

CURRENT NEEDS

We thank you for your gifts that allowed us to end last year above and beyond our annual financial need! We are so grateful for the fresh start this provides for us as we continue into our new school year serving 101 students!

Our financial need for 2019 -2020 is \$440,146.

Amazon Wishlist: Visit <http://a.co/d3OeJ7T> to shop for specific items needed for our classrooms and school! Scan the QR code to visit!



Become A Sponsor: Starting at \$83/month (\$500/yr), sponsoring connects you to a specific family that needs tuition support. You will receive letters and photos to help you get to know your student(s) and can communicate with them throughout the school year!



Kindergarten Teacher Position: 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

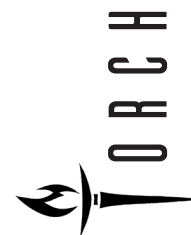
CONTACT INFORMATION

Zuni Christian Reformed Church: Bruce Persenaire, Pastor
Phone: (209) 985-4183 · bpersenaire@zunichristianmission.org

Zuni Christian Mission School: Tim Becksvoort, Principal
Phone/fax: (505) 782-4546 · zcms@zunichristianmission.org

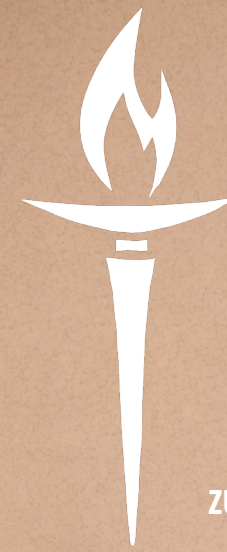
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



TORCH

ZUNI CHRISTIAN REFORMED MISSION



PLANTED IN BIBLICAL TRUTH, SURROUNDED BY GOD'S GRACE

SEPTEMBER 2019



Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation. Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life.

The verse above, from which we get our school theme for the year: "Shine like stars," is found in Philippians 2:14-16. There is much to say about this passage, but I'll rein in my commentary to two brief points.

First of all (and perhaps obviously), it is very difficult to do everything without grumbling or arguing. Refraining from grumbling isn't always hard to do. When things are going our way, it's easy to fling this verse around at others, and it's tempting to feel pretty good about doing so. However, as I write this, I am in the middle of "one of those days." As a well-known children's book puts it: "Some days are like that, even in Australia." On the outside, I think I have done a pretty good job of keeping the grumbling to a minimum, but inside, I find myself feeling very cranky. That still counts! I still need to check the direction of my heart. When we introduced this verse to our students, I could practically hear the students rolling their eyes—of course the teachers are going to tell us not to grumble and argue. However, keeping clear of grumbling is also difficult for principals, teachers, pastors, farmers, business owners, grocery store clerks, and everyone else. James takes it a step farther when he writes, "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds" (James 1:2). Instead of thinking (or saying), "Ugh. This is a bad day," let's remind ourselves that God gives wisdom to those who ask (and believe that He'll give it), God is the Giver of

all good things, and God is at work—bringing about our transformation even in times of suffering.

“...God is at work—bringing about our transformation even in times of suffering.”

Secondly, have you ever imagined what it would look like if only one star was shining in the night sky? I don't mean twilight, when the stars come out one at a time; I mean a pitch-black sky with a single star burning light years away. I think that Paul's hope for the Philippians is

that they will do this in community. On a clear night with all the stars shining and the moon joining in, you don't even need a flashlight to walk around. Grumbling and arguing can be contagious, but thankfulness—the antidote to grumbling—can spread just as quickly. So let's practice gratitude in community. Let's hold firmly to the word of life. Let's shine like stars.

Tim Becksvoort, Principal

New Mission Staff This year we welcome new staff at both the church and school!

Gayle Bosscher - Kindergarten Teacher: Never in our most prayerful dreams did we ever think that God would lead us to spend a year at ZCMS, Rob as a volunteer and myself as the kindergarten teacher. Yes, the prayers over the last 46 years were that God would show us purpose and mission for our retirement years, that we would be granted the health and stamina to go where He led, but it still came as a most humbling surprise. Having been involved in Christian Education as student, parent, teacher, supporter, and volunteer in 5 wide-spread states, with our four grown children scattered far from our Florida home, there was nothing to stop us from saying "yes" and when all the little details starting falling into place our hearts were assured that God had gone before us and prepared the way. Having a sweet group of only six students is a real bonus and I'm grateful for the one on one time that I can spend with them each day as they start their learning journey. We look forward to seeing how God will open our eyes to opportunities and fill us with a desire to encourage the Zuni Christians and the little ones in our care.



Barlow Gasper - Youth Director/Bible Teacher: My name is Barlow Gasper Jr. I'm from the Zuni Pueblo, the place I call home and where I grew up. I am a graduate of Rehoboth Christian School and more recently of Indian Bible College (Flagstaff, AZ). As I graduated from Rehoboth, Bible College was not in mind. It was in observing my Youth Pastor (Roger Scarboro) and seeing the impact he was making that I've sensed a calling to do Youth Ministry. It was also in noticing the hardships of the youth in Zuni similar to my own background and upbringing. I am able to relate to what they are going through. My hope in being hired as the new Youth Director and co-teaching 8th grade Bible is that I can be a role model to the youth; to disciple them as I have been discipled; and to help them as they go through life, showing them the love that God has for them - all in hopes of raising leaders for the future.



New School Year: Pray for our 101 students to "Shine Like Stars" as they learn about the Light of the world.



Summer Camps/On Eagles Wings: This summer was full with camps and community outreach! We thank God for testimonies shared and hearts opened to the Gospel!

Passing the Baton: Our new Youth Director Barlow Gasper and youth group students honored Roger Scarboro for his discipleship over many years.

Pastor Bruce and Joyce Persenaire - Interim Pastor: My name is Bruce Persenaire. I am an STM (Interim) Pastor who has come to Zuni CRC to help them get ready for their next "settled" Pastor. My wife and I arrived in Zuni just a few weeks ago and I am already amazed by all the programs that this church of 175 worshippers is involved in to reach their community for the kingdom of God. I came in the middle of their Kids Club week in which about 60 kids were ministered to every morning for a week.



The next week we entertained the group, "On Eagles Wings" - a Native American ministry whose mission is to reach the community through basketball. Through this, over 60 young men and women signed cards wanting to know more about Christ and the church. Earlier in the summer they ran weeklong basketball, music and volleyball camps. The purpose of all this is to keep the church before the community and to minister to its needs. After 35+ years of ministry I was accustomed to summers being a time where many church programs took a break, with perhaps a week long VBS program. Not here in Zuni! While we continue to see seeds being planted, faith being nurtured, and a harvest brought in, the work is still a challenging task here in Zuni. We are excited about being here and getting to know the people that God has placed here in this church as well as the greater community.

Please pray for God to go before us in preparing hearts and establishing trusting relationships as we follow up with those from the community who expressed a desire to know Christ during our summer outreach!