Worship/Bible Study

Currently, we meet in homes for our Sunday worship circle. The worship time is done in a Native manner always reflecting the Native American culture. Call ahead for worship circle meeting place and time at 719-219-1917.

Call for bible study meeting place and time. The bible study is conducted from a Native American prospective. We are seeking the Creator's will for Native people. Please call for time and place. 719-219-1917



Caleb Naabaahii Pino / Dine' Nation Next Generation Native Warrior who will honor his Creator by being Native



The Redroad in 4 Directions Ministry

P.O. Box 62692 Colorado Springs, CO 80962

Phone: Darrell & Anita Pino 719-219-1917 719-491-1395 Redroad4Directions@netzero.net

UNDER SECTION 501 (c) (3) CONTRIBUTIONS ARE DEDUCTIBLE UNDER SECTION 170 OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE The Redroad in 4 Directions Ministry Tel: 719-219-1917

501 (C) (3) Non-Profit Organization

Redroad In 4 Directions Ministry

First Nations Seeking Jesus in the Circle of Life

Mission Statement

To facilitate First Nations People to seek and partake of the Good Medicine of Jesus Christ, and thereby, once again walk the Redroad with the Great Spirit in harmony and healing, restoring good cultural ways that bring honor and glory to their Creator.

"Be imitators of God, therefore as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." Ephesians 5:1-2 NIV



Our Elders tell us of the journeys of our people and how God has loved us from the beginning and is still present in our lives, in the lives of our people, and in our world. Our legends teach us about life and about making choices that helps us lead a fuller life, a life of greater harmony. Kateri Mitchell Mohawk

Beginnings/Visions

The Redroad in 4 Directions was established with the mind set that a new or renewed way of worship must be found through the cultural ways and traditions of the First Nations people. By locating cultural keys unique to each tribe which were given by their Creator to honor and worship, the First Nations will start to experience the real meaning of being in the sacred circle of life. By being in the sacred circle of life with the Great Warrior, Jesus Christ, many will return to walking the Redroad filled with love and hope of the Creator. By walking with the Great Spirit, many hearts will be healed from past and current injustices which have brought on many additions, family dysfunctions, suicides, and other disheartening issues among the First Nations of North America.

Fulfilling the Visions

We seek to fulfill the vision by being available to our local First Nations community. Through the building of friendships we can seek to understand some of the spiritual, physical, and mental needs and thereby allow us to walk the roads which will bring about healing in all circles of life. Helping our Native people to be once again be happy as they were created to be and once again walk the road of harmony with their Great Warrior is the greatest need.

The road of healings will happen through various compassionate projects. Currently we are networking with other organizations to meet some of our goals.

Here are some of our current short and long range goals: Seeking land to set our roots for the ministry/ Building a tipi village to promote cultural awareness/ Providing a place of worship which is Native friendly/ Seeking to promote and restore cultural ways and customs which brings honor to the Creator, such as beading, drumming, learning powwow dancing, sweats, and other ways.



The Redroad in 4 Directions Ministry

P.O. Box 62692 Colorado Springs, CO 80962 UNDER SECTION 301 (c) (3) CONTRIBUTIONS ARE DEDUCTIBLE UNDER SECTION 170 OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE Wednesday, January 17, 2007 Nazarene Bible College Chapel Service Pastor Darrell Pino Redroad In 4 Directions Ministry

"The Word Becomes Flesh..."

John 1:14 The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son, Generous inside and out, true from start to finish. ¹ The Message

The Word became flesh and blood and pitched His tipi in the community. As a Native American, this would be the way that the Great Warrior Jesus would move into the First Nations community. In reality when the Word took on flesh He moved into all communities across the world. It is even more so with our current global community.

It was not just the Jewish community that our Lord chose to come into, in fact He came into all Nations, cultures, languages, or whatever way we choose to define a human being.

Among our Lakota nation there is a term that is used which refers to all people as relatives, "matakisuk", meaning all my relations. This is a clear picture of how the Creator of the world has seen us from the beginning of

¹Peterson, E. H. 1995. *The message : New Testament with Psalms and Proverbs*. NavPress: Colorado Springs, Colo.

time, and ultimately choosing to be among us with love and compassion, "And the Word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood." As I thought about these words of John, it brought to mind the great love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Being God, The Almighty, The Great Spirit, Creator or whichever respectful way a nation chooses to addresses Him, did not have to come to this lowly community of ours. After all He has total sovereignty of the universe. He is the one who knows all the stars by name, and at the same time knows all of us as individuals deeply, probably more than we will ever know ourselves. Today I have finally come to an understanding that the Great One loves me as He created me, a Native American of this country. He moved into my community and slowly, with lots of love and compassion, moved into my heart where I could become a part of His tribe.

This process took many years; I believe that this also holds true for many of the First Nations people. Instead many in the name of Jesus have come to overtake, as one elder once said; " there are three things that drove the Europeans when they entered North America, the three "gs", God, Gold, and Glory.

When the "Word became flesh..." Love was the motivating factor that cause Jesus to come into our community. Sure, He has all the riches of the universe, but when he decided to come he left behind all his riches and glory and entered humbly.

Really love brings about meaningful changes. Currently among the First Nations population, less then 10% have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. I have come to find out that many of the other 90% are close and are seeking in the right direction. This goes against the stereotype that we Native Americans are far from the saving truth, not having any knowledge of salvation. But in fact God's saving grace is much at work among our Native population. Once again his love is being extended through the few workers who are willing to walk the Jesus Way in love and humbleness.

If we, Native Americans, are so far from the truth and wicked in all our ways, customs, cultures, or whichever way you want to see it, then why has the Lord not wiped us out many years ago. I believe that are Native people all along have been close to Great One. That in fact we have much to give to the larger body of Christ, if only given the chance, the same chance that Jesus gave when he took on the flesh and moved in to our community. Just by viewing the history of this country, was it really the true love of Christ that was being extended to the Native American population. It is estimated that pre-Columbus Native population range from 10-30 million, then by 1900 there were only 237,000 who survived the greatest holocaust in history. Today there are 2 million in the U.S. and 1.3 million in Canada. Jesus came into this world with love. Why is it that most believers have a hard time walking in the same love that Jesus was clothed with? Aren't we supposed to be Christ-like among the people around us?

As a Native person and reflecting back on my history, things could have been so much better among the First Nations people. Our suicide rates would not be 5 times higher then the national rate, the 75% of Native American homes affected by alcoholism would be down.

When the Word became flesh, it took the meaning of love beyond human understanding. I believe that all of us must be challenged to try to reflect the love that our Lord was clothed with when he stepped into this world. Today people are starving for real love, a love that brings respect, compassion, and humbleness. At times I am sadden by how our nation seems to be still motivated by the three G's; God, gold, and glory. If we are followers of Jesus, and we are instructed to love others, why is it that today we have a problem with our brothers from Mexico coming into this country. Jesus ministered to all people, often stepping across racial boundaries.

I believe that it is time to reflect upon our relationship with our Lord and Savior and see if the true love of Christ is really flowing from our lives. When the Word became flesh, it was a time of sadness for humanity. The same unhappiness is still apparent in our world. A world longing for the love of Christ and never finding fulfillment is the sad truth currently. Christ came to us in love, as one commentary puts it as follow: we try to apprehend it by thinking of the infant Christ conceived in the womb and born in the arms of His own creature, and of the Man Christ Jesus breathing His own air, treading His own ground, supported by substances to which He Himself gave being, and the Creator of the very men whom He came to save. But the most vivid commentary on this entire verse will be got by tracing (in His matchless history) Him of whom it speaks walking amidst all the elements of nature, the diseases of men and death itself, the secrets of the human heart, and "the rulers of the darkness of this world" in all their number, subtlety, and malignity, not only with absolute ease, as their conscious Lord, but, as we might say, with full consciousness on their part of the presence of their Maker, whose will to one and all of them was law. And this is He of whom it is added, "the world knew Him not!"2

"And the Word became flesh and moved into our community ... "

Jesus not only came with love, but also with humbleness. What is the meaning of this word? I think that Philippians 2: 6-8 sheds some light on this:

²Jamieson, R., Fausset, A. R., Fausset, A. R., Brown, D., & Brown, D. 1997. *A commentary, critical and explanatory, on the Old and New Testaments*. On spine: Critical and explanatory commentary. Logos Research Systems, Inc.: Oak Harbor, WA

⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
⁷ but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form,

⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross.

3

Our Lord did this for us, for all people, for all nations, he willingly laid his life on the line to the point of death. When I think about this and reflect on my walk with the Lord, how far am I willing to take this love and humbleness?

As I look at my own people, they have been through some tremendous tough times, in all of this; they have always remained humble, and continue to trust in their Creator to carry them through the disheartening times. As I have to begun to journey along side them, I have seen how many are in tuned spiritual with the Great One then most people. Sure it is very tough to be a Native American these days, everyday is a struggle. Very little changes are happing for the better, most of the time it is like swimming up stream. Despite all this, they hold the sacredness of honoring their Creator were high.

But though all of this the Lord is reminding me to remain humble and strong in Him, after all when I am weak he is strong. Again it is very difficult, just this past year our ministry sent out a letter to 82 churches in the Colorado Springs area. The letter basically stated that a new ministry geared towards our Native American population is trying to set

³The Holy Bible : New Revised Standard Version. 1996, c1989 . Thomas Nelson: Nashville

its roots down, that if possible I would be willing to share the vision of what God has laid upon my heart. To date, we have not have received one response.

Did the Word become flesh? Are we not a part of the family of the Great One? Wasn't part of our Lord's purpose to allow us all to be a part of the body of Christ as we walk the Jesus Way? If we are truly a part of the body of Christ, why are there lines of boundaries drawn within our believing communities? So many questions, and all the answers are found in our Lord, Jesus Christ. All one has to do is look at the life as he walked this earth.

He truly showed us the real way to walk in beauty and harmony. There is a phrase that comes from my people, it says: "My I walk in beauty, beauty before me, beauty to my sides, beauty above me, and beauty below me." When I ponder on this, how can I say that the Creator is not extending His grace towards my people and other First Nations people? The way of beauty is what Jesus came to show us, to walk in holiness with him, to walk in beauty with him, to walk in harmony with him. I am starting to see that we Native people have so much to offer spiritually in relating to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Are we willing to really walk in love and humbleness as the word becomes flesh in us as we walk the Redroad with Jesus, as our Native people say. The red road represents the walk one has and is striving for with the Great One. For many Native Americans, walking the Redroad is very important in life. The Redroad is not us a religion but it is a way of life, a relationship. It is a road where one can find harmony, a blessing, which flows from the Creator to help us in this life.

A few years ago, my daughter was a part of the youth group of a local Nazarene Church. They were planning a mission trip to our Navajo Reservation and my daughter wanted to be a part of this. Prior to leaving for the trip, in one of the gatherings for preparations my daughter, a full blood Navajo, heard this remark for one of the youth pastors. "We are going to the land of the drunks...". My daughter was very hurt, came home crying and took all of this hatred humbly, just like so many other Native people. Was this love, was this humbleness, and was this the Word becoming flesh in the words of this pastor?

When the Lord came to us in humbleness, he disregarded all the stereotypes. He came with love and compassion. He came into this world with humbleness; he started out life like all of us. He grew and lived life among his people, daily learning different customs and ways of his people. He did not come and say it is either my way or the highway, no he came because he knew that the most important to do first in helping a person was to first have a deep understanding of an individual and his people. With our Native people this did not happen, many never took the time to see us as unique people also loved by the same God that had brought them to this country.

Instead our people were told to cut their hair, when they were shown a picture of Jesus with long hair that they said loves you. Many came saying that God is love, yet at the same time seeing us as something other than a human being. That is why our people where told to cut their hair and change clothing and even to the point of trying to wipe out our culture. If our culture was so bad, why then do so many non-native people profit from it and many are seeking for more knowledge to try to be a Native person.

Today I now understand that God has allowed these First Nations people to survive for a special purpose. Today we need to be given the time to be understood as a people loved by the Lord Jesus Christ. Just take a look at the Christian history of this country, then you will realize that it is time that the Native people of North American be seen as unique Nations created by God. I hope that some day I will have no longer have the feeling that we are still a forgotten Nations within our own country, because today that is exactly how many of my people feel, despite this many continue in life that someday things will be better.

Back in the earlier years of this country, once there was a chief back east who said these words to a missionary that came to his village. He said, "You people always say that you come in the love of the Great One, but I do not understand, when the Baptist came we were told to become Baptist, later the Catholics came and we became Catholics, then the Methodist came and again we were told to become Methodist. If all of you say that you believe in the same God of love, then why can you not get along, also why must we change every time a new missionary comes. If the God you talk about is love, and we believe that the Great One also loves us, then why can't he love us as we are?

"And the Word became flesh and pitched His tipi in our community..."

In closing I would like to leave you with the words of Paul, the one who captured the true meaning of love, compassion and humbleness for the people of his time as he in a small way became the Word in flesh as the Lord worked through him.

1Corinth. 9:19-23,

I have become a servant of everyone so that I can bring them to Christ. ²⁰ When I am with the Jews, I become one of them so that I can bring them to Christ. When I am with those who follow the Jewish laws, I do the same, even though I am not subject to the law, so that I can bring them to Christ. ²¹ When I am with the Gentiles who do not have the Jewish law, ^{*} I fit in with them as much as I can. In this way, I gain their confidence and bring them to Christ. But I do not discard the law of God; I obey the law of Christ.

²² When I am with those who are oppressed, I share their oppression so that I might bring them to Christ. Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone so that I might bring them to Christ. ²³I do all this to spread the Good News, and in doing so I enjoy its blessings.

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¹ Corinthians 9:21

Greek those without the law.

⁴Holy Bible : New Living Translation. 1997. Tyndale House: Wheaton, Ill.