

# Normans



*Serving with First Nations to Reach All Nations*



**May 2023**

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NAIM staff and the ministries  
they represent are solely  
funded through and fully  
accountable to North  
America Indigenous  
Ministries



## Tribal Ministry Conference

**Uniting Tribal Nations**  
**"Moving from a Mission Field**  
**to a Mission Force"**



April 21 and 22 found us in Tacoma at the Tribal Ministry Conference. It had been a year in planning, with almost weekly planning sessions via Zoom for David. Four local Native Churches sponsored the gathering, focusing on unity and discipleship and prayer. It was not without difficulties in finding a venue to host the event, or locating a cost-effective caterer, or nailing down speakers, but both planners and attendees were blessed with incredible answers to months of prayer when 90 people from 23 tribes gathered together. In fact, prayer was one of the main focuses of the conference and one of our plenary speakers, Daron Butler, Navajo, challenged us to a month of ongoing prayer targeting Tribal communities in cities and reservations in the Northwest that currently have no known Native focused Christian gathering.



Regarding answers to prayer: When catering bids came in from \$7,000-11,000 for 3 meals, Creator prompted me to ask a new friend at our church if she might consider driving across the state to feed close to 100 people. She accepted the challenge and her son joined her in providing exceptional, family style, savory meals that were highly rated (and within our budget).



## FAMILY

**Meet Luciana.** We just have to brag a bit and show off our GREAT Granddaughter. She turned one in March and Dave got to spend her birthday with her in Nebraska. I am looking forward to their visit this month so I can snuggle and get to know her better. It has been a year since I saw her. Isn't she just the cutest?

In addition to all the great fellowship around meals, there were challenging workshops, a leaders panel, and top-notch speakers including, Darrell **Whiteman**, former dean of the World Missions Department at Asbury Theological Seminary and Terry **Wildman**, who is the lead translator of the First Nations Version New Testament. If you know anything about Native humor you can imagine the friendly banter between these two speakers (Whiteman and Wildman). It was fun.



Terry Wildman and his wife, Darlene, along with Jerry Chapman, Drumspeaker to the Nations, provided music for the sessions, including a Friday night concert complete with Native Dancing.

Our hearts are full when we think of your involvement in this ministry. Lives are being impacted, including ours.

Abundant blessings to you,  
❤️ **DIANE**, for **DAVE** also

#### Prayer Requests and Praises

1. Requests: Pray for the planning team as they begin putting together the pieces for next year's Tribal Ministry Conference.
2. Thank the Lord for so many answered prayers for the Conference. Space does not allow me to expand on Creator's gracious provision, just know **HE IS GOOD ALL THE TIME** and meets every need, many times in unexpected ways.
3. As I write this Dave is at the NAIM Men's Retreat in BC. Pray for our men as they lead their families in our ever-changing times.
4. Praise: The NAIM Ladies Retreat in March was a delightful time of rest and encouragement for me. I even got to make a pair of moccasins.



Thank you so much for your support of this ministry. Your sacrifice means so much to us and is what allows us to share the truth of the Word of God with the first people of this land.

#### Tribal Ministry Conf Pics



Honoring our Vets



Steilacoom Chairman  
Danny Marshall



Daron Butler, Navajo,  
Plenary Speaker



Darrell Whiteman  
Plenary Speaker