

OVERCOMERS PROGRAM
"GIVING FLIGHT TO THE NATIVE AMERICAN SPIRIT . . . ONE FAMILY AT A TIME"

The Gooder News

H0zh= — walking thru life with harmony

You may be asking yourself why I chose the word *Hozho* to start this newsletter. In the short time we have been out here this is one of the Navajo words that has struck a nerve in me. In short it means to walk in harmony, but it encompasses so much more. The word paints a picture of what Christianity is all about, to walk in harmony with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ (Yeshua). The Bible tells us that, because of sin, we all walk in darkness and disharmony, apart from God. Only Jesus can restore us to God the Father's heavenly Hozho.

This is what the program is all about. We strive to lead the men back to Jesus, and Hozho. We offer them a way to overcome that which has bound them for so long. It is not just clinical but a holistic approach. We offer them a safe and family like environment to overcome their addictions. We can not make the decisions for them, but hope and pray that the seed we plant will give them the strength to make the right choices once they leave.

We have just finished another session and three of the five

men that started with us graduated. They are Terrell (front), Johnny, and Brian. It was both a joy, to see them



make it, and sadness to see them go. In the 12 weeks of the program we all became family and it was hard to see that come to an end.

We started every morning with praise and worship around the drum, and that is where the word gooder came about. We got gooder and gooder playing and singing as the weeks went by. We ate and played together and enjoyed seeing the changes that God made in these three. Pray that they continue to grow and that God continues to strengthen them on their journey.

The program did not go on without its problems. As I said we started with five but lost two along the way, Aldine and Trevor. I ask that you continue to pray that the seed that was planted, in them, will grow and that God will make Himself real to them. It was hard to see them go, but trust God will finish that which He started.

Thanks go out to all who helped this term. Duane & Diane Bristow, Mission Directors, and Duane for his teaching. Bill & Melvine, Bill for his teaching and Melvine for her help wherever needed. Teachers Sylvia, James, Norma, Ben & Eunice, & Dave. For all who prayed for us in the program. And special thanks for our home coordinators, Earl & Joan Wolgemuth, and Al & Marilyn Hoover, for without them we would not have had the family atmosphere.

Pray that God will continue to bless all the volunteers and the program.

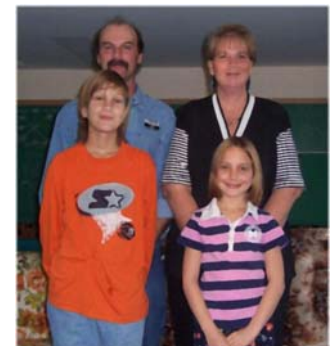
Thanks,

Ralph & Bonnie
Yoder
Program Managers

Meet The Yoder's

Ralph, Bonnie (Smucker), Josh and Kayla come to the Program from New Paris, IN where they were a very active part of the Nappanee BIC Congregation. Ralph worked for Newmar Corp., taught in the church and was involved in Network For Life, a prison ministry, in Goshen. Bonnie worked for Fairfield School Corp., was involved in many aspects of the church and is a Home-maker. After visiting last Decem-

ber they felt a call on their hearts from God to come join the ministry. They moved here in August of this year to eventually become Program Directors. Ralph will take care of the hands on working with the men, teaching and running the Program. Bonnie will take care of the administrative end, and in any other areas where she is needed. Josh (11) and Kayla (8) attend the Nizhoni Christian Academy here on the Mission, and are doing well academically.



The Yoder's: Joshua, Kayla, Bonnie, & Ralph

Navajo BIC Overcomers

"Giving Flight
To the Native American Spirit
... One Family At a Time"

240 NM 57
Bloomfield, New Mexico
87413
Phone: 505-632-1212
Email:
overcomers@navajobic.org
<http://www.navajobic.org>

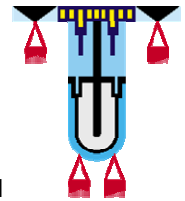
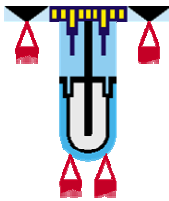
Phone: 632-1212 ext. 261
Ralph's Cell: 505-716-8726
Bonnie's Cell: 505-716-8727
Email:
yoders@navajobic.org

Home living coordinators needed

We are in need of two couples to be home living coordinators for the next session. If you or anyone you know might be interested please give us a call or send us an email. We will send out any information concerning the positions. Thank you.



Yoder Family News



We will be combining the Yoder Newsletter with the Overcomer Newsletter, so please bear with us as we go through changes and trial and error. We feel right at home here in New Mexico and feel we are adjusting to all the changes that have come our way. It's hard to believe that our first Program is over already. There were some definite bumps along the way, but we feel God was able to use us and we have learned and grown through the process. Josh and Kayla seem to be settling in and adjusting well to the new school, home and area. They are continuing to grow and mature each day. We had Thanksgiving here with Duane and Diane, and it was a nice quiet day. We are gearing up to start getting together all the Love Gifts that are given out each year, and that can be quite a big project. I am "holding the fort down" in the office until Diane is released to return to work. Ralph is doing some things around the house and the Overcomers' building that need to be done. We are getting new applications in for the Feb. 27th Program, and Duane and Ralph will begin the interview process for that very soon. We are so thankful for all of you who support us with prayer, finances, letters, e-mails, visits and phone calls. We need all of you behind us and the Program as we continue to minister to those in need. Just a quick note for those who are sending support to us personally. Please make sure your checks are made out to: Overcomers Program, with Yoder Support in the memo area of the check, as our living expenses come entirely from the support of others. It makes the book-keeping end of it much easier for Diane and I. Newell and Karen Clouse from Nappanee were out to visit us, and what a wonderful time we had. Some of our family and friends are planning to come out over the spring and summer months. We love to have company, and we can always find something for you to do or see, so stop in and see us soon.

Prayer Requests and Praises

1. For Terrell, Johnny, and Brian that they will continue to rely on God's strength to get them through the day.
2. For the program. That God will continue to bring the necessary volunteers and funds needed to keep the program running.
3. Ask God to prepare the hearts and minds, of those who come next, to receive gladly the Word we have to offer.
4. That God continues to give strength, unity and comfort to the overcomer staff.
5. That we (the Yoder's) continue to grow and adjust as God leads us.
6. We give God the praise for all that He has already done and shown us.
7. Wisdom and direction as we look at areas where we can change and improve the program.

As in all things God is the orchestrator and deserves all the praise, but He also chooses to work through His creation. We would like to give thanks to all who have given generously to the Overcomers Program and to us personally, for the program runs entirely off the donations of others. We encourage you to give first to your home church as we all are asked to do, but, if you still feel led to contribute send it to the address above. You can designate the funds for the program or for Yoder support, we must raise our own support. Again we give thanks for your support and ask that God returns to you a hundred fold that which you have given.



Overcomer Program Needs

Through the course of time needs arise or we find things that can improve the program. If you feel that you can help us with any of these please let us know. Thank you.

1. 2 washing machines—the 2 we had broke down this session and is a pressing need for the next session.
2. Books for library.
3. Board games.
4. Wood craft materials.
5. 2 base cabinets & counter.
6. Window treatments.
7. Ping pong paddles - 4
8. Paint for interior walls.
9. Small scroll saw.
10. Materials for wall in rec. room & stair-

