

Nihíká anilyeedísh WILL YOU HELP US

DEAR FRIENDS,

At Navajo Ministries, we count it a privilege to bring the story of Jesus, the Lamb of God, to families in the Four Corners Region.

Whether it's playing the powerful song, "My Redeemer Lives," a favorite with our KNMI listeners, or tucking a soft, stuffed lamb into a child's arms as a farewell gift, we know that God's love is changing lives.


Just as the Navajo weaver takes strands of wool and creates a beautiful Navajo rug, so also our ministry staff members weave the story of God's love and mercy into the lives of those they touch each day. What a joy it is to see a little one's countenance change before our eyes as they experience the love of committed houseparents on a daily basis.

Betty, our Navajo cook, plays a vital role at Navajo Ministries. She provides tasty evening meals for staff and children, and blesses us with her pleasant personality. We enjoy a selection of traditional Navajo foods (including mutton stew and frybread), as part of a nutritionally balanced menu that includes a good variety of healthy foods.

Nihíká anilyeedísh?

Will you help us meet our "daily bread" needs for this month? Each month we need over \$3,000 for our food budget, including Betty's salary. Whatever you can share will be gratefully received and carefully spent in serving God's little lambs.

Celebrating the Lamb of God,

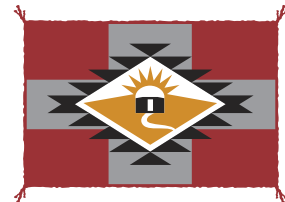

JAMES D. BAKER
PRESIDENT

PROVIDING HOPE AND RESTORATION TO FAMILIES IN THE FOUR CORNERS REGION THROUGH PROGRAMS THAT ESTABLISH SELF-SUFFICIENCY, RESILIENCE AND CHRISTIAN VALUES.

Four Corners Home for Children
Extended Care Homes
Kids in Crisis
On-Site School
Moms Too
Cross-Cultural Ministry
Restored Warriors
Reservation Outreach
Counseling Center
Counseling
Play Therapy
Seminars
KNMI Vertical Radio 88.9 FM
Prayer Center

Aghaa' yisdizíí is a strand of yarn used for weaving, just as this communication weaves together our ministry with those of you who make it possible through prayer and support. We hope you will share this strand of hope and restoration with others so they too can be part of the wholeness of our ministry's mission.

*And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him.
A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart.*
Ecclesiastes 4:12 NAS



NAVAJO
MINISTRIES

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Dibé yázhí

LAMB OF GOD

*John saw Jesus coming toward him and said,
"Look, the LAMB OF GOD,
who takes away the sin of the world!"*

John 1:29

Dibé yázhí

LAMB OF GOD

Ahéhee' THANK YOU

Diyin God bidibé yázhí is Navajo for Lamb of God. In the Navajo culture, sheep means life, just as to a Christian, Jesus is life. Sheep provide meat for food, wool for clothing and forms the vital strands of the beautiful woven rugs. The skins of the sheep provide warm blankets and pads to sleep on.

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"Look, the LAMB OF GOD,
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John 1:29

Your gift helps Navajo Ministries continue to provide hope and restoration to families in the Four Corners Region.

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ made payable to Navajo Ministries. I/we understand that this contribution is tax deductible.

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To the Navajo, lambs mean life

Many of the children who come into our homes at Navajo Ministries are familiar with sheep. Some of them helped their grandparents herd the sheep as they searched the desert lands for food and water. In the summer, the sheep are moved to the higher land where it's cooler among the shrubs and trees. Caring for sheep is a way of life.

Children are precious lambs too

Celina was just nine days old when she was brought to our Four Corners Home for Children with her siblings. She was so tiny and fragile. As Celina began to grow we quickly realized she had the symptoms of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. Unfortunately, her mother's alcohol addiction included drinking while she was pregnant, which often affects learning and behavior progress of the child.

After two years of loving care in our home, this little one was able to return to her natural family. She was still small for her age, but she was walking and talking and had a smile that warmed the heart of anyone who met her. This "little lamb" will always remain in our hearts and prayers as we remember her time spent in this place.

Caring for lambs is a teaching tool

Sheep and goats have been an important part of our ranch program at the Children's Home. The youngsters have seen little lambs born and notice the protection provided by the mother sheep. They have seen the provision provided when they are shorn.

The Bible provides many examples of sheep that our houseparents use to show the children that Jesus is the Good Shepherd, who cares for His sheep. "We are His people, the sheep of His pasture." [Psalms 100:3] "We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way." [Isaiah 53:6] "I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." [John 10:11]

Each of the children who are in our care receive a cuddly lamb when they leave our homes and return to their natural or foster family. This is an ongoing reminder of how Jesus, "the Good Shepherd," will care for them as they leave the tender, compassionate care of our dedicated houseparents.

And, when Christ died on the cross, He became the sacrificial lamb, giving His life on the cross for our sins. What a wonderful gift God provided for us through His only Son, that if we believe in Him we will have eternal life.

Dibé yázhí

Lamb

Every spring Navajos await the birth of lambs. An abundant flock of sheep means an abundant life for the Navajo. The lamb represents the good life in which there is a balance between the people and the land. The resources provided by sheep include wool for weaving and meat for consumption. Just like the people in the Old Testament, the Navajo waste no part of the sheep... whatever is unsuitable for consumption is used in other ways. With any celebration among Navajos, such as Easter, mutton is always included in the feast.

Diyin God bidibé yázhí is Navajo for Lamb of God.

Diyin God bidibé yázhí

Lamb of God

Just as Navajos celebrate the birth of new lambs, Navajo Christians celebrate the rebirth of our lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Liná ániidíí

New Life

Spring is a time for new life to blossom. The Navajo woman embodies an endless cycle of nurturing life. There is a strong bond between women and sheep because

women are the primary caretakers of the sheep. However, as new lambs are born, children also help care for the lambs by watching them around the clock. This assures that the lambs will be protected from freezing, trampling or being eaten by predators such as wolves and coyotes.

Daaztsáádéé' náadiidzá

He rose from the dead

For Navajo Christians, the season of Easter is a reflection of the significance of Jesus, our Lord and Savior, who rose from the dead... the Lamb of God.