The students were entertained and spoken to by four brothers, who are the sons of AICM’s Bible Teacher, Willie John. The brothers have all attended school at AICM and lived in the dorms in the past. They shared several songs Wednesday and Thursday nights as well as wrapping up the week in our Friday chapel service. Many of the students enjoyed hanging out with the men and their families.

Spiritual Emphasis Week was the first week of April. The staff put together a VBS program called “Paul and the Underground Church.” We were joined by a group from Tomoka Christian Church in Florida. The group helped with singing and drama. The whole program was a huge success. Each student was given a chance to see what life was like in Bible times. The morning consisted of shopping in the marketplace buying food and crafts. There was also a game time where students took turns riding in cardboard chariots pulled by our finest horses (older boys). The students visited Paul while he was in prison and then visited the underground church.

Leo Nez graduated on May 20th, 2009. Leo has been part of the mission since Preschool. He has been a part of our student work program and has many friends among both students and staff. Leo is known of by AICM’s supporting members nationwide. Many friends and family came to join this celebration.
has a way of providing the “loaves and fish” when we in our human minds wonder how we are going to survive. But you the prayer partner, the supporter, the encourager, the intercessor, and the friend, have come alongside of our children and staff and have answered the call. You have traveled this journey with us for many years, and we look forward to many more years of service with you. We at the “mission” have had to get our house in order and begin to be more fiscally responsible. In doing that, we made many cuts in our day to day operations. At no time have any of those cuts been detrimental to our children. We have also had to make decisions that were extremely hard but felt it was God that was driving. You see, we as a mission are asking God to order our steps. We are asking Him, the God that provides, and ordains, to drive this ministry where He wants it, not where man wants it. In doing that, our future is looking brighter and brighter.

Starting in August 2009, we will be temporarily shutting down our high school for financial reasons. We are not in a position to have a fully operational high school. In making that decision, we will still be bringing the high school students on campus each week, but taking them to Show Low Public School each day. This plan will enable our high school kids to experience many extra-curricular activities that we can’t provide for them. One program we are all really excited about is the Navit Program Show Low offers. This program will give our students an opportunity to acquire skills that they can take to the reservation and begin to make a better life for themselves and their families. These courses include welding, nursing, and nail technician. Also, a qualifying student can receive their Associates degree while attending high school. They will also be receiving Bible training in the dorms with their house parents. The parents of each of our high school students are thrilled about this and have wanted something like this for some time now. The students have been to Show Low High School for an orientation and are excited about the opportunities that await them.

As a minister of the Gospel, and as a Pastor of this flock, I have an obligation to make sure that the spiritual welfare of each person here on campus is taken care of. I have the duty of protecting the staff and the children that God has blessed us with regardless of what the enemy is trying to do. Whether it’s through random websites that are out there, or demeaning letters discrediting the integrity and credibility of staff and even supporters, our children are being damaged by ungodly circumstances. We have a work to do that is far greater than those things. You as a supporter have a tremendous amount to be thankful for in regards to the AICM. Forty years of service to the King and winning souls for Christ is no small thing. I anticipate forty more years as we strive and continue to raise the bar and focus on Kingdom work not man’s work.

We are not done!! I firmly believe that God is calling us to do some great things in the real near future. God is calling us to effectively Evangelize and Equip Native Americans, something that we have strayed from. It is my belief that God equips those whom He calls and anoints those He appoints. I will be rolling out a new vision for the AICM this summer and I absolutely believe that it will change the way we look at ministry here at the AICM. This vision will encompass many facets of this ministry. I believe that if we are going to follow the work and word of the LORD, then we need to indeed be focusing on ministry and ministering. God has strategically been placing people in place,
including you, to carry the torch and fulfill the desires that He has for this ministry. It is going to take work from you and from the staff here.

I am fully aware of the financial atmosphere of our present time. Even though money is tight, I continue to stick to my statement that, “if a ministry honors God, then God will honor that ministry.” I believe that with my whole heart. First and foremost, please continue to pray for us. We as a mission need prayer more than anything else. Stand alongside of us as we honor God together! Secondly, please prayerfully consider your financial giving and if you can give more, the ministry and children would greatly appreciate it. We are in trying times, but we have a much bigger God.

I will never waiver from serving the LORD and ministering to His children, great and small. So I ask you, will you as a supporter continue to stand alongside of us and serve with us? Will you continue to pray and give of your blessing so the work and blessings can go forth from here? Friend, God is working and He is working through you to make this a place of rest and growth for these children who cannot seem to find rest and growth elsewhere. Will you continue to partner with us as we go into the future and Evangelize and Equip? Tell your neighbors and their neighbors. Tell your family and friends of the wonderful place that God has ordained and set apart. Tell them of the wonderful works of the LORD and what He is doing at the American Indian Christian Mission.

Psalms 96 says… “Sing a new song to the LORD! Let the whole earth sing to the LORD! Sing to the LORD; praise his name. Each day proclaim the good news that he saves. Publish his glorious deeds among the nations. Tell everyone about the amazing things he does.” Sing this song with us. Travel with us on this road and let’s let God work in a way that only He can. The choice is ours. The choice is yours. Are you ready to sing?

Serving His Kids,
Patrick Lester
Executive Director

ACC - BLUE BUS MINISTRY
We are getting busy with ministry teams coming to help with the bus ministry. The kids are excited to see these teams because that means they have more than Sherry & I to play with! These kids love to play and it seems we are making progress. We see kids sharing without being told to do so and they even play nice sometimes. Many of the kids have answers to questions that are asked instead of being lead to the answer. This is a great ministry and God is blessing it in a mighty way. We believe God blesses those who bless Him! Keep praying for us prayer warriors!

Gene and Sherry Brenneman
Apache Christian Connection

FINANCIAL REPORT
As each day passes, I see how your support is extremely important and is keeping us in operation and that is greatly appreciated on a daily basis.

As I am sure you can understand, the economic status is affecting us as it is everywhere. Please keep our finances in prayer as we strive to build up our high school program, and increase staffing for a successful program. We need to improve salaries, and continue to supply the basic needs, while we seek God’s direction for our future.

I truly believe as we strive to honor God in all we do and say that He will bless us in mighty ways and also through you, our supporters.

Thank you with all sincerity,
Sherry Brenneman
Business Manager
Apache Christian Connection
KITCHEN

Whether rising early or working into the evening, the AICM kitchen staff remains busy. Mr. Peterson and Mr. Nez are busy making morning coffee while most folks are still in bed. The evening shift will be finishing up when most folks have already settled down for the evening. Despite unusual hours the staff is ready to serve with a smile. Stop in for a visit when your church or group is in the neighborhood and we’ll keep the coffee on for you.

Staff: Ronald Peterson, Leo Nez, Jackie Nez, Rhonda Hendrix, Zella Peterson, and Patt Etsitty.

Thank you and God Bless,
Marty Etsitty,
AICM Kitchen Supervisor

SCHOOL

Greetings from the Principal,

Our school year is fast coming to an end and we have much to celebrate! I watched the children become avid readers and writers. I have seen them participate in discussions and become actively involved in their learning.

We have exciting news about our high school! Our high school students who are entering or are in high school will be attending Show Low High School. After much deliberation, we realized we could not offer the high school students all the necessary subjects required to prepare them for continuing education. We had meetings with both parents and students explaining that at Show Low High students will be able to take all the proper courses for college. They were just as excited as us! Not only will the students get a diploma they will also be able to graduate with an Associate’s Degree from Northland Pioneer College in such areas as nursing, welding, cosmetology, auto mechanics and many others. They will get to meet and make friends in a culturally diverse student body.

I am sure you are wondering how this is going to work! The students will live here on campus and the house parents will bring them to school and pick them up. They will go to students’ games, help with homework, provide bible studies and the emotional support needed during these high school years.

On March 25, 2009, all the eighth and high school students went to an orientation at Show Low High. They got to visit classes, talk to teachers, have a tour of the building and sign up for sports. They had an awesome time and are very excited about going.

I wish all of you a great summer experience. Thanks for your continued support through out the year. May the Lords face shine upon you and His peace be within you. God is blessing all of you.

Sincerely,
Karen Slack
Principal
STUDENT LIFE AT AICM

We have been evaluating our ministry needs and the expected enrollment of next year making adjustments to better care for student needs. The biggest change that will be occurring is a house swap with the boys and the little girls. In looking at the numbers, we have fewer boys with a smaller age span than our girls, making sense to combine the boys in one house. On the flip side of that we have more girls at a broader age range, encouraging a need to further divide the girls in order to better meet their needs at different levels of maturity. We will split our largest dorm between the 1st-4th grade girls and the 5th-8th grade girls. The High School girls will remain in their current home. This change will help us to better equip our kids with age specific devotions, life skills and character lessons. We will be repainting the houses and replacing flooring as needed. If you would like to help make our student homes nicer a donation of cash or gift cards would be welcome.

Brennae Lewing
Director of Student Ministries

WHAT ARE THE STUDENTS SAYING ABOUT GOING TO SHOW LOW HIGH SCHOOL NEXT YEAR?

I am excited about High School next year because there are more opportunities to meet new people, new classes, and more educational classes.

I was so excited when I heard about going to Show Low High School next year. I will get to see some of my old friends, play basketball, and get a good education.

I am very excited about the career training that Show Low High School has available. These classes will prepare me for the future. They also have sports, and I will get to see more people. I am excited about the education and the chance to learn things I never learned before. AICM is okay, but this will be better!

I am excited to go to Show Low because of the NAVIT program, the education, and the variety of classes. There will be more students and I will get to meet more people.

What I like about Show Low High School is that it has a bigger choice of classes to choose from. These classes will help with my future. It also helps out with life and to choose a perfect college.

What I like about going to Show Low High School is that it opens up a great opportunity for college. It helps with experiencing a real High School. I will get to meet new people.
PRINCESS PALACE (Little Girls)

Greetings from the Princess Palace, 

As summer approaches quickly the girls start talking about what they are going to do. Some are going to the zoo and some can’t wait to ride in upcoming rodeos. A lot of them always mention what I will probably do myself; just sleep in. Over all they are happy, excited, and ready for break. They deserve every day of it. All of them have done so well in school, making a great improvement in their studies. We are also proud of how clean they have kept the dorm, on which we have gotten quite a few comments from visiting mission teams. If that is not enough to be impressed about, they all stood up in chapel and said Romans 15:1-4 from memory without a problem. God is surely good and the Palace is doing great!

God Bless, 

Donald and Chrissy Dameron

HOPE HOUSE (Older Girls)

Psalms 147:11 “Our hope is in His unfailing love.”

It has been a busy school year for us here at AICM. We have had lots of sporting events, activities, and fun. The nice weather has allowed us to spend more time outside, including swimming which is great. Our girls have been very active in chapel services with singing and memory verses.

Each of the girls has developed their own bag of coping skills and ideas. We hope to see the girls using them and coming up with new ones that will work for them. If you don’t know what a good coping skill is, ask one of them.

We are excited that most likely all of our girls will be returning next year! We look forward to continuing to watch them grow in so many different ways. We hope you continue to pray for us. If you have any questions or would like to help grow our ministry in any way, please call our house at 1-928-537-8487.

The Hergenrathers
Joe, Rachel, Cole and Brooke

LITTLE EAGLES

We had some people come to visit from Kansas City. While they were here, we went for a walk and found snow and had a snow ball fight. The weather is getting warmer and we are playing outside more.

The boys participated in Spiritual Emphasis Week here at school. They got to be part of many fun activities while visiting Paul and the underground church.

We had Family Style Dinners about once a month and ended with a trip to a restaurant. The boys learned where the napkins go and what silverware to use.

Grandma (Margaret)

BIG EAGLES

Aspire to Greatness! We have been working on the idea of greatness. The boys are challenged to set their sights high; that it does not matter what roads they take to get to their goals, it matters that they reach those goals.

This month we will be focusing on the journey. The roads that we take to get to our goals are adventures and valuable experiences in and of themselves. The journey is crucial to growth.

Jenny
**OTHER NEWS**

Recently, it has come to our attention that AICM supporters and churches have been receiving unsolicited letters, emails and postcards from an unknown source. These correspondences are encouraging the reader to visit a particular website. AICM first learned about this website from supporters and churches that said they were not going to participate in such actions.

We are writing this to update you on how we as a ministry are responding to the false and misleading information that continues to be spread about the American Indian Christian Mission. We want to assure you that many of the accusations found at the offending website are fundamentally false. Indeed, the abusive website is merely a repackaging of old, discredited material. We can assure you that this stuff is divisive and very destructive. If you have questions, please call Patrick Lester, Executive Director and he will be glad to answer any questions that you might have. We, as a mission, have moved on many months ago and we have a ministry to provide to our children. Thank you for your continued prayers and support as together we walk through this time of ministry together.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

We have been blessed with the facilities that you have helped build and provide. But, these facilities are now in dire need of repairs, especially the dorms for our students. Due to the financial constraints that we have experienced and are still undergoing; we are asking you, the supporter for assistance. It will take approximately $50,000 to complete various repairs. If you would like to contribute towards this project, please prayerfully consider what you can give and identify your contribution towards this needed project. If you have questions in regards to your funding, please contact our Business Manager Sherry Brenneman at 928-537-5912.
OFFICE

We want to thank all of the people that have taken the time to collect and send in labels and box tops. These labels and box tops are used to help purchase much needed items for the school. In March, we turned in $1970.90 worth of labels and box tops. Our goal for the year is $3500 and we hope to continue to try to meet this goal. We had a contest between the classes that ran for the month of February. Two classes tied and both will be receiving a pizza party.

These points will be used to help us purchase a new van.
It takes 1,600,000 points to buy a new van.
We have 619,000 total points right now.

This is a very easy program to get involved in.
Just cut out the box tops from General Mills products and labels from Campbell’s soup and send them to us at:

American Indian Christian Mission
924 Mission Ln #1
Show Low, AZ 85901

Other Items of need:
Medical supplies to replenish our nurses office.
Gift cards
Sporting Equipment for P.E. and Athletics.

CONGRATULATIONS LEO!
CLASS OF 2009