



Maiorano Minutes

4th Quarter 2016



Give Thanks

II Chronicles 16 tells us to give thanks to the Lord for His lovingkindness is everlasting. We are called to sing praises to the Lord Most High. Tell of His wonders among the nations. As we come to this Thanksgiving/holiday season, it is a time to reflect on all that we have to be thankful for. We are called, as Christians, to have an attitude of thanksgiving, but many times we have a tendency to grumble at our lot in life and are hard pressed to find something to be thankful for. Take some time this holiday season to recount the blessings in your life and tell of the wonders and mighty deeds of God.

Proud Grandparents

We have something extra special to be thankful for this year. We have a picture at the end of our letter of Hailey Snow Maiorano, Jeremy and Aubri's beautiful little girl. She was born on August 7. We have been trying to get to Albuquerque each month to "go kiss the baby." It is amazing how fast these little ones grow up. Last time we got some beautiful little smiles from her. It has been a long time since we have had a grand baby. It is hard to believe that Sam is going to be 16 years old in a couple of months, and Storme is 14. It would be a little difficult to hold those grandchildren on our laps!

Precept Classes Wrapping Up

We have just completed our study on Covenant. We are going to take a break from our in depth studies to do a couple of one night studies on various topics like Biblically defending the age of the Earth. These classes will be a lot less formal and will be a time for the students to learn how to dig out certain pieces of information using Bible study tools.

As we move into the winter, we will be moving into the study of Spiritual Gifts. That is always an interesting topic of study. We still have a good group of about 20 students here, and then there are more at our sister church in Naschiti (as long as the internet cooperates). We are excited to see the Word of God going out as it is.

Speaking of our sister church, we are excited to announce that Kevin, the pastor of the church in Naschiti, is leaving his job at the bank so that he can become a full time pastor. So much of his time has been used in counseling families in crisis, preaching at many funerals over the last couple of months, as well as his job of pastoring the flock that God has given to him. Please pray for Kevin and White Water Community Church as he takes this step of faith. We ask that God honors his commitment to Him and provides the funds that he needs for his personal life and the life of the church.

Projects and Changes

We will include some pictures at the end of this letter with the newest piece of construction going on here. For years we have tried to keep a field area open for the students to play some team sports. We have lost the battle of trying to control the weeds. The students play on our parking area, but that area is deteriorating quickly. It is becoming a bunch of stones that the students slide on. We are just finishing up a slab of concrete about 50 feet by 60 feet. It will be surrounded by chain link fence. It will become an area where the students can play 4-Square, Volleyball, Badminton, dodge ball, and tennis against the wall. We are thankful to have the concrete work done before the single digit temperatures and the snow hit.

We continue to have more requests from people (including adults) to have more of what we do on the internet. We are praying about how to incorporate my class lectures, and making my keynote presentations available, as well as a basic English class and math class for those who are struggling and looking for help. This is all new to me and extremely time consuming, yet we believe that it is also important. We have a man coming to our Monday night classes right now, but he is very weak on his English skills both reading and writing. If he is going to pastor and help others, he needs to be strong in the language he is trying to teach. This is a real prayer concern.

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Note change
of address

PA/DC Trip

Our trip to the East coast was great. The Lord opened up the way for great weather and smooth sailing through our trip. We visited all the places we were scheduled to see. We had a chance to visit friends and family. We all enjoyed "Samson" at Sight and Sound, and I believe the trip to Lancaster on the last day was the highlight of the trip. As we continue to study in the classroom, these places should come alive to Trey, Storme, and Noelle. Thank you for your prayers on our behalf. So many times we take for granted the ability we have to travel 7,500 miles (flying and driving) in 12 days. God granted us safety and for that we are truly thankful.

Students Leaving

We have been talking about the wonderful opportunity that Sam and Joshua have had in being able to finish up their high school credits while taking college courses at the Middle College High School. They are coming to their finals in the next couple of weeks. At this time Sam will have 36 college credits (Joshua a little less) and is signed up for 15 credits next semester. He then has one more year (plus the summer) to finish up an associates' degree and begin to work toward his bachelor's.

The MCHS chooses its next potential students via a lottery system. Names are drawn and put on a list. We have four of our students currently on that list, and we are probably sending Storme there in August 2017. After talking to the staff at Middle College High School, we were informed that there were 34 students on the waiting list from last year and another 21 were drawn in November - bringing the list to 55. Next August they will be taking about 40 new students. We are praying for spots to be available for Leo, Trey, Ethan, and Colin. Noelle and Kendra may be looking at putting in applications soon and getting on that year+ waiting list. They would be looking at the possibility of August 2018.

God's Answers to Prayer

1. A wonderful trip to the East coast with Trey, Storme, and Noelle. We had beautiful weather, safe travels, nice places to stay, and a great time.
2. We now have a concrete pad for the kids to play on. We are thankful for the help God provided with friends from the fellowship, neighbors, and even a former student.
3. Kevin's opportunity to become a full-time pastor/teacher. He will now have the time to reach out to his own people in both English and Navajo in ways that he couldn't before because of his work

schedule. God continues to open doors for him to speak in churches around the reservation.

4. We feel so blessed to be used of God in the classroom with students of all ages. We pray that we are continually faithful to present the love of God and the Word of God to each individual that God brings through our doors.
5. We rejoice with the arrival of our third grandchild and the joy of watching her grow and flourish (even though she screamed at Grandmom when I took her away from her daddy)!
6. We had mentioned the 14-year old that I have been able to help with her reading. She is going through a really tough time in her life right now, and her mother just shared that when her life seems to be out of control, she heads to our website to work on her reading. Her mother said that it calms her right down. It seems strange, but reading was an area that caused her stress not that long ago because she didn't know how to handle it. She conquered her problem and has control over that part of her life now. I believe that by listening and reviewing the exercises, it is a reminder to her that she can overcome hardships in her life and her world is not spinning out of control. Who would have ever imagined?

Please Pray For the Following . . .

1. That God would provide the finances for Kevin as he leaves his job and steps out in faith into full time ministry.
2. For our boys and their families.
3. My niece, Brooke, died at the age of 33. She was just a little older than our son Jeremy. When we babysat the girls when they were little, people used to think that Brooke and Jeremy were twins, not only because of their age, but their looks as well. Please pray for the family - my brother Keith, his wife Rhonda, and their two girls Rachel and Jessie.
4. We continue to look for time and help with projects that we are trying to put onto our website. This is very labor intensive, and it seems that the more we put on the more we need to put on. Right now we have a fairly extensive site for our Bible studies with helps, studies on various topics, hand-outs, worksheets, and we have just added the videos of our Monday night classes. We have the first two Covenant lessons loaded, and we are going to continue to add about two per week. We currently have the beginnings (5-6 hours of what should become about 50 hours) of a reading program up and running. We are looking into adding an English site because we have pastors who struggle with the English language. We would also like to add a math site. These are things that allow us to help people outside the walls of this ministry, but I will also be able to use the programs for the students inside the classroom as well.



Hailey
Snow
Maiorano

born
8/7/16



Trey, Storme, and Noelle

← Fort McHenry

Gettysburg →

Washington's Crossing



← Washington DC

Sight & Sound →



Sam comes into the classroom to help on short days at school. He is helping Dawson and Leo with a chemistry game.



Joshua, Leo, Trey, Ethan, Storme
Holly, Dawson, Erin, Kadajah, Chaunte
Kyle, Aijah, Colin, Noelle, Kendra



Holly & Ethan's grandfather shows the students how to survey the pad for the playground. (left)



Planting the poles for the fence. (right)

Jim and Les build the forms for the concrete pours. Jim is standing in footer for the pad.



The first pad of concrete is poured and worked. This is the first of four pours.

You can see the snow on the driveway. Concrete was finished before the snow came although we did have to cover it with concrete blankets many nights because of temperatures dipping into single digits.



If you look hard, you may be able to see the students playing on the pad. There was not much ball activity because of the lack of fencing, but it saw a lot of skateboard activity in the first week.

Jim helps the crew with the chain-link fence.



Fence is up, but gates still need to be installed which Jim will do himself.