

September 2021, (Vol. XX, No. III)



Tokata Youth Center
Wokiksuye Memorial
Cantemawaste Family Days
& Teen Retreat

Tokata Youth Center

The most time consuming part of a project is often initially overlooked. "I'm going to paint the shed this afternoon, it just needs an hour of a little prep work first." Then, after days of replacing boards, scraping off old paint, and priming, one realizes the "little prep time" was really the challenging and largest part of the task.

In the same way, after many years of praying and planning, the long period of "prep work" is drawing to a close and the next step is at hand in making the TOKATA YOUTH CENTER a reality!

Local community members came together in late August to volunteer and do final prep work on the future building site in the heart of Fort Thompson. Then, on September 1st the local community gathered for a special time of prayer at the future Tokata Youth Center building site. Prayers of gratitude and blessing were lifted up, songs sung, words of encouragement and perseverance spoken and then symbolic gold hard hats and shovels were taken up for a ground breaking!

Crow Creek Sioux Tribal Chairman Lengkeek declared a few days later, *"Recently we had the groundbreaking of the Tokata Youth Center, and it is another thing we are looking forward to as a community. It was an awesome opportunity to see all those people and entities come together for something that is really going to benefit this community and especially the youth."*

Due to Covid concerns and protocols established on the reservation, the ceremony occurred rather quietly without many from off the reservation present. But now the fun is about to begin and we not only want you to be a part of it all, we NEED you to be a part of God's next steps here as construction begins. So please stay tuned and in the coming months we will keep you updated including how you can help as we "paint" something beautiful that meets a critical need, the new Tokata Youth Center.





Wokiksuye Memorial

The Wokiksuye Memorial was completed near the Ikce Oyate Christian Center and a special dedication and memorial service was held and attended by the community. More work will be done in the future, including benches and a walking path. It is however already recognized and used as a sacred, blessed space for prayer and reflection. It is a place to grieve and heal; a place of new beginnings. It has even already been the site of a joyful wedding ceremony!



Cantemawaste Family Days & Teen Retreat

Wopida Tanka! - A BIG "Thank You" to everyone near and far that helped make the Cantemawaste Family Day Camps a success. There were over ONE HUNDRED camp participants. In addition to the Diamond Willow and Tokata Youth Center staff members that helped serve at camp, there were TWENTY community volunteers that served with camp. Additionally, with the assistance of another community volunteer, we were able to take eighteen teens to an off-site camp. It was a powerful time of bonding, worship and sharing. God is good!



Leaving a Legacy



As this, Diamond Willow Ministries 20th Anniversary draws to a close, we look forward to what God has in store. It feels like the table is set and a huge feast is about to be served! God has much good prepared for the people of the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe!

You can be a part of this future by leaving a legacy through PLANNED GIVING. All it takes is a quick phone call to your lawyer or financial advisor. One sentence in your will or trust can make a lifetime of difference.

To leave a gift in your will or trust, simply share this sentence with your attorney or financial planner:

“I hereby bequeath to Diamond Willow Ministries, in Fort Thompson, SD, the sum of \$_____ (or _____%) of my estate.”

Thank you for even considering such an opportunity.
We are honored to have you as family.

www.d-w-m.org

Website:

info@d-w-m.org

E-mail:

(605)245-2685

Office:

South Dakota 57339

Fort Thompson

PO Box 438



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