

Serving With First Nations To Reach All Nations

SIMNASHO COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP  
WE WANT TO SEE JESUS  
SIMNASHO, OREGON SUNDAY SERVICE 10:30



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NAIM missionaries, Scott Markloff, Terry Hall and Jack Teeter (far right) stand in support of local Christian leader, Paul Vaeth (white shirt)

## Standing With Their Vision

By Carolyn Teeter

THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE WHO CAPTURE your heart the first time you meet them. This describes Paul and Vio Vaeth. They have a heart and passion for God that is inspiring. One of the joys of ministry is being able to support those who are doing something unique on the front lines.

The Vaeths came to faith through the Bryce's ministry and zest for life when they were invited to a party with no alcohol. Paul and Vio dreaded going and could not imagine having any fun, but plans for a quick escape led instead to a life of relationship with the

Lord and finding purpose. This developed into a calling where they were disciplined, grounded, and woven into God's family amongst NAIM's Washington staff and associates. The Coxes, Normans, and Suzanne Brandt were all connected with them over the years.

I met Vio at a NAIM Native Ladies retreat in the 90s. Around that time, the Lord gave the Vaeths a vision for Vios' home community. They moved from Seattle to the arid high plateau country of Warm Springs, Oregon. For Paul, this meant leaving the coast and working to earn the respect of the community as an outsider.

*Continued on page 2*}}

*"Vision" continued*

Recently Jack and I reconnected with the Vaeths when Jack was invited, along with other NAIM missionaries, Terry Hall and Scott Markloff, to speak at the first Simnasho Warm Springs family camp hosted by the Vaeth family and friends. This new vision is fulfilling their passion to reach their youth and community.



Paul and Vio Vaeth enjoy a day of crabbing with the Teeters

In January, Vio and their son, Stephen joined us in Calgary, Alberta for a week of leadership training in the

Genesis Process, an addiction recovery program based on the Bible. This summer Jack was again invited to share at the second Simnasho Family Camp with the help of his son, Dan and granddaughter, Ashley, who has a passion for missions. Everyone gathered around the Vaeths to pray and support their vision for the Warm Springs community.

Later in the summer, Paul and Vio joined us to celebrate crab season in Puget Sound. We loved spending time with this faithful couple ... and their son promises to join us next year!

So what's different now?

### ***Standing with their vision ...***

First Nations people have always had a heart for their own people. What we are seeing today is a growing number of First Nations Christians and a synergy with NAIM that was just not

there before. Now we have the joy of supporting their visions and dreams for the people we serve together. ■



Paul and Vio

## Friends of NAIM Fishing Trip

By Clyde Cowan, Executive Director

As a way to thank a few people who have given to NAIM missionaries and projects, and also introduce new people to NAIM, a few of us went on a fishing trip together. Missionary Ben Clarke hosted us in Northern Saskatchewan so we all got

to know a little about Ben and his work and meet his family.

Everyone understood that it was a test run, to see if we might do more such trips in the future and learn how to handle the arrangements. Big fish, great weather and scenery, great food, good companions. Yes! We should do this again. ■



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1. NAIM missionaries and our hosts, Ben and Nikki Clarke.
2. Ben Clarke holds up one of the first pike caught the first evening.
3. David Stiffler with a northern pike. Pete Edward and Ben Clarke advising and heckling behind David.
4. Jim Bower and Robert Wilson with Elliot Clarke, son of Ben and Nikki.
5. Jim Bower holding a lake trout.

# Summer Ministry Initiative

## From the Director, Brian Fink



Brian Fink

AT THE END OF EACH summer, I get to hear awesome stories, and see the tightly-knit relationships that form between our SMIs and their communities.

This summer, two young women SMIs on Peepeekisis reserve became a part of the family. Their host family regularly asks how “their daughters” are doing. Last month, one of the

SMIs was going through a rough time back home. I mentioned it to their host family and immediately they said, “We should stop and pray for her right now.” So this husband and wife interceded for the summer missionary, and afterwards said to be sure to tell her she will always have a home here.

This was a powerful experience for me. We tell the SMIs to remember and pray for their host families and communities after they leave – and here was the host family remembering and praying for their summer workers! How cool is that?

We can’t wait for next summer, and the team that God is drawing together. If you are reading this and thinking, “I want to go!” then please get in touch. You can also visit our website at [www.naim.ca/fnp](http://www.naim.ca/fnp) to find out more about Summer Ministry Initiative 2012.



Teen night at Fishing Lake; Mike Gunnon speaking of Christ

### *A Summer Missionary's Experience ...*

*Greetings, friends. My name is Eric Badke and I am half Okanagan/Salish First Nations (on mother's side) and half German (on father's side). I am 39 years old and live in Abbotsford, BC.*

*I have a desire in my heart to see God move in the First Nations communities. I knew the Summer Ministry Initiative would give me a taste of what First Nations ministry is like. I also knew it would be a life transforming experience!*

*Brian Fink, SMI Director in Saskatchewan, put me in touch with another SMi from Washington State named Joe Shepherd. He gave me a ride to the orientation. What favor! Joe and I became great friends as we embarked on our journey east, sharing with each other our testimonies!*

*Starting in late June, we had an amazing 25 days in Saskatchewan. First we got some training. We worked with NAIM staff, Brian Fink and family, Neal and Darcy Alsbach, Tim Bryce, and Clyde Cowan, who is NAIM's Executive Director.*

*The four-day orientation was amazing as we fellowshipped, laughed and learned about evangelizing the First Nations.*

*They placed Joe and I on a team together, and our assignment was the Fishing Lake Reserve seven miles outside of Wadena, SK.*

*We met NAIM missionaries, Mike and Gloria Gunnon, and stayed with them the first night. The Chief's brother graciously offered us his home for the coming weeks. We found that the residents of Fishing Lake were absolutely brilliant, genuine and kind towards each other and us.*

*We weren't too sure how to approach the residents of Fishing Lake, but the following morning God inspired us. We came up with four events that we were to present to the reserve: a week long program called, Spirit of Truth Week! The Gunnons joined us on this endeavor. We handed out 130 flyers, one to each house, and received a warm response.*

*Spirit of Truth Week resulted with mostly kids attending. We held a movie night, teen night, and four day kids club. The kids were precious, and 20 to 30 came at a time. We offered Christian based*

*Continued on page 4* ))



Eric Badke

"SMI" continued



Summer Ministry Initiative Team 2011. Brian Fink is on the left in the back row, Joe Shepherd is next to him, and Eric Badke is next to Joe.

activity: Scripture memorization, prizes, instruction, games, and snacks. We all had so much fun!

Teen night was also a success with 15 to 25 teens attending. I remember as we were having hot dogs around the fire one of the

teen girls asked, "When are you going to teach us about God?"

That was music to our ears! We prayed with the teens and then Mike read a devotional about Christ. We also had the opportunity to answer questions when we drove them home.

I believe we planted some seeds for the Gunnons to water. Joe summarized later, "there was fertile soil with the teens at Fishing Lake reserve." Please join us as we pray that many at Fishing Lake be awakened and come to the revelation of God's saving grace, Amen!

After three weeks, Joe and I said our goodbyes at the reserve and headed to Fort Qu'Appelle for the SMI Recap. After Recap we were sad to leave but we have many new friends, photos, and fond memories.

Thank you Father God and NAIM for this opportunity. It was a blessing and a growing experience for all of us. I strongly endorse this ministry, and encourage anyone who is available to come out next summer and discover how wonderful this program really is. I guarantee it will transform your life! So until next year – K'chi Manitou we embrace you!

Brother in Christ,  
Eric Badke

"Snapshots" continued



Dino holds his son, Josiah's fish, which won the fishing contest when all NAIM missionaries got together this summer.

Director Steve Knox to come on staff as the full time lead counselors. That was 11 years ago! Around the same time, we joined with NAIM. When we were searching for a mission organization to join, NAIM was the only ministry that asked us, "What do you believe that God wants you to do? What has God laid on your heart?" NAIM believes and walks out the belief that God gives each believer unique gifts, and so they give NAIM staff the freedom to partner with other ministries, as we've done with Broken Arrow and United Indian Mission.

**NN: Tell us about your ministry work, its highlights as well as some of its challenges.**

**DB:** We have eight weeks of summer camp at Broken Arrow, hosting close to 1000 kids each year. The majority are Native kids from the surrounding area of Gallup and the Navajo reservation. We have told our staff that we have two goals: First, kids come to camp to have fun, so let's have a blast here at camp! And second, to get every camper to know God a little better than when they came. It's all about building relationships and sharing Christ in the middle of that.

**NB:** A huge aspect of our ministry is discipleship. I mentor the girls on staff; Dino works with the guys. It's been amazing to see these girls move from brokenness to finding healing and hope in Christ. I take joy in seeing them respond to the Lord.

**DB:** We're blessed.

**NN: How can we pray for you?**

**DB:** Please pray for our strength. There are a lot of things to be done, and this can lead to exhaustion if we don't carve out times of rest. Also, pray for Broken Arrow, the camp itself; for direction and that the Lord will guide us.

**NB:** I'd appreciate prayer for a Ladies' Bible study I'm starting; for wisdom, discernment, and how the Word of God needs to be relevant in their lives. Pray for us as a family—that we'll be where God wants us to be and that we'll continue trusting and walking on His path for us. ■



NAIM missionaries, Dino and Nanette Butler live at and serve among the kids and youth at Broken Arrow Bible Ranch in Gallup, New Mexico. We got a chance to chat over the phone with them recently, hearing more about their life, ministry, and heart.



Josiah, Dino, Nanette and Caleb Butler



Caleb is becoming a skilled archer.

**NN: Tell us a little about yourself, and how you came to know the Lord.**

**Dino Butler (DB):** I was very fortunate to be born into a Christian family. At the time, there were not many Navajo Christian families who served the Lord. At the age of seven, driving home in the back of my parent's truck, I began thinking about what the pastor was saying in church, and thought, "I really need do this." So I asked Jesus into my life. When I was 13, we moved from Utah to the Navajo reservation in New Mexico, where my Dad began pastoring a small church.

**Nanette Butler (NB):** I grew up in Gallup, New Mexico. My parents attended church when I was very young, but gradually my family stopped attending. Around the age of ten, I was sitting in a Laundromat and I picked up a gospel tract, because I would collect them. After reading this one, I decided to put my trust in Christ. At Broken Arrow Bible Ranch, I really learned how to have a relationship with Christ.

**DB:** In my late teens, I reaffirmed my decision to follow Christ. A few years later, I felt a call into full time ministry, which led me to Grace College and then Moody Bible Institute.

**NB:** In my early twenties, I struggled to walk the path of Jesus. But my life was empty and without purpose without Him, so I

turned from sin, and repented; I wanted to learn to love Jesus again. I went to Moody Bible Institute.

**DB:** Nanette and I have known each other since we were in high school. We started to get serious with each other in 1995 and we were married in May 1997.

**NN: When and how were you called to Native ministry? What led you to NAIM?**

**NB:** In our first few years of marriage, we lived in Durango, Colorado. We were working, paying the bills and just living life, going to church, and ministering to Native students at Fort Lewis College.

**DB:** Then in 1999, we felt led by God to go to Youth With A Mission's (YWAM) Discipleship Training School (DTS) for a year.

**NB:** The motto of YWAM is, "To know God and to make Him known." I think that is a motto I've held onto, in life and in ministry. We grew in our love for Him, and learned to see people through the eyes of Christ, and how lost we are without Him.

**DB:** After our DTS, we got reconnected with Broken Arrow Bible Ranch in Gallup, New Mexico. We were invited by Camp

*Continued on page 4 »*



### Got A Plane?

A NAIM supporter called us up last week. He has offered to cover all of NAIM's handling, sales, and brokerage fees in the sale of our plane. This would be a great gift to us. The only catch is – we do not have a plane!

So we thought to ask, "Have you got a plane that you want to donate to missions?" Now we have someone who can take care of the sale, and we can give you a tax deductible receipt.

If this interests you, please contact our Finance Team in the NAIM Office.

### New NAIM Office

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## Update on New Software for NAIM

By Eleya McKechnie, Software Project Manager

SINCE SENDING OUT THE appeal letter to raise \$50,000 for the new software, donations totaling nearly \$15,000 have come into the office. A big thank you to all who have given to and prayed for this appeal.

We have broken down our system to discover exactly what capabilities our current program has, and what our needs are for the new system. We want to serve donors and missionaries effectively, and we hope to improve and serve them more efficiently.

We are currently in the research stage and plan to remain here long enough to get thorough answers. Primary research has shown many software options are available, and all that can do what a dual-nation mission

requires are more expensive than we had hoped. There are currently six different programs we are investigating. We are narrowing this list by:

- Listing what the current system does
- Meetings between NAIM office staff (those managing the financial system and those managing the donor system) and software companies to demonstrate new software and discuss needs
- Asking other non-profit and missionary organizations about what programs they use and how those programs work for them
- Compiling research data in a way that is easy to understand to simplify the process of comparing systems

You can still help! If you would like to contribute to NAIM's new software, please send your donation in to the NAIM office, designated "Software Project." We greatly appreciate all your gifts and prayers toward this need. Thank you! ■

\$50,000

\$40,000

\$30,000

\$20,000

\$10,000

