

Healing the Orphan's Heart at Ride Out the Storm

Pastor Titus Upham shared *Healing the Orphan's Heart*—a message of hope, healing and restoration—at the Ride Out the recent Storm conference.

Warm Springs Behavioral Health—through the Health And Promotion Prevention Initiative—hosted the conference last week at the Community Center.

Pastor Upham is Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor, with a degree in Social Work and Human Services. He traveled to the Ride Out the Storm conference from his home in Browning, Montana.

The Pastor shared these key passages from *Healing the Orphan's Heart*:

There is a spiritual orphanage amongst the People. We search to fill that void in our lives, through alcohol, drugs, relationships, money, gambling, shopping and eating.

In our places of worship we teach our People how to be members, but not how to be children of a Loving Father.

Native American hearts are hardened, because of the way the Gospel was presented to them.

Titus has been assigned to represent the Gospel to Native Americans, because it was presented wrong. He says:

I see orphans in the eyes of our People, especially those locked up.

We feel abandoned, rejected, discarded, no Indian Name, hurt, abused and divorced. We don't belong anywhere. We have become disconnected.

Titus shared the refrigerator story:

If your electricity gets shut off and your food is not removed from the refrigerator, it will spoil and stink. You can clean the refrigerator out, and throw all the stink food out.



Courtesy Sarah J. Frank

At the conference Patsor Titus Upham shares the message Healing the Orphan's Heart.

But if you put more fresh food in the refrigerator and it's not connected to a power source, the fresh food will go bad, no matter how much you cleaned it out, it will go bad. You have to connect the refrigerator to a power source.

This is the same for us: We cannot keep going to treatment, counseling, shopping, etc., and expect our lives to be good, if we are not connected to a power source.

We don't know the pain others are enduring until we have walked the same path. Connecting spiritually is important to someone who has a history of addiction. We need to help each other find this connection to truly heal.

We need to demonstrate the true love of our Father to the many orphans, and this can be done through each of us. Many reser-

vations, including Warm Springs, have suffered multiple deaths. In a close knit community, one death can affect the whole community.

Sarah Frank, from Behavioral Health, shared this story on the beginning Ride Out the Storm conference:

In 2004 I attended a funeral for an Elder. I heard a lady share her story, and then sang the song Ride Out the Storm.

A vision came to me to have the Ride Out the Storm conference. I didn't know how to coordinate a conference, so I ignored the vision.

Through the years I kept being prompted to do this conference. Then on October 17 I knew it was time to have the con-

ference. Doors opened, I met Pastor Upham, and he agreed to come to Warm Springs.

I met with Living Hope Pastor Brigham Brown, who with his board's support agreed to financially support this event.

Through the planning of the event, my father passed away, so the storm became real and became a part of the birth of this conference.

Other presenters who shared were Kenny Scabby Robe—previous leader of Blacklodge, a well-known Drum Group—and Pastor Leah Smartlowit of the Yakama Reservation. Also: Eanestine Ennick of Tulalip, and local Elder Viola Governor.

Titus Upham, Kenny and Louise Scabby Robe, and Pastor Leah also went into the tribal jail on December 1 to share with four separate groups.

We thank the many participants and supporters of this

event: Warm Springs Police Department and Corrections, the Living Hope Christian Center, Warm Springs Meth and Opiate Work Group, the Hurtado Family, Edna Tufti family, the Warm Springs Baptist Church, Easton Aguilar, Ralph Aguilar, Warm Springs Recreation, and the Warm Springs Jail Ministry Group.

In 1975, Billy Graham gave a speech to Native American Leaders: "You are the sleeping giant, the original Americans. You are now awakening. Just around the corner, you may become a spiritual super power in this country that could change not only America, but the world."

The Ride Out the Storm conference was a first-time event, and definitely a learning process.

We hope to have other events similar to this, and I would appreciate feedback from all participants with hopes of planning future successful events!

— Sarah J. Frank

WINTER

Anm

Ichishkiin snwit (Sahaptin Language)

Chaxelxix

Kiksht awawat (Wasco Language)

Tomo Numu

Numu (Paiute)

DECEMBER

Nch'i An

Ichishkiin snwit (Sahaptin Language)

Itgachaxelqwlmax Akłmin

REFERS TO WINTER HOUSE MONTH

Kiksht awawat (Wasco Language)

Tomo muha

Numu (Paiute)

Tribes, university collaborating on tribal higher education

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and the University of Idaho have signed an agreement to collaborate on improved education opportunities for Native American Students.

Tribal Council met in November with university representatives and, after discussion, the parties agreed to work together on the program.

The agreement calls for the tribes to advise the university and President Chuck Staben on educational and service issues aimed at bolstering university-tribal relations. The university has similar agreements with other tribes in the region.

"This latest agreement will build upon the university's strong relationship with the region's tribal nations, and will help promote collaborations among Native students, tribes and the university," said Yolanda Bisbee, the school's chief diversity officer and executive director of tribal relations.

"We look forward to working with the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation to further promote these efforts."

The university first entered into a tribal agreement in 2007, starting with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. Other tribes to agree are the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Res-

ervation, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians, the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, the Nez Perce Tribe, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation and the Spokane Tribe of Indians. The Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation became the tenth signatory in 2015, and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs are now the eleventh tribe.

As outlined in the agreement, the university president's Native American Advisory Council meets twice a year to discuss issues related to Indian education, economic development, natural resources and other areas of interest to the tribes.

2018 Family Craft Night
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13TH
5:00-7:00 PM

WARM SPRINGS K-8 ACADEMY

In Collaboration with
 Warm Springs CTWS
 Native Aspirations +
 Health & Human Services

December Opening at Art Adventure Gallery

John Scheideman,
Sharon Bean
Pat Dinsmoor
Edward Heath

Dec. 6th 5:30-7pm



support the arts and local business

