

Diamond Willow  
Ministries



Fall Newsletter  
Vol. XXII, No. III



## LIFE MORE ABUNDANT - NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

A 2023 theme at the Ikce Oyate Christian Center comes from Jesus' words in John 10:10, **"I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly."** And indeed now is an exciting time, as there are thirteen tribal community members that are experiencing the ultimate in true abundance - a **Renewed Life** through a relationship with God in Jesus Christ. Many of these individuals have made this step of faith as a result of their time working at, or being associated with activities of, the Tokata Youth Center (TYC).



## WARRIOR LEADERSHIP SUMMIT - SPIRITUAL GROWTH



In addition to several offsite Teen Retreats, Max Big Eagle led a group of teens, all of whom are Youth Mentors at the TYC, to Illinois to the Warrior Leadership Summit, a Christian gathering of teens and young adults from Tribal Nations all across North America. It was a **time of great encouragement, inspiration and spiritual growth.** Plans are to make this an annual trip for the young adults.

## SPIRITUAL WARRIORS - SHARING JESUS

Stephan, a teenager from the community and a TYC Youth Mentor, attended the Warrior Leadership Summit. He immediately answered the call to be a Spiritual Warrior. Stephan joined a team that traveled to several Tribal Nations throughout the Southwest for four weeks to share how Jesus has impacted and transformed their lives. He then shared his powerful story during worship at the Ikce Oyate Christian Center upon his return. **Stephan is an emerging leader who is making a positive impact near and far!**



**JOIN US NOVEMBER 16TH - 18TH!**

**DWM will be at ICOM in Oklahoma City, OK!**

Come visit us at booth numbers 1136, 1138, 1235, & 1237.

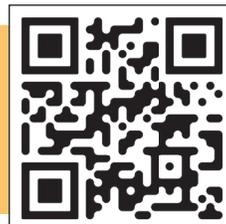
# TOKATA INITIATIVE – The TYC’s Capital Campaign Update

In the Dakota language **Tokata** means future. And it certainly seems that the future is here with all the wonderful things already coming to fruition at the new facility.

Giving towards the Tokata Initiative is essential for a stable future as there is a time sensitive critical need. We are now at 56% funding toward the 3-year goal. **The majority of the remaining 44% need is the \$1.9 million construction loan, which matures in September 2024.** At that time monthly mortgage payments will begin, just less than one year away! Paying off the construction loan will allow a quick transition back into the normal debt-free mode of operation. All time, energy and finances can then continue to go directly to serving and empowering the youth of the Tokata Youth Center. The ministry is now reaching out to churches, businesses, foundations and folks to specifically address this financial need.



To learn more about the Tokata Initiative Capital Campaign, use this QR code.



## “MISSION FIELD TO A MISSION FORCE”



This phrase, first heard at Indian Bible College in Flagstaff, AZ, is now being readily adopted as a vision for the future at Diamond Willow Ministries.



Volunteers from off the reservation that came here and served the youth in past years are so greatly appreciated. As these generations of local youths are maturing, they are transitioning and stepping into roles to give back, now **beginning to give instead of receive, being a Force in serving others.** Our goal is to continue to grow capacity to empower generations to go forth and share their powerful stories of transformation and hope with others across the country.

## MEN’S WEEKLY GATHERING – PRAYER AND ENCOURAGEMENT

*“Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.” 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 ESV*

Men of our community have begun a weekly morning gathering in Fort Thompson. They meet to visit, but more importantly to **read from the Bible, pray for their community, and encourage each other.** Current events are discussed too, but always a shared faith and hope in Jesus “flavors” the conversations.



# “OVER 12,000 SERVED”

Since the new Tokata Youth Center's opening in September 2022, over 12,000 meals have been served! A remarkable number of youth have already benefited physically from these nutritious hot meals. This incredible number also represents how many thousands of times youth have been able to be in a safe and stable environment; helping them **grow stronger spiritually, mentally, physically, and emotionally and hear Jesus' message of Abundant Life!** Additionally, the youth themselves get to learn valuable life skills as they help prepare, serve and cleanup after the meals.



OVER 12,000 SERVED

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*Return Service Requested*

Before you move, please send the mailing label with a copy of your new address to:  
DIAMOND WILLOW MINISTRIES, PO Box 438, Fort Thompson, SD 57339