## CURRENT NEEDS

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We praise God for all of the people who gave gifts to fulfill the needs posted in our last issue! What an answer to prayer!

Please consider the needs below as you plan your giving. We are so thankful for your partnership in our ministry work! May God bless you this Christmas as you celebrate our Savior!

ANNUAL FUND: Our remaining need for this school year is \$280, 916. Please help us to reach this goal so that we can end the year in a good financial position!

**CAMERA SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM:** In our efforts to increase security we are working toward installing a video surveillance system. Visit our Amazon Wishlist to view it or give us a call!

**BECOME A SPONSOR:** Starting at \$50/month, sponsorship connects you to a specifc student and family that needs tuition support. You will receive letters and photos to help you get to know them and can communicate throughout the school year!

**ENDOWMENT FUND:** You can give ZCMS a more sustainable future by including us in your will or estate plan! This will help to grow our endowment and make a lasting impact. We are happy to connect you with the professionals at the Barnabas Foundation!

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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

P.O. Box 445, Zuni, NM 87327 · Give online at www.zunichristianmission.org

Zuni Christian Reformed Mission 20. Box 445 Zuni, New Mexico 87327

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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# DECEMBER 2018

## O R C H



ZUNI CHRISTIAN REFORMED MISSION

## PRINCIPAL'S DESK

A t the end of a school day last week, one of our first grade students, ready to go with Awinter coat and backpack on, asked his teacher, "Mrs. B., can you give me a flavor?" An inquisitive Mrs. B. asked him what kind of flavor he meant. "You know, a flavor. Could you put this paper in my backpack for me?" Ah, yes—a favor.

Sometimes we mistakenly think that we understand clearly. We think we heard something or saw something a certain way only to realize later that we missed some important detail or inserted something that wasn't actually there. It is humorous when a young student confuses flavor with favor. It is much more serious when we misunderstand God.

One of the beautiful things about the Incarnation is that God brought the world His presence. As Carlo Carretto wrote, "It is a presence so complete that it overshadows every presence before it." 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 guite often do. Nevertheless, through Jesus' life and ministry on earth, God calls people to greater understanding.

After Jesus' ascension, God's people, empowered by His Spirit, are the hands and feet of Christ in the world. Through God's Word, God's world, and God's people, others come to

#### **C**..even in those struggles we meet **Christ the Redeemer** and Restorer.

know Christ. Here in Zuni, people are meeting Jesus. Through the preaching of the Word and the faithful example of God's people here, many in Zuni are curious about Christ. Students at the school are told every day that they are treasured by God, and many are choosing to embrace the truth of God's love in their lives. There are struggles, of course, but even in those struggles we meet Christ the Redeemer and Restorer.

In this season of celebrating the Incarnation, we pray that you may know Christ more and more. We also pray that through the Holy Spirit's power, God's people everywhere will reflect the love of Christ to the world around them. Please join us in praying that God's people will have strength and perseverance to shine the light of Christ in Zuni so that God may be more clearly understood, worshipped, and glorified.

Tim Becksvoort, Principal





Fall Music Progams: Music students presented what they had been learning in class from singing to piano and ukulele!



Amazon Wish List: Our students and teachers have been so blessed by the items purchased from our Amazon Wish List! Thank you!





Fall Festival: Parents joined us for our annual Fall Festival to help with pumpkin carving, pumpkin bowling, corn hole and many other fall crafts and games.





Christmas Cards: There are 400+ veterans living in Zuni! For our all-school activity students made Christmas thank you cards for the men and women who served our country.



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### MISSION I<u>NFO</u>

Celebrating Zuni Language: The Zuni language is a foundational part of our student's culture and we don't want them to lose it! We are so thankful for our Educational Assistant, Ms. Karen Poncho, who has been instrumental in helping to teach Zuni in our elementary classrooms. Ms. Lynch's 3rd/4th grade students have learned traditional Zuni greetings which include their name, age, and clans. They are also studying basic books written in the Zuni language, often with parents and grandparents who come in to read with them! Each year for the Christmas program,



their class learns and presents the entire Christmas story in the Zuni language after a team of Zuni elders and church members helps with the translation. The kindergarten students are learning Zuni numbers and songs. Pray that our students will grow a desire to preserve this important part of their identity!

Anti-Bullying Workshop: Our staff is committed to making ZCMS a safe environment where students are accepted and envouraged not only by us, but one another. In November Zuni police officer and parent Quincy Panteah joined our mid school students for a special workshop against bullying, challenging them to be responsible in caring for one another and instructing them on how to respond when they encounter bullying. In Ms. Natewa's 5th grade class students daily write envouraging notes to one another and place them in individual bags posted on the wall. Pray that our students will continue to grow in their love and respect for one another and that our school will be a safe haven!

Treasured By God: We continue to celebrate our theme this year in conjunction with 1 Peter 2:9. Ms. Natewa's



5th graders did a project centered around the song "Burn the Ships" by For King and Country which speaks to the redemptive work of Christ in making us new creations as we leave the hurts and lies of the past. Students created their own paper ships on which they wrote their hurts or lies they've been told about who they are, as well as prayers. They then created their own lyric video and burned their ships! Follow this link to see the video: https://bit.ly/2PHjKq0

Pastoral Search Committee Update: The Pastoral Search Committee is currently pursuing an interim pastor that will help us as we transition from Pastor Mike Meekhof's leadership of ZCRC for 31 years. Please pray for this process and for God to bring the right candidates!

The Story: This year the church is reading through The Story by Max Lucado and Randy Frazee. The Story is an abridged, chronological Bible that reads like a book. It helps people understand God's Word more fully and engage with it more easily. People have been engaging through personal reading, Bible study groups, and Pastor Mike's preaching. Our purpose is to discover how our story fits into God's story and share this good news with others.

The Art of Parenting: Quincy and Jo Panteah along with Tim and Michelle Becksvoort have been leading this study on Christian parenting from Family Life. Praise God for the 8+ couples who have been attending from our school and community!