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"Serving one another in love" — Galatians 5:13

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A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS!

"HOKA HEY, IT'S CAMP TIME!"

"Hoka hey" is a Dakota language phrase that means, "charge forward", or "give it your all". Well, that is certainly the mode that we are in at this point of the early summer. Cantemawaste Youth Camps are in full swing and this is one busy place day in and day out!

The camp activities focus on the concepts that we are loved by God, children of God, and can know God through Jesus Christ. Camp is where the youth of the community get to be with people that personify God's love and Jesus Christ. It is life changing, not just for the youth, but even for those that are serving at camp. Thank you to everyone that makes this special time possible.

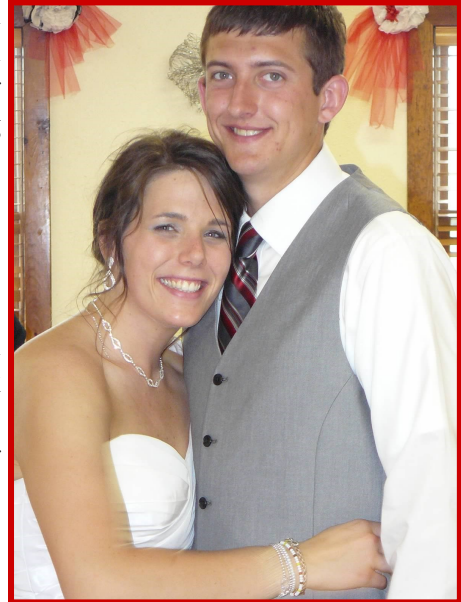
As the old saying goes, "A picture is worth a thousand words.", so here are a few photographs that capture the joy of Christ as experienced at camp.



A Wedding— Congratulations Aaron and Cricket!

The ministry's main building, the Ikce Oyate Christian Center, is a very busy place. The Cantemawaste Youth Camps keep things hopping. However all the other activities continue on as well. One of the more exciting things that takes place are weddings.

One special wedding that took place on June 7th was the ceremony uniting Aaron Vaughn and Melinda “Cricket” Perry. They first met seven years ago when Melinda, whom was promptly renamed “Cricket” by the youth here, came to Diamond Willow Ministries with a work group to serve the youth of the reservation for a week. Cricket later ministered onsite at Diamond Willow for two summers while attending Ozark Christian College. Upon graduation in 2012, she began working as the Children’s Minister at First Christian Church in Carthage, MO.



Cricket and Aaron, all smiles.

Aaron, being the son of two of the ministry’s founders, has grown and served within the ministry from the beginning. Once Aaron completed his education with a degree in Organizational Leadership (Thomas Edison State College) and a certificate in Biblical Leadership (Manhattan Christian College), he didn’t wait long to ask for Cricket’s hand in marriage.

Aaron and Cricket share a great love for God and desire to serve Him together. We are very excited to have them onsite helping with the Cantemawaste Youth Camps this summer.



Aaron, Terrance Fox, and Cricket enjoying time together.

At the end of the summer, they will move to Katy, TX for eight months where Aaron will be in a residency program at Current, A Christian Church. Upon completion of this special time of training and serving in the church there, he and Cricket will move back to Diamond Willow Ministries to begin serving permanently at the ministry here! What a blessing it will be to have them onsite. They will help with all aspects of the ministry, but will focus on discipling and training up the youth.

In order for them to serve on the reservation, they need your assistance, both in prayer and support. Monthly support is being sought to assist with salary funds for when Aaron joins the ministry fulltime. To stay in touch with Aaron and Cricket, visit their Facebook page, “To Infinity with the Vaughns”. Please contact DWM for more information regarding how you can support them. Above all else though, please pray for them on this journey.

Mato Family Center Update

As announced in the last newsletter, the need for more ministry space resulted in the decision to refurbish the horse barn into a multi-purpose **Mato Family Center**. The transformation is well under way now and the facility is already getting much use during camp even amidst the construction.

Once camps are over and the youth are back in school, work will begin in earnest to complete the facility prior to winter's arrival. Thank you to the many that are supporting this project as volunteers and financially. A few skilled carpenters are still needed to assist with this project this fall. If interested, please contact DWM.



The Mato Family Center is already filled to capacity on many days. Smiles and joy abound in the “old barn” as youth enjoy the many activities in the Mato Family Center.

God's Beauty and Might Reflected in His Creation

The natural beauty of the Crow Creek Sioux Reservation is often a great surprise to those that are onsite for the first time. Here are two photos taken this June by “Oklahoma Larry” Suazo who volunteers his summers working at the ministry. Due to abundant spring rains, brilliant yellow sweet clover is in full bloom, painting the prairie yellow. Spring storm clouds form above the basketball court in front of DWM's Ikce Oyate Christian Center.



Psalms 19:1

The heavens declare the glory of God:
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.



Prayer Points

- ♦ For a mechanic to come onsite to help with vehicle maintenance and repair.
- ♦ Praise God that the Cantemawaste Youth Camps are being so well attended (two to five times more kids per camp than last year!) and that God's message of hope is being proclaimed.
- ♦ Financial support for Aaron Vaughn as he prepares for fulltime ministry work at DWM.
- ♦ Praise God for wonderful construction progress on the Mato Family Center!
- ♦ Churches and families to regularly financially support the ministry due to the ever increasing number of families and youth with needs coming to DWM.
- ♦ Praise God for the support received so that the youth are able to attend Camp NebWyoDak.
- ♦ Many of the older youth that are regulars at DWM and are now at critical crossroads in life regarding their futures.

Cantemawaste

“Cante” (pronounced chun-tay) is the Dakota language word that refers to one’s heart. “Waste” is the Dakota language word (pronounced wash-tay), that refers to something good. So together the phrase Cantemawaste, as in Cantemawaste Youth Camp, refers to having something good in your heart.

As Christians, we know that it even goes beyond having some “thing” good in your heart, but having some one in your heart, Jesus Christ, who gives true peace, hope, comfort and goodness. It is this inner peace that shines through on people’s faces as the hope of Jesus Christ takes root on the inside.

Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness, prayers, and support of Diamond Willow. Your generosity, as you allow God to work through you, is such a blessing to so many youth and families here on the Crow Creek Sioux Reservation.



“Lord, I trust in your unfailing love; My heart rejoices in your salvation.” Psalm 13:5

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