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Pastor Pete leaving Hikiwan church

Phillip "Pete" Reede announced on January 1 that he will be leaving Christ Fellowship Community Church as pastor by February. The announcement came as a jolt to the tiny church. The Reedes are entering fulltime evangelism, initially among Native American tribes. Pete has pastored the Hikiwan fellowship for twelve years.

We have known that Pete's gifts and yearnings have been for many years to encourage churches on a wide scale to help them reach out to the lost and hurting with the Gospel. But what will happen the Hikiwan church now?

Some who know of the coming change have asked if Ken will become the pastor. The answer is no. The calling of our ministry is to be like Aaron and Hur in the Old Testament—to hold up the arms of God's Native American Christian leaders. We will continue to do that with CFCC as well as the Reedes. We trust God to provide indigent pastoral leadership for the church. We continue to believe that is the only long term solution for the advance of the Gospel.

Just last October Catalina Baptist Association received the church into its membership under

watch-care. We do not expect any change in this relationship. In fact the church will need to rely on the Association even more.

One of the churches of the association is 1st Papago Baptist Church in Sells, AZ. This church was planted in the Reservation Administrative Headquarters with the help of pioneer missionary Frank Frazier in 1941. It has been part of the Catalina Assn. for many years. Until this year it was the only member church within the Tohono O'odham Nation.

1st Papago has been actively engaged in helping CFCC. In July, with the help of part of a visiting mission team, they facilitated a wonderful VBS in Hikiwan. In December they brought a Christmas program to Hikiwan, including gifts for 38 children in the village. A large number of family members attended with their children.

Now, Pastor Jay Juan and members of the Sells Indian church have expressed strong commitment to continue and significantly increase assistance to CFCC in Hikiwan. This is very exciting for two reasons: 1st is that 1st Papago will help to encourage and then to stabilize the Hikiwan Christians. 2nd is that the church is moving in determined missional efforts themselves.

Such cooperation is the type of thing that we've been praying for. As indigent ...**CONTINUED**



Doug Jones

Just a year ago, with just a touch of a tremble in his voice, the handsome and friendly Pima said, "What...are you and Thurleen gonna do after you get this job done?"

In a few days new MSC missionaries Eric and Brittany Gibbs would be moving from Kentucky to the nice little home in Sacaton, AZ. Thurleen and I had worked hard on it with several visiting mission teams. But we were running out of time.

Somehow, a few days before, Doug had been drawn to help around the church where the little home sat. He volunteered to help us finish the remodeling project. I had been working long



hours and Doug said, "I'll be here to help till you turn the lights off."

Doug had been a Christian for many years. But he had grown far away from God, and it had cost him almost everything. He had gone the farthest toward selling out to the powers of darkness that we had ever heard anyone describe. But the Father welcomed him home...and he came back.

When Eric arrived I introduced Doug to him. I said, "Eric, meet Doug, your new best friend." That turned out to be almost an understatement. From what we hear, when doors would open for the young missionaries, Doug was usually there with them. His new reputation is, that he is a changed ...**CONTINUED**

man. People see Jesus in him. There have been numerous additions to the 1st Pima church. The Gibbs' have been able to start a new work in the village of Cocklebur with Doug's help.

On January 9, Doug left for Kentucky to begin Bible School at Mid-Continent University. Having previously earned a college degree, he is determined to refresh his education and add formal bible classes. On the previous Saturday, 1st Pima Baptist Church had a celebration in Doug's honor. The fellowship hall was packed. In addition to the church, most of his family was present.

After a meal with traditional dishes and Eric Gibbs' emotional message, nearly everyone gathered around in a commissioning service to lay hands on Doug. His childhood Sunday School teacher Wayne Harvey led the commissioning prayer...in their native O'odham language...for what might have been 10 minutes. There was hardly a dry eye in the house.



Doug has been provided a home in Kentucky and a car to drive. It is our understanding that a large group met Doug when he arrived.

It is without a doubt that Eric and Brittany, 1st Pima, his friends and family will miss Doug while he's gone. 2011 saw Doug Jones become very important in a lot of peoples lives. But it has been the Spirit of the living Christ who has become visible in Doug Jones, So, the God who has changed Doug will fill out the lives of those who love him, and make their life experience rewarding as they also allow Christ in.

In 500 years of missionary efforts, much of the work was to try to make Indians change, thinking that they would want to become Christian in the bargain. Christianity...by Grace through faith, works in any culture. Its high time that Native American believers are received as equals. It is thrilling to see that taking place as Doug Jones takes a role of ministry to his Anglo brethren.

Bill Watkins

We are so grateful for our East Kentucky friend Bill Watkins. The young single man came to the rez to work for a Tribal Government agency. His work among the Indians includes the Hikiwan District. We gladly introduced him to the people we know and his Christian heart grew warm toward them.

Bill volunteered to fill in for us to help Christ Fellowship while we were back in Illinois for family time last Fall.

Bill resides in Sells and attends services at 1st Papago church, when he is not at Hikiwan. He explains that he feels torn between the two churches. In reality though, he has become a liaison between the two churches. It's a God Thing.

Deputation

The term "deputation" is not well known in Southern Baptist circles. Since the Cooperative Program was instituted in 1925, it has been extraordinarily effective in funding mission work around the world.

can Mission Board (NAMB) missionaries volunteer in an additional way. Added to volunteering to GO, they also raise all of the money that it takes to go.

The "CP" consolidated missions of the state conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention. Funded by the churches who voluntarily direct most of their mission giving to it, the CP makes it possible for missionaries to stay on the field without having to return home on deputation to raise money.

That is why we have to come home for months at a time to raise the money that is needed to fund the work among Native Americans.. We need Churches, Sunday School classes and mission groups to invite us to make our presentation.

Please call 618-771-3318 now to schedule a Native American missions presentation this Summer

Yet about half of North Ameri-

Be a "Missionary by Partnership"
 At home, you can help fulfill the Great Commission. Join us in taking the Good News of Christ to Native Americans.

- Be our prayer partners
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BY MAIL
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Pastor Pete

churches take responsibility for their Christian brethren, the Lord will increase their strength. Their Spiritual well as physical blessings will be multiplied. It is a good sign that Christ Fellowship Community Church is taking what some might view as a barrier instead as an opportunity to see the delivering hand of God.

Prayer News

Delma Garcia had surgery this week. The procedure was successful but there was a temporary scare. She is fine and was at church Sunday. Some knew about it. Many prayed. Here's a response, in part:

"Thank you so much for sharing that Delma's recovery is going well. We at Westside lifted her up wed. night at worship and will continue until the Lord has finished the healing of her body. It is an exciting thing to be able to share in your churches ministry to your members. Prayer is such an important part of our faith and as i have learned is to be our first line of defense not a last resort. So it is a great privilege to join you in prayer"... (D. E.)