



Manos de Dios, Hands of God Ministries

January 2015 Newsletter

Sharing the message of Jesus with indigenous people in northern Arizona and Mexico



Girls grow in their faith...by Lucy

The five Apache young ladies attending Desert Christian Schools (Riscilla, Jacy, Drelyn, Thearsa, and Naomi) are growing in their relationship with the Lord! Their schools have weekly Chapel services, teach all subjects from a Biblical worldview, and offer Bible classes as part of the curriculum. We love hearing their response to their Bible classes and listening as they recite their memory verses. AND the weeks Dennis and I are in Tucson we spend one afternoon a week with each young lady in our home. We focus love and attention on her, listen to her heart, feed her 😊 and have an intentional “God-time” together. What an important time to worship, read the Word together and pray! This month we have covered topics including a renewed mind (Romans 12:1-2), growing more fruit in our lives (John 15:1-5 and Galatians 5:22) and giving God our ‘hard heart’ and asking Him to return a soft heart (Ezekiel 36:26). With the high school girls I have covered (again) God’s plan for sex inside the boundaries of marriage, STD’s and pregnancy. These girls have been exposed to much on the reservation. It is so important to keep before them God’s plan and that God will help them resist temptations. ***“No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.” 1 Corinthians 10:13.*** God is good and He has a wonderful plan for each of these girls’ lives! Thank you for your support and encouragement of these precious lives! They are being changed!



Worship is part of our “God-time”

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“God-time” format

- young lady chooses a worship song and we sing along
- we read a passage of Scripture 3x through
- we paraphrase the passage and ask ?’s about it such as ‘what does it tell us about humans?’ and ‘what does it tell us about God?’
- we draw a picture or diagram the message of the passage and answer the ? ‘how does God want us to apply this to our life?’
- we pray for each other in applying this to our life and other concerns

Living Hope Women's Center (LHWC) in Whiteriver on the White Mountain Apache Reservation offers hope every Wednesday and Thursday (the days of the week it is open)! Parents, single moms, pregnant women, grandmas and aunties with custody of children, and women wounded by the affects of abuse or abortion come for classes, counsel, encouragement and PRAYER. What a privilege and opportunity to share God's hope and truth with many Native people! Clients can 'shop' in the boutique with the 'Boutique Bucks' they earn by taking the classes. Please pray for this unique center that is the only crisis pregnancy-type center on a reservation in the USA.

Prayer points:

- Pray that more volunteers would come forward to work as Client Advocates enabling the Whiteriver LHWC to be open more days of the week.
- Pray that clients' lives be changed by God's Truth and power. That they would choose life for themselves, their babies and their families.
- Pray for a new staff position to be filled that will provide administration, marketing and boutique management.
- Pray for financial support of the Living Hope Women's Center Ministries to sustain the three centers in the White Mountains plus a new one to be opened in Scottsdale.

Thank you!!



A mother brings her new baby to the center to 'purchase' diapers and baby supplies. Big sister looks on.



One of the LHWC classrooms in Whiteriver where parenting, prenatal, budgeting, and Bible classes are viewed on DVD. Clients then meet with a staff member to review the class material and pray.

Let's pray:

"Father God, thank you for your plan for life and families! We praise You for Your love and care for us! We ask that You encourage, strengthen and bless the clients that come to the LHWC. Please help them make good choices for their lives in the area of pregnancy, parenting, sexuality, and their relationship with You! You are the "God of the Harvest"! We agree with and pray Jesus' prayer that You bring more workers to this ministry. You know the need for more volunteers and this staff position. Please guide, direct and grant wisdom to all who are considering these positions and to those in authority to hire staff. Thank you, Lord, for Your awesome provision for this ministry! We trust You and ask that Your will be done!*

In Jesus' Name, Amen."

***"Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." Matthew 9:38 (ESV)**

How do you gauge success?by Dennis



Riscilla, Jacy & Drelyn play on Desert Christian High School's basketball team



Thearsa plays softball for the Desert Christian Middle School team



Naomi enjoys cheering on her sister, Thearsa, and looks forward to playing school sports next year!

The world, Hollywood, and many other talking heads define success in many ways and most of them are selfish in nature. Someone is successful if they are wealthy, and/or have many things, property, a half a million followers on twitter or FaceBook and so on. We as Christians know that wealth and fame will not get, buy, promote or vote you into heaven. The world says it's not **who** you have, it's **what** you have. That is contrary to who we are and what we believe. We believe it's **Who** you have, not what you have. Genesis 39:2 makes it pretty clear, "The Lord was with Joseph and he prospered." Joseph was a success in God's eyes because Joseph had God.

With that said, Lucy and I are trying to follow God's view of success when working with the Apache people. We are not interested in *numbers* of conversions, recommitments, or baptisms. We are interested in assisting people in truly knowing God and accepting Him as their Savior. We are interested in sharing with them the truth about Jesus' love, grace, and way of living. We share with them that He will enrich their lives physically and save their lives spiritually when they truly accept Him. And finally, we seek to encourage them in walking the life of faith and then becoming able to tell others about Jesus and what they have learned and experienced. That is what we are trying to do on the Apache Reservation.

And this process takes time. And from what we see, Jesus is making progress in "our" five Apache girls that have chosen to go to school in Tucson. We can see it in their actions, demeanor, lifestyle, vocabulary and how they act when they are confronted with adversity. Their acceptance of Jesus and their closer walk with Him is changing them and they are blooming into even more beautiful young ladies day by day.

Now that is not to say they do not have setbacks; they do. Just as I do, but they are (and I am) making progress. Thankfully, God does not ask us to be perfect, just obedient.

So Lucy and I pray that our supporters will be patient with us and our girls (and their parents and host families, too) and continue to see the big picture as Jesus guides them into the success He has called them to have one step at a time.

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.'" John 14:6

Heart House update....by Dennis

In December my friend, Rick, volunteered to go with me to remove the non-functioning propane furnace in the Heart House. Actually he did 95% of the work; I was just kind of a side-kick. We got it removed, had a great lunch and were back in Tucson not too long after dark. As Christmas approached Lucy and I did not have to worry about all the hassle of shopping and buying gifts because years ago we decided to skip all that and focus on Jesus, the real reason for the season. Plus we are already so blessed! This year I kind of broke that tradition and bought her a present anyway: A NEW PROPANE FURNACE for the Heart House. Am I a great husband or what? I hope she likes it better than the shotgun I bought her for pheasant hunting when I moved her to South Bend, Indiana in 1987! But that's another story.

The furnace was shipped to Tucson where my friend, Rick again, offered to come back up with me and install it. I got a great deal on the furnace and it was so good when it arrived the delivery truck dropped off two furnaces! The company had no idea they sent two and were very grateful that I returned the extra furnace to them.

Installation went well and now in addition to the pellet stove we have back-up heating. The more important thing is that we will be able to program the furnace to come on and keep the house at 40 degrees thus keeping our pipes from freezing while we are in Tucson between trips. (It can be expensive to have someone winterize the house every time you leave because nights get pretty cold, even in the single digits sometimes). The pellet stove is a great heat source, but you have to add pellets every day or so.

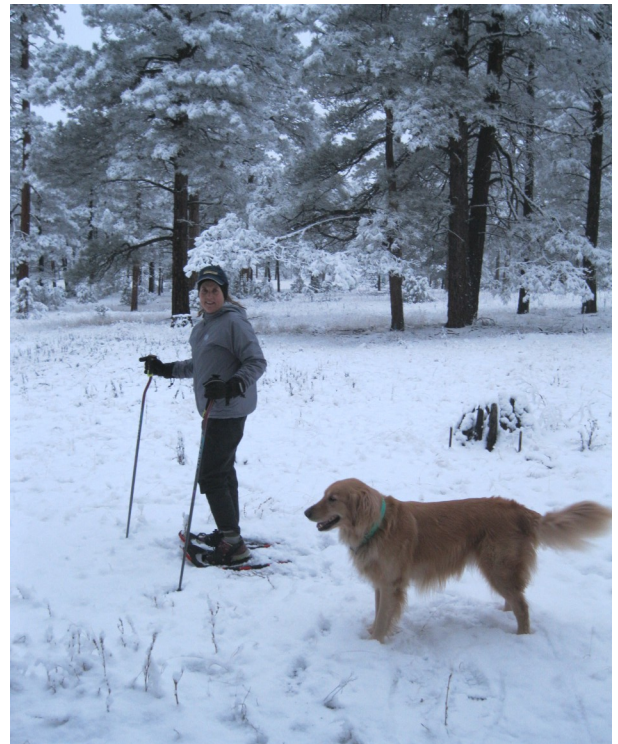
Our week at the Heart House was beneficial all the way around. I did some handy work at our house, Lucy had a training class and then volunteered at the LHWC in Whiteriver for a couple of days. We were there for a beautiful snow and Lucy got to try out her new-to-her snow shoes (thank you to friends Suzanne and Kent)! (See photo to right)

I have been asked to do big project at the Living Hope Women's Center in Springerville. (I have a trigger finger and numbness in my left hand that need to be fixed first.) I will be doing some remodeling, installing shelves and painting at the center and in their pre-school building. This is all inside stuff so it can snow all it wants! (Springerville is at 7000 feet elevation.)

Lucy and I are blessed to have so many friends that support us in so many ways!! We want to especially express our gratitude to Rick for his labor and to his wife, Sherrie, who so generously allows him to come up to Show Low to help out!

Blessings to all,

Dennis



Lucy and Chaco enjoy a snow hike in forest behind the Heart House

**“Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.” Psalm 29:2 (ESV)**

Looking at the word “ascribe” we found it to mean: to give, to provide, to set, to place, to grant, to permit or to commit. Another use is to say “come now!” emphatically. Yes, Lord, we “come now” to give you the GLORY due to Your name! Amen!*

** we used the Blue Letter Bible online for our research. See BlueLetterBible.org*

More Arizona Tax Credits needed to pay for students' education

This is the best deal any where! Assist in providing scholarship monies so that students may attend a Christian School without paying a dime out of pocket! That's the program that the State of Arizona offers to those who pay Arizona State income taxes.

AND ITS NOT TOO LATE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR TAX CREDIT FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION! You may contribute up until the date you file your Arizona tax forms OR April 15, 2015.

We suggest using the school tuition organization Institute for Better Education (IBE) who works closely with Desert Christian Schools.

You may donate in any of the following ways:

online at www.IBEScholarships.org

or by **calling IBE at 520-512-5438**

or by **faxing your contribution to 520-203-0184**

or by **mailing your contribution to IBE Scholarships, 911 S Craycroft Road, Tucson AZ 85711.**

There are two funds that you may donate to for which all of our five girls attending Desert Christian Schools qualify.

Original Individual for 2014 Tax Year: Single filer's max donation is \$528. Married filing jointly max donation is \$1056.

If you have fully funded the Original Individual donation you may donate additionally to the Plus fund.

Plus for 2014 Tax Year: Single filer's max donation is \$525. Married filing jointly max donation is \$1050.

Please indicate on your donation that it is for the **Tax Year 2014**. You may donate toward one or more of the following students at Desert Christian Schools (if they receive more than needed for this school year funds will carry over to the next school year): **Riscilla Colelay, Jacy Clendon, Drelyn Baha, Thearsa Benally or Naomi Benally.**

Thank you and may God bless you and your family as you bless these students with an education from a Biblical worldview!



Riscilla is a sophomore at Desert Christian High School. This is her second year attending school in Tucson. She is maintaining a "B" average while playing on the school's athletic teams (volleyball and basketball). She plans to go on to attend college and would like to work in a field that helps children in some way. Riscilla is a member of the White Mountain Apache Tribe.

At this time Riscilla is in the most need of scholarship monies. Please consider designating your Arizona Tax Credit donation toward:

"Riscilla Colelay attending Desert Christian School." ...Thank you!

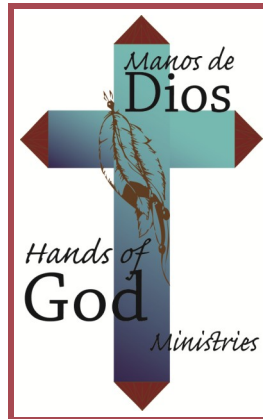
You may also give a tax deductible donation to our Student Fund (to pay for sports fees, education expenses, and any tuition not covered by the AZ tax credits) by donating to Manos de Dios, NFP either on our website or through the mail (see back page)



View from the back window of the Heart House

Contact us: “Heart House” phone 928-468-3171
 520-404-5045 (Lucy voice or text)
 520-245-2039 (Dennis voice)
GetInvolved@ManosdeDios.org

Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to:
Manos de Dios, NFP
 2914 N Indian Ruins Road, Tucson AZ 85715
 or be made on our website: ManosdeDios.org



***Sharing the message of
 Jesus with indigenous
 people in northern
 Arizona and Mexico***

***Tutors needed in the
 White Mountains during
 summer months***

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Would you like to get away from the heat and into the cool pine country in the summer? Do you have a desire to help students prepare for their coming school year and stay ‘sharp’ during their summer break?

“Our” girls attending school in Tucson go home to the White Mountain Apache Reservation in the summer. Especially the younger girls (but possibly the high school girls, too) would benefit from tutoring during those months off from school.

If you would be interested in volunteering for a week or more (an hour or two 2 or 3 days a week) this summer by tutoring one or more students, please let us know. We can provide study aids and curriculum materials, plus a place to meet with the students. You would need to provide your own accommodations in Pinetop/Lakeside or Show Low. Interested in more information?

Contact Lucy at Lucy@Manosdedios.org or 520-404-5045 (talk or text)



Possible work project in Puerto Peñasco??

Margarita and her disabled daughter, Alejandra (now 14 years old!), found that living next to drug addicts was not safe or healthy. They appealed to the team who built their house and they are now building a new home for them in a different neighborhood. She will have more room for a carport for her car and a small yard. We are tentatively planning to go visit them in Puerto Peñasco (Rocky Point, Sonora, Mexico) in May. Would anyone be interested in going for a couple days to do a work project at her newly built home? If so, contact Dennis at

Dennis@ManosdeDios.org or 520-245-2039

We are blessed to be a blessing!