



The Joel Haynes Family

to the Navajo Nation

September-October 2022

Dear Pastor, Church and Praying Friends,

LEARNING AND GROWING

I told the Lord in my prayer time today that in some ways I still feel like a four-year-old boy sitting in Mrs. Booth's class soaking up truths from God's Word for the very first time. The classroom environment changes and the teachers God brings along my path, but in my heart I am still in wonder of His Word, His Work and His Ways. I have completed my thirtieth and final preaching meeting for this year. Many souls were saved, missions dollars raised and a number of folks surrendered to full-time ministry, but of all the results, I am most grateful for the personal growth this has produced in my life. I'm surprised that God would allow a dusty rez boy to get around so much! I suppose He knows just how much I have to learn and places me in the classroom of so many circumstances to kindly bring me along into who He would have me be for His glory. I'm grateful for God. I'm grateful He is patient to help His children in life's classroom.

MISSIONS CONFERENCE – RECORD COMMITMENT

The Missions Conference at Strong Hold Baptist Church in Pinon was incredible! Leading up to the conference we experienced Satan's expected resistance in the form of church members struggling with sin, wiring under two vehicles torn up by a local dog pack, stolen money, physical sickness and a barrage of exterior criticism via phone and email. Yet in that conference God kindly blessed with five precious souls saved, one family that had been out of church over a year and a half returned in repentance to fellowship and the folks committed a record dollar amount to missions! Praise God! One night of the conference, the Lord led me to depart from the order of service and take up an offering for a missionary on our reservation who needed a new roof on his home. In that offering, the Lord brought in \$3,500 to meet the entire need! The church also voted to give out \$1,500 worth of offerings to different projects. On Sunday we had 98 in attendance to offer up new annual missions commitments. The church committed \$30,423.20 to worldwide missions! That Sunday afternoon we added two additional missionaries for monthly support and raised the support of all fifteen of our missionaries from \$75.00 a month to \$100.00 a month! Amen!

MISSIONS CONFERENCE – TRAMPLING STEREOTYPES

God has laid on my heart to pray that from the churches with whom we fellowship closely on the Reservation, a quarter of a million dollars will be given to missions over the next year! For generations Native people have been labeled as takers. How glorious a sight it would be to see that stereotype trampled by the next-level giving of Navajo believers!

THE NEED OF A NEW AUDITORIUM

I have taught our people that we can "missions-give" our way into a new auditorium. Please continue to pray with us as we press toward building a new 44x80 auditorium that will seat 250 and renovate our current auditorium into Sunday School and Christian School Classrooms. We are laying groundwork by relocating waterlines and hiring a local architect who has submitted phase 1 drawings. We currently have 91 seats and one of our church members just started a new bus route that is poised to bring in between 10-15 more people weekly. Over the past two weeks we have had 8 first-time visitors! Strong Hold Baptist Church is serving as a training station for three missionary couples who will by God's grace plant works on the Western side of the Reservation. The need is great and the work is large! An auditorium would help!

THE START OF A NEW BUS ROUTE WITH A NEW VAN!

We are praising God for His provision of a new van for Strong Hold Baptist in Pinon. This Sunday Bro. Nathan Gray will start his bus route to Black Mesa, Old Tree and Strawberry Hill areas. The Gray Family will celebrate one year of salvation next month and have already jumped in on running this bus route. What a blessing!

Page space fails to allow me to share all of God's great work over the past couple of months, so let me encourage you to watch videos posted on our YouTube Channel. You can see yourself what your giving is accomplishing in Navajoland.

Spreading the Light in Navajoland,

Joel N. Haynes