



Fellowship of Native American Christians, PO Box 1691, Pembroke, NC, 28372
Exec. Director Gary W Hawkins www.fonac.org ghawkins@fonac.org

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Let the favor of the Lord our God be on us; establish for us the work of our hands—establish the work of our hands! (Psalm 90:17 HCSB) In order for a structure of any size to be established it must have a strong foundation and the foundation is not always visible to everyone but the builders. The Word of God states, ***“For no one can lay any other foundation than what has been laid down. That foundation is Jesus Christ.” (1 Cor 3:11 HCSB)***

FoNAC is a faith-based, Native-led organization, whose ministry started from its foundation less than 8 years ago but is becoming more recognizable to Christian leaders and organizations across North America. The approach many people have had throughout history to do Native American ministry has been gathering used clothing, collecting food items and sometimes servant evangelism “certainly nothing wrong with acts of kindness”, I am thankful for those but the biggest need of any people group is not physical but spiritual! ***FoNAC seeks God’s favor to be upon us as we endeavor to balance “contextualizing the Gospel message without compromising” the uniqueness of Christ with history or syncretism.***

In June, FoNAC held our annual meeting in conjunction with the Southern Baptist Convention in Birmingham, AL. Reports were given by the Executive Director, Gary Hawkins; Treasurer, Tim Chavis and was presided over by Ledtkey McIntosh. Josh Leadingfox, Pawnee from FL shared a challenging message and Jonah Cypress, Seminole, from FL led our worship and both of these men did an excellent job! Also, Jr Pratt, executive board member, shared Pawnee songs and social dances performed by his children and as always, were such a blessing.

Bro ‘Lit’ McIntosh, has been serving as our Chairman for a few years but decided, awhile back, to step down as the presiding Chair. After time spent in prayer regarding Bro Lit’s successor, we concluded that Jordan Kanuho, Navajo/ Pawnee from OK would be an excellent choice, after receiving a unanimous vote to accept Bro Jordan he was installed as our new Chair. Bro Lit has been one of FoNAC’s strongest supporters and will continue to contribute in an advisory role to offer support in the future.

FoNAC hosted a booth space, provided by NAMB at the Many Faces Exhibit Area which afforded us many contacts through conversations, handing out printed materials, pens and t-shirts. Also, cultural presentations were made that were relevant to Native Americans through song and traditional social dances provided by Jr Pratt and his children.

The month of June brought heartache to our family as my father-in-law, Bobby Jones passed away after dealing with Alzheimers for a length of time. This have been difficult for my wife, Paula and her family, most especially for her mom, Doris, they were married for 64 years.

In June I also served as the camp pastor for the Cherokee Baptist Association, Family Camp. It was a great privilege to share God’s Word among the Cherokee people.

The month of July I served as a teacher for Indian Falls Creek, Davis, OK. I was asked to teach Native American Worldview, which we at FoNAC feel is so very essential for doing effective ministry. The classes were well attended and I appreciated the opportunity to serve at this wonderful camp.

In August, Jordan Kanuho and I attended the Convention Advancement Advisory Council at the North American Mission Board in Atlanta, GA. The Directors of the Ethnic and Racial Fellowships were well represented and Dr Ronnie Floyd the newly elected President and CEO of the Southern Baptist Convention’s Executive Committee addressed our groups. Each Fellowship was allowed time to share about the people they represent.



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Recently, we held a dialogue session along with 8 Native pastors from Oklahoma that took place at Bixby FBC in Bixby OK. Our dialogue focused on mission teams and trip preparedness in every phase whether positive or negative to all concerned. We were pleased to have 4 Native men, 3 of which are Indigenous to the reservation in Sisseton, SD, and are serving as pastors, join us by conference call with some great insight. We will be putting together a resource pamphlet for people to access through our web-site, www.fonac.org

Upcoming events for September:

- *Inauguration of Dr Ronnie Floyd as the President and CEO of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee in Nashville, TN.*
- *Circle of Nations Conference in Tulsa, OK. This conference focuses on Native American ministries. I will be preaching and sharing Native Worldview issues and challenges.*
- *Cherokee Sunday School Convention near Tahlequah, OK*
- *Cherokee Crusade Rally in preparation for their upcoming Crusade in October for their Native churches.*

Prayer Requests:

- **FoNAC has begun planning to host a 2-day conference in Orlando, FL** preceding the Baptist Convention in June, specifically focusing on Native ministry.
 - Discovering ... Developing... Deploying
- **Mission teams that desire lasting relationships:**
 - To become more knowledgeable about worldview and cultural “dos and don’ts”
 - To equip and encourage those on the field by coaching or mentoring.
 - In establishing a network of prayerful support
- **For more open doors to share the ministry of FoNAC**, Fellowship of Native American Christians
- **For financial support** that will enable more capabilities to help those on the field, those desiring to go and those who desire to become involved in Native ministry
- **Expansion of the ministry network** to enable us to accomplish more in more areas by like-minded people
- **New church planters**, especially in the larger metro areas
- **More individuals, churches, associations, and conventions** being sensitive as to how they could become involved in partnering with FoNAC in doing God’s Kingdom Work among the indigenous people of the United States and Canada
- **My wife Paula and I always value the prayers of God’s people for us and for our family**

Love and Appreciation,