

Joshua 1:9
Be strong and of good courage, be not dismayed for the Lord your God is with you . . .
. . . wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9 “Be strong and of good courage, be not dismayed for the Lord your God is with you ...”

We are looking forward to what God is going to do at Sun Valley Indian School in 2010.

We praise God that the students are growing in their knowledge and understanding of the Gospel. Because we have a strong core of second and third year students, the focus on discipleship has developed into weekly one-on-one study with staff members in the evening. Added to youth group, regular scripture memory work and Bible Class, the students have opportunity to learn about Jesus at the level of their commitment. It has had a good influence campus wide on problem solving and a positive environment.

Our excitement grows as we watch God bring activities and learning to us that is innovative. In the past He has brought things as big as horses and as small as a ticket to Orlando. So what is in the plan for our students in 2010? We got a request from New York to visit and share our ministry. Staff reaction was, “How could we do that?” However, the students reaction was, “When are we going?” and “Can we see the Statue of Liberty?” They don’t seem to know that there is an economic slump or how far away New York is! So please add a New York trip and a work trip to an orphanage in Mexico to your prayer list for us. These would benefit our students by enlarging their world and giving them opportunity to minister to others.

We desire to be strong in His Spirit as we walk each day into a dorm or classroom where learning can be a struggle, respect is sometimes lacking, and order is a challenge. We know that the phrase “Be strong and of good courage” appears as a command frequently to people in the Bible. We also know that it applies to us, here and now, at Sun Valley. We desire to grasp its meaning in a new way as we walk through this year.

Joshua 1:9 ends with “...wherever you go.” So may we see some of you this year as you serve on work and witness teams or vacation in this part of the country.

Blessings. Mardell



Keenan



Spotlight on Students



Lisa

Keenan Bert, 5th grade, 11 years old. Lives in Hard Rock on the Navajo Reservation with his mom and dad, 3 sisters, 4 brothers, 1 dog and a horse. Likes to play with cars, magnetics, video games.

Lisa Chavez, 8th grade, 14 years old. Lives in Sun Valley. Likes to play sports; favorite subject is music. “I was interested in the Lord Jesus. I heard this was a Christian school. I wanted to change my ways.”



Cheyenne

Cheyenne Charette, 6th grade, 11 years old. Lives in Kirkland, NM. Lives with Mom, Dad, 1 sister, 2 turtles, 1 dog, 11 cats and 10 fish. Likes art. Likes to play sports, watch TV.



Marcal

Marcal Cody, 7th grade, 13 years old. Lives in Winslow AZ with Mom, Dad, 2 sisters, 3 brothers. Likes skateboarding and drawing.



Love is in the Air



Excitement ran high on campus as our students recently attended and participated in two staff weddings.



On November 20, 2009, school administrator, Mardell Shumate, and Benjamin Knowles, Maintenance, exchanged wedding vows. Ben and Mardell were married in Phoenix. Former SVIS chaplain, Diana Elliott, officiated. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Knowles!

Brian Fries, teacher and Student Life Director, and Jessica Pruitt, Student Life Assistant, pledged their love to each other on December 18, 2009. Their wedding took place in the campus chapel. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Fries!



See the current [SPECIAL NEEDS LIST](http://www.indianschool.org) on our website: www.indianschool.org



CHRISTMAS AT SVIS

An air of excitement and anticipation was felt throughout the dining hall the morning of the **2009 Student Christmas Party**.

As soon as breakfast was over, everyone gathered around the Christmas tree, looking longingly at the many gifts. The older boys had the fun of handing out each child's stocking and presents. Staff and students reflected on the true gift of Christmas, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Thank you to all who helped make this a special Christmas for the students!**



Contact Us

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We are entirely funded by our faithful friends and sponsors. If you would like to donate, here are some ways to help:

- Faithful 5,000 (\$10/month)**
- Regular Donation (any amount)**
- Child Sponsorship (\$50/month)**
(email Linda.Stephan@indianschool.org)
- Work and Witness**
(email Fred.Turner@indianschool.org)

All gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Please make checks payable to:
Native American Ministries or Sun Valley Indian School – or you may donate online at: www.indianschool.org

Finance Report:
Sponsorship giving in 2009 was 67,448 (6,590 decrease from 2008) 90,000 is needed
Donations given in 2009 were 271,687 (3,000 less than 2008)
Faithful 5000 giving in 2009 was 19,109 (208 Increase above 2008)
Total income 2009: 433,239
 (29,196 down from 2008) 750,000 needed for operations.
Special giving in 2009: 32,291 (in 2008: 196,250)
Total expenses 2009: 681,148
 (we were able to cut back expenses 13,361 below 2008)

We praise the Lord for His provision not only in funding but for a staff that is willing to do all possible to keep costs down and ministry up, even sometimes at their own expense. The large gift in 2008 carried us through 2009. We are truly grateful for each one who gives what they can to continue sharing the love of Jesus with the Native American children.

Remember to save your



labels for SVIS. Go to labelsforeducation.com for a list of eligible products.

Don't forget to check boxes and containers for **Box Tops for Education**. Go to www.boxtops4education.com for a list of participating products.



Weekly Discipleship a Focus This Year

One of the goals for the school this year has been to have a discipleship program for students who have been baptized, profess a belief in Christ, or are interested in becoming a follower of Jesus. The goals of the discipleship program are: (1) that we will teach the students about Jesus; (2) that there will be some relational activity apart from the study time — example: weight lifting, painting nails, fixing bikes, facials, etc.; (3) that the discipler and disciple

will work through the curriculum provided over the course of the school year. Thursday evening after study hall is a free evening for the students, so disciplers have set this time aside to meet with their disciples. Please pray for the students and staff as they study, pray and play together.

