

# Manos de Dios, Hands of God Ministries

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

## April 2013 Newsletter



### ***Riscilla and Jacy visit Tucson***

We spent a wonderful spring weekend in Tucson exploring options for schooling for Riscilla and Jacy. They loved Tucson and would like to go to school there. We attended an Open House at Pusch Ridge Christian Academy on the northwest side of Tucson. They also took some entrance exams. The students and staff at the school were very welcoming. Unfortunately, we were notified that the girls didn't score high enough academically to be enrolled at Pusch Ridge. We drove around town and visited with our friend



**Jacy and Riscilla**

Diane and her high school-aged daughter, Sonya. On Sunday we attended our home church, Calvary Christian Fellowship. The girls loved the Middle School worship service and were welcomed by our close friend, Katy (see photo to the right).

We all still feel that Tucson would be a

wonderful place for the girls. We are exploring options at Desert Christian School and continuing to ask God to guide us.

***Thank you for your prayers, ideas and contact ideas for families/homes for these girls while going to school next year.***

***Trusting in God... Lucy***



**Lucy, Riscilla and Jacy tour school campus in Tucson**

**"If My people, who belong to Me, humble themselves, pray, seek to please Me, and repudiate their sinful practices, then I will respond from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land."**

**2 Chronicles 7:14**



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## Are we to help a whole family??

***“Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of orphans. Fight for the rights of widows.” Isaiah 1:17***

My husband always says single moms and their kids are current day widows and orphans. God has placed us in this position of being dorm parents to be in relationship with six Apache girls AND their families. In most cases, these families are headed up by single moms and/or single grandmothers.

We have been praying fervently for Riscilla’s future, knowing she needs to choose a high school to attend next year. We are becoming more aware of the importance of helping her sister, Drelyn who also lives in our dorm. Drelyn will be entering 8th grade and has been hesitant to say she would like help finding a school to attend next year.

Laura (AICM Little Girls’ dorm parent) and I went to visit Drelyn and Riscilla’s mom, Stephanie, last week and we reviewed the school options for Drelyn. Not many are good. She could stay on the Whiteriver Reservation, living with her mom and little brother, and attend the local middle school (Canyon day Middle School). Mom and many others report the school is riddled with gangs, drugs, witchcraft, and alcohol. Then, there are Indian Boarding Schools scattered throughout the USA. Indians can attend free of charge and transportation is provided to and from the schools. Again, the reports are not good. Dormitory living is not sufficiently supervised and thus promiscuity is prevalent. Alcohol and drugs are abused by many. Most of all, there is little or no Christian influence on these campuses. Students are far from their families, churches and Christian friends. (The closest Indian boarding schools are in California, Oregon and Oklahoma.)

As we talked and prayed about Drelyn and Riscilla’s future schooling, Stephanie casually mentioned, “I would like to get away, too.” Wow! Laura and I looked at each other. I prayed silently. “Lord, where are You leading? Do you want this entire family (Riscilla, Drelyn, Nehemiah <in kindergarden>, and Stephanie to move away from this reservation?”



Drelyn, 12, looks very much like her mom. See Drelyn’s prayer card on back page.

In the course of the conversation we learned that Stephanie had worked in Phoenix as a dialysis technician and loved the medical field. She had to move back to the rez for family reasons and quit her job, but would love to work again in this field. She had not been able to get a job at the Whiteriver hospital or in Show Low because they use the same dialysis company she was employed by in Phoenix. (She understands that they will not re-hire an employee that has quit.)

We prayed with and for Stephanie and left the visit full of ideas and questions for the Lord. Laura quickly found a job opening on the internet for a dialysis patient care specialist in Tucson.

***Our prayer questions include:*** “Do You want this entire family to move and be together while the girls attend a good, safe, Christian school? How much do we do to help facilitate this, Lord? What about housing? Transportation? (They have a car in the carport, but it is not running.) ***Please, Lord show us YOUR plan for Stephanie, Drelyn, Riscilla and Nehemiah!***

***...Lucy***



Sisters, Riscilla and Drelyn at the AICM bus



## Work team comes from Tucson....by Dennis



“Serve and be Served” men’s team works at AICM. They cut down trees and prepared fire wood to be given to needy families next winter. They also repaired and painted buildings.



During one of our visits to Tucson this winter I was able to go to breakfast with my friends in the “Serve and be Served” men’s group that I use to attend. It is a group of men that get together for breakfast every week for fellowship. They help each other and also assist people and organizations in need. One of the guys mentioned they would like to come up to AICM and do a small work project, if possible.

Plans were made and the last weekend of April twelve guys from this “Serve and be Served” group were able to visit Lucy and me at AICM and do some maintenance projects at the facility. They did a great job of replacing fascia board on two buildings, painting the trim on two buildings and cutting down many pine trees, cutting the trees into stove-size pieces and then stacking them to cure. The wood is to be donated to people this coming winter.

There was also time for fellowship, eating meals together and going to our local church (The Church: [www.TheChurchAZ.org](http://www.TheChurchAZ.org)) together to worship our Lord. The guys loved our Pastor Ernie’s message!

There was only one small hitch. Rick’s truck blew a power steering line while dragging a tree. But Rick, “Mr. Fix-it” and “jack-of-all-trades”, promptly pulled out his tools and began taking the motor apart so he could replace the blown hoses. Thankfully, his truck was repaired and ready for the return trip to Tucson

Their visit was a blessing to the AICM school and to us personally. I really enjoyed the fellowship of grown men for a change. (I love the kids but after living with 6 young ladies and being around 30 kids 24 hours a day, I needed some adult male bonding. 😊)

*Thanks again guys, Dennis*

**This could be this team's theme verse.**

“But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10:43b-45 (ESV)

# ***Drelyn and Viscena enjoy Chris Tomlin concert!***

**...by Lucy**



***Drelyn and Viscena in Phoenix at dinner before concert.***



***Chris Tomlin!***

A few months ago, Dennis and I felt the need to be intentional about encouraging the girls to grow spiritually in the last part of this school year. We made a list of some things that signify spiritual growth and posted them on the wall. We began to cover these topics in our daily devotions and weekly “God time”. They include:

- Reading Bible on your own
- Asking spiritual questions
- Showing ‘fruit’ in your life such as love, joy, patience, kindness, and self-control
- Language and conversation reflecting loving Jesus
- Maturity in prayers
- Encouraging others

At about this same time, a work team came to AICM from a church in Lake City, Colorado. Almost the whole team works at Camp Redcloud ([www.CampRedcloud.org](http://www.CampRedcloud.org)) Christian Adventure Camp. As they described the camp we thought, “wouldn’t it be great if our students could go to this camp?” We talked with the team and they agreed. We all prayed about the possibility.

I decided to list ‘incentives’ to grow spiritually (according to our posted list). One was going to Camp Redcloud for a week and the other was attending a Chris Tomlin Concert in Phoenix. We asked the girls which they would like to ‘work’ toward. Drelyn and Viscena chose the Chris Tomlin concert and the other girls chose Camp Redcloud.

We are excited to share that all the girls are maturing in their spiritual walk and we are able to ‘award’ them the incentive of their choosing. May 1st Drelyn, Viscena and I traveled to Phoenix for the “Burning Lights” Concert featuring Kari Jobe and Chris Tomlin. We went out to dinner, attended the concert and stayed overnight in a motel! The concert was so awesome. The whole focus was worship of JESUS and we joined in! The girls took lots of pictures and enjoyed the whole experience of a live concert. Viscena said, “I cried” and “I didn’t want it to end”! Praise God! Spiritual growth rewarded...and encouraged all in the same event! It was a fun “girls’ get-away”!

By the way, Jacy, Riscilla and Nicole are fully funded (by sponsors and the Lake City church) to go to Camp Redcloud June 15-22. Dennis and I will be driving them to and from the camp. Thanks be to God for His provision and the desire to please HIM!



***Chris Tomlin and Kari Jobe in concert at Grand Canyon University***



***Girls do 'faith falls' and climb wall on obstacle course on campus***



***How many girls can fit on a single bunk bed??***



***Viscena enjoys a bike ride!***



# Dorm life

***...by Lucy***

The end of our school year is fast approaching. (The last day of AICM school is May 23rd. Eighth grade graduation is May 21st.) Dennis' and my days have been filled with the needs of six 10 to 13 year old girls! We have loved this experience God has given us as dorm parents. Living in this wonderful forest-camp/school location has drawn us close to God simply being in His beautiful creation 24-7. We are praising God for the challenges and the joys. The photos here give a sample of afternoon activities 'after school and homework have been completed' (plus our most recent 'God Time' teaching). We have enjoyed so many fun times! I have laughed so hard and cried with these precious six girls. It is nine months that I will never forget and will cherish forever. I love these girls more than I could ever imagine possible. We are thankful for all we have learned from these Apache girls about growing up and their culture. The favor we have with their families will open the door to future ministry on the reservation. Thank you, Lord! You are so good! Thank you for the gift of time with these six precious girls!

Lucy [Lucy@ManosdeDios.org](mailto:Lucy@ManosdeDios.org)

When I feel as if I've been 'slimed'! (ie: I feel discouraged, down, confused, fuzzy-brained, angry for no apparent reason, hopeless, etc)

## **A-B-C-D response**

**A-** Ask God what the lie is (that I am believing)

**B-** Break ties with the lie (any vows or agreements "in Jesus' name"; repent of any sin)

**C-** Confess the TRUTH that replaces the lie. Ask God for the truth that offsets (is opposite) the lie.

**D-** Declare your identity in Christ-who am I in Jesus?

**Amen...you are free!**





## Jacy and Riscilla feed Diane's turtle in Tucson

*Thank you for your  
prayers,  
encouragement and  
support!*

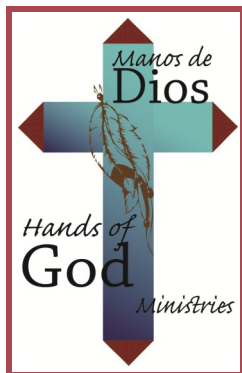
*Lucy and Dennis*

## Contact us:

520-404-5045 (Lucy voice or text)  
520-245-2039 (Dennis voice or text)  
GetInvolved@ManosdeDios.org

Address at AICM: 924 Mission Lane, Show Low, AZ 85901

Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to: Manos de Dios, NFP  
2914 N Indian Ruins Road, Tucson AZ 85715



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



**DRELYN,**  
age 12, is  
in 7th  
grade at American  
Indian Christian  
Mission (AICM) School



*Sharing the message of Jesus  
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northern Arizona and Mexico*

Phone: 520-404-5045

ManosdeDios.org  
GetInvolved@ManosdeDios.org

Drelyn is a good student and a hard worker. This beautiful young lady is an artist and dreams of being an interior designer or video game developer some day. Drelyn knows her Bible and often leads spiritual discussions and is always willing to pray. She is unsure where she wants to go to school and is feeling pulled by family and friends.

**Please pray that God will clearly direct where Drelyn is to attend 8th grade next year.** We trust that God will reveal HIS plan for the next step in Drelyn's life and guide her away from the evil, gangs and negative influence of the reservation.

## Prayer card for Drelyn

*Suggestion:  
copy, cut  
out, & place  
where you  
will be  
reminded to  
pray for  
Drelyn  
frequently.  
Thank you!*

(PS: email us for  
a copy of Riscilla  
and Jacy's prayer  
cards, too)