



Arizona Reservation Ministries' Bus Buddy Update



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As the month of May draws to a close, I have tried several times to mark out a block time to share with you what the Lord is doing through our mobile ministries/Children's/Youth Ministries. As a BUS Buddy, your provision and prayers are so deeply appreciated. Our days continue to begin and end in blessed activity! Work groups have continued to flow through, adding such a powerful testimony of Christ's love. As Faye introduces each group, a map of the US is shared and she shows the "bus kids" where the visitors have traveled from. Each week, she also shares that the reason they came was to play with them and show them how much Jesus loves them. That's A LOT of love! ☺



Once again, we arranged an event for those who attended their Church Bus the most; this time between January and May. A group of 32 children and young teens traveled with eight of us to Phoenix's Wildlife World Zoo. After an afternoon of feeding giraffes, holding parrots, and seeing innumerable other curious creations, we were spoiled with a



pizza dinner at Sun City West Christian Church before heading home. Those "grandma's" and "grandpa's" each baked cookies for the kids, so I believe their celebrating also included at least 4 cookies each! They were supercharged as we headed for home, but about an hour after departing, nearly all were sound asleep. Lots of photos were taken that day so that we could reprint them to send home for parents and others to see what a fun day their kids had. As we drove through the neighborhoods picking up those who could come, one little boy came out to the van followed by aunties with cameras. It was his first "field trip" and nobody wanted to miss it! We are humbled as family members trust us with their children for such a grand adventure. Please pray as relationships with all of them continue to strengthen. This event was possible because a young woman in New Jersey had been talking to the children at her church about ARM. They hosted a carnival in their church, and sent the funds to us.



Sun City West has their baptistry located in their entryway. The kids walked past it to go use the restrooms, and stopped to ask what it was. What a GREAT opportunity to talk about baptism! As I was able to talk to a few at a time about what baptism is. At least four were

confident in their decision to be baptized! We're working out a way to baptize from the back of a pickup truck. Since we take the Church Bus to their neighborhoods (and only one of the neighborhoods has a nearby church), we are praying about this option. Of course all of this makes us VERY excited! Please pray for the Lord's leading & wisdom as we work to finally provide a way for kids/teens that have clearly chosen Christ as their Lord and Savior to be obedient in baptism as well.



This week is a very special one! A few months ago, we held a "Church Bus Drawing contest." Several of the kids provided their artwork, then as a team, we voted on the first, second and third place winners. Each of these received a Wal-Mart gift card. Mariah won first place. Her rendition of the Church Bus was then sent to a young woman who, long ago, designed our logo while in school at Azusa Pacific. She is now creating a free-lance business and did the t-shirt design at no cost to us. A friend in Illinois printed enough shirts for all of the kids/teens who regularly attend, plus those who just happen to show up (many come once or twice each month.) He printed and shipped these shirts, also donating a portion of the cost. One of our BUS BUDDIES recruited her friends, and this group of ladies paid for over 250 t-shirts that since Monday have been rippling bright green across the Reservation. We continue to be humbled by the generosity of others as we dream of special things for the kids and teens of San Carlos. Why "Bus t-shirts?" I can think of two reasons, and know that there are many, many more. Gang activity is epidemic on the Reservation. As these kids wear their shirts, they'll see SO many others also wearing theirs. They know that a green shirt with their Church Bus on it stands for Jesus Christ...anti-violence, anti-gangs. The back of each shirt also lists the first names of the Bus kids. I wish you could see their face as they seek out *their* name and find it. Awhile back, the lesson was on names. They are important; we know that and try to learn each one. Isn't it wonderful to know that Jesus Christ knows each one by name, and that their names will be written in the Book of Life...in part, because of your partnership! We certainly appreciate your partnership and your prayers!

Sincerely,

Diana Lawrence and Faye Hinton...Children's Directors. ☺



Prayer Requests

- ♥ For a couple to lead youth ministry soon
- ♥ For the air conditioning needs on our bus.
- ♥ For adequate food and supervision for the kids who are home for the summer.
- ♥ Wisdom in all things!
- ♥ Faye's new position. ☺

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