of humor to make people smile. For still others, using their desire to see the earth kept clean may be a blessing to the community and the living things around them. We all have gifts that the Lord has given us, and He delights in seeing us use those gifts to care for His amazing world and experience joy and bring Him glory in the process. We had a school-wide trash clean-up



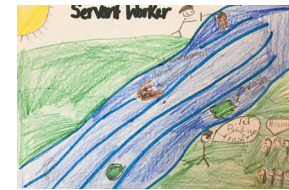
Emily Veenstra & Chelsea Eisenga - Sixth Grade

**Storyline:** Whole, Broken, Renewed

**Deep Hope:** "May you be confident that your worth and purpose are secure in God; and use this knowledge to become beacons of hope offering your unique gifts as a light in His world."

"Whole, broken, renewed. We talked about how, in every story, there is this same pattern. Something is perceived as whole, it breaks, it is somehow renewed. We like stories like this. We gravitate toward stories like this. We want to be a part of stories like this. 'Where do you see brokenness in the world? How can you be an "agent of renewal"? I posed this question to the kids. They reflected upon brokenness within their own community, nationwide, and worldwide. They are working on going through a list of organizations that we can partner alongside to help a preexisting pattern of renewal. Each class will work on choosing one that interests them.

Our hope is to nurture students into finding ways they can be a part of the renewal process, empower them to make the choice, and commit to taking action. Students acknowledged ways that they would like to be 'servant workers' here in Zuni. Some of their ideas included chopping wood for their families and neighbors, cleaning up the Zuni river, and planting community gardens.



Natasha Natewa - Fifth Grade

**Storyline:** Wave the Banner of Change

**Deep Hope:** " My deep hope is that my students embrace in their hearts God's Truth - both Biblically and academically, so that they will wave the banner of action in a "hands off" world."

"When we began our division unit God called us to be change makers and open our eyes to the injustice of extreme poverty in developing countries. We realized that we live in a fallen world. However, we also knew we are restored children of God. That inspired us to bring restoration to others - that is a Biblical truth God has planted in our hearts. We decided to ask others to partner with us and pledge a donation towards an upcoming division test. The number of questions correct indicated how much donors would contribute to our World Vision gifts of a goat, a latrine, Bibles, housing, and medicine."



Tim Becksvoort & Barlow Gasper - Eighth Grade Bible

**Storyline:** Taste and See

**Deep Hope:** "My deep hope is that each of you will experience joy as you discover and actively participate in God's good plan for your life."

"As we frame and apply the experiences and teachings of the Bible within the context of life in Zuni, students are able to relate on a personal level, and see the Truth come alive in their own stories. As Christmas approaches, the story we tell in Bible is building toward Jesus' incarnation. Galatians 4:4 reads, 'When the time had fully come, God sent his Son...' As we set the stage for Jesus' birth with the stories of the prophets and the Intertestamental period, we see our students curious about the story God is telling, but also desiring to experience Christ for themselves."

