

ZUNI CHRISTIAN REFORMED MISSION

Torch

September
2015



Natasha Natewa, our new educational assistant, on break with the children.

THE PLAYGROUND • GOD'S PROVISION

principal's desk

When school started in August, the last work on the new playground—the basketball court—was underway. The three tiers of concrete benches that make a retaining wall for the lower level court was done. The court was newly poured. All that remained was setting the goals and erecting the perimeter fence. As I left school one evening, four neighborhood children raced across the still-curing concrete. I told them they had to wait to play on the court until the goals and fences were up. “Then,” I said, “you can come and play every night.” The children looked at me, pointed to the newly bladed swath of dirt bordering the court, and asked, “Can we play in the dirt?” “Certainly!” I said. Off they ran sending up little puffs of dust with their happy feet.

The children’s good-humored exuberance prompted me to think back on the five years we’ve waited for this playground. Our temporary play area was mostly dirt; digging was a favorite recess activity. . . giant basins for reclining. . . caves for stowing treasures. . . dams and channels for water run-off. One memorable game was called “Puppy.” The kids dug puppy-size holes in the soft damp earth under the fence. I thought it cute and creative. But the game ended abruptly when the recess teacher found a band of little girls happily enjoying gum and asked where the gum had come from. “It’s a game called ‘Puppy Escape,’” the children explained. A little girl had wriggled under the fence, run across the street to the store, purchased some gum, returned by same route and treated her friends.

And, the uninhibited delight of those racing youngsters reminded me of the evening in July when we invited school and neighborhood kids to inaugurate the newly-installed play structures. There was a crowd of children, slightly berserk with excitement, running, sliding, swinging, and climbing. I stood on the deck with parents and grandparents watching the mad scene and chatting. One woman told me that her grandchildren, anxious for the appointed hour, had asked a dozen times, “Is it 5:00 o’clock yet?” Another man reported that he had been out with his grandson that afternoon when the boy, eager for the upcoming playground event, said, “Nana, I think we should go home now. I need to get ready. I need to take a shower!”

From the upstairs window of the school, I showed the new playground to a second grade boy who had not yet seen it. He peered down and observed sagely, “They did good work!” Just so.

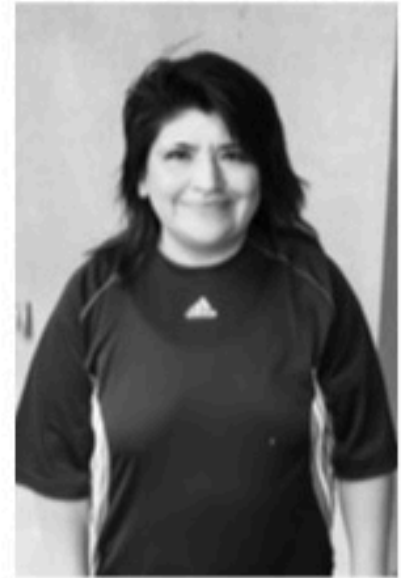
So the waiting is over. The playground is more wonderful than we could have imagined. As we race down the sweep of God’s unfailing goodness, gratitude billows out from under our feet.

classroom corner

See how the new playground has come to life.



mission info



Gods Provision

We gratefully acknowledge God's provision of staff for Zuni Christian Mission School. Pray that we will work in harmony and that we will bless the students and their families in Jesus' name.

New staff members are:

Natasha Natewa (left), a recent graduate of Trinity Christian College (Palos Heights, IL), is our new educational assistant. Tasha is delighted to be back home, serving in the school where she had her elementary education.

Daniel Chattin (middle) and Corrine Kiyite (right) are sharing the janitorial responsibilities for the school. Both are members of the Zuni Christian Reformed Church and are happy that God has given them employment in a place where they can freely share their love for Jesus. Dan received his education at ZCMS and Rehoboth Christian High School. Corrine's first involvement at ZCMS was as a parent when she enrolled her sons at our school.

We are so grateful that Natasha, Dan and Corrine have chosen to use the gifts God has given them to serve our children and our school.

God's Provision, II

We gratefully acknowledge that you also are God's provision for the children of Zuni Christian Mission School. If you would enjoy directing your support to a particular student and a particular family, we invite you to contact Kent Bosma and learn more about our student sponsorship program.

Contact information

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