

The Lawrence Family
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Our Journey Journal

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A big “hello” from the Lawrence family! As we begin a New Year, we are also beginning a new life journey! As God’s timing is always perfect, Linda and I have joined the staff of Arizona Reservation Ministries (ARM).

What is ARM?

Arizona Reservation Ministries is a non-profit Christian organization based out of Globe, Arizona and the San Carlos Apache Reservation. Focused on providing ‘God’s ARMs around the Reservation,’ ARM exists to make disciples, empowering our Native brothers and sisters to meet the physical and spiritual needs of their community, motivating them to become active members of local, Bible-based churches. They accomplish this in several ways. One of which is through the “Church Bus” ARM’s Children’s and Youth Ministries. This mobile ministry center, a renovated bus, reaches an average of 200 on a weekly basis with the Lord’s message of Hope through Bible lessons, games, crafts, snacks and hugs. The Church Bus visits several communities on a weekly basis, rotating to different neighborhoods four afternoons each week. Linda has had the privilege of volunteering with this ministry one day a week for over 2 ½ years.

Another area of service through ARM is home-building. There are many families on the San Carlos Apache Reservation without adequate housing. Today, over 1,400 families are in need of a home on this Reservation. Families live in very tight quarters with 20 or more living in a 1,200 or less, square foot home, or living simply

under tarps and plywood. I will be an active part of this ministry, allowing me to teach about, and lead them to, a relationship with Christ as their home is being created.

About Us

As all good things come from God, Linda and I celebrated our eighth wedding anniversary this past September.



We have also been blessed with four precious children. We have three intriguing daughters, Jasmine (6), Andi (4) and Morgan (2), and a bouncing baby boy, Edward who just turned one. Before joining ARM staff, Linda has been blessed to be a stay at home mom, as I had been employed at our local Wal-Mart.

After being married only mere months our interest with ARM brought us to move from our home in Mesa, AZ to the small town of Globe, AZ. Since our move, God has certainly been grooming us to be able to serve Him to our fullest capabilities. We have both witnessed and endured Satan’s attacks and God’s unfailing faithfulness. We have also been witness to God’s providing and leading through ARM. *We are confident that God’s calling is to serve at this time.*

Children's Bus Ministry



For nearly three years, Linda has been volunteering

Thursday afternoons on ARM's mobile ministry center, having the privilege of taking our children with her usually alternating two at a time. She has been truly touched by so many of the children in attendance. Some of which we have had the gift of watching as they've grown into young adulthood, since meeting them before we were even married. These include fellow members of ARM staff as well as two teenage girls that call Linda "Mom".

It has been truly amazing to "just know" when God is telling you to reach out to someone specific. One day a boy, almost taller than Linda, came onto the bus looking sad. He held his head down and did not say much. She could not help the feeling that she should offer him a hug and a prayer. He looked up, smiled and said that he would like both! Ever since then, he has come regularly to the bus with a big smile and has regular conversations with her.

One girl has been a special part of Linda's life since before our marriage in 2004. We would travel to Globe to help on the Church Bus. This girl was old beyond her years even then. When her mother moved to live with another man, and eventually have two brothers for this young girl, she

chose to stay on the Reservation so that she would help her grandmother by mothering her younger cousins, even though she was only six years old. Over the years, Toni has enthusiastically brought craft books to her Church Bus to share craft ideas. Toni's commitment to Christ and her willingness to stand for Him amidst great difficulties reveals how strong this emerging woman is. Linda has been mentoring her for a long time. This past spring, she bounced onto the Church Bus with something in hand. It



was her report card. Well, actually, a copy of her report card that she herself had made for Linda, her "second mom".

One winter, a Children's Minister from Tennessee set in motion Toni's desire to one day also serve as a Children's Minister herself through ARM.

Another girl, of no more than fourteen years of age, has spent time in jail twice. She lives among violence both at school and at home. As a result of not knowing how to express herself, her actions led to this consequence. It has been Linda who receives texts, heart-to-heart conversations, and has been the one (although still simply an ARM volunteer) who has been able to fan Hope back into her heart.

How can you help?

As ARM is a non-profit 501-c-3 corporation, it is their desire that all staff members receive outside support through faithful givers; to have partners who will come alongside them personally with both financial gifts and through prayer. Linda and I ask that you prayerfully consider how you might be of assistance to us as **both** are necessary to further God's Kingdom. Not only do we ask for your prayers on our behalf, but for those mentioned above and so many more.

How can you become a partner with us in this great journey?



We need you to pray for us: for our marriage, our children, our health and our finances. It is apparent that Satan is not pleased with thirteen children, an ARM intern and an Apache Elder choosing to obey Christ through Christian baptism, this past year. Lord willing, as we are able to serve full-time, many more will come to choose God's greatest gift! Your financial gifts can be sent in care of Arizona Reservation Ministries with an attached note clarifying that your tax-deductible donation is intended for support to our family. A letter will then be sent to you acknowledging receipt, and telling you a little about what is currently unfolding here at ARM. Save these letters as they serve as your receipt for tax purposes. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you!

We are excited, humbled, and above all ready to serve our Lord through full-time ministry! Thank you for taking time to read about our decision to start this new journey! Again, we ask that you keep us in your prayers as this new life begins.

Love,

Jon, Linda, Jasmine, Andi, Morgan and Edward

Prayer Requests

- Please pray for our finances
- Protection for us and our children
- For Linda's mom (Melissa Kerr) for healing from a herniated disk
- Vehicles to be reliable and work properly
- For our health





Arizona Reservation Ministries
 P.O. Box 2393
 Globe AZ, 85502
 Address service requested

NON-PROFIT
 US POSTAGE

Lawrence family Needs list
 -size 4 pampers diapers
 -gas gift cards
 -Wal-Mart gift cards

ARM needs list
 -postage stamps
 -copy paper
 -small prizes for memory verse

Your Partnership is Critical! ♦♦♦♦

- I would like to begin supporting the monthly needs of the Jon Lawrence family.
- I want to commit to daily praying for Jon, Linda and children. Please send urgent requests via email to:
_____.
- I hope to spread the word about what the Lawrence family is doing, and the many needs of this ministry and the Reservation. Please send brochures and any other publications that might help with this.
- I would like to invite Jon and/or Linda to share with our church! Please email/call me at: _____.
(I understand that at least a portion of the travel expenses will need to be provided by myself or others who will gather to hear what God is doing through ARM.)
- Please add me to your mailing list:
Name: _____
Address: _____

- Email (To save postage and printing costs for ARM): _____