



Native Sons



Equipping Native Leaders to Reach Native Americans

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- NABC has received the recommendations for the accreditation committee and we are now working on these items. Thus far we appear to be on track to receive accreditation, but this is a long process and we will not know for nearly another year if we are moving forward in the process.
- We now have SKYPE for those that are interested in Skype-conferencing as a way of "visiting with" with. Our account is: john.flood501

PRAYER POINTS

- More ministry partners: our budget has been falling short by app. \$1000 per month.
- Levi & Alicia as Levi begins an 8-month deployment.
- NABC still needs to raise funds for its accreditation

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THE LUMBEE TRIBAL SEAL

Like all Native American tribes the Lumbee Tribe has a seal or logo which represents the beliefs and values held by the tribe and its people. Pictured is the official Lumbee seal.

At the center of the seal is the a medicine wheel known as the Circle of Life. The four equal parts and colors within the circle represent the lifespan of man: birth (red), growth (yellow), maturity (black) and death (white). A circle has no end and as such it represents the idea that there is no end to life, but only another beginning. Additionally, the circle emphasizes the importance of each Lumbee as a whole person and the need to be a whole person. The four colored parts of the circle represent the four qualities of a balanced life: the spiritual, the emotional, the physical, and the intellectual. Together these represent not only a well balanced person, but a complete human being.

Additionally, the colors and locations represent the four directions of the compass: East (yellow), South (red), West (black), and North (white). The colors also symbolize the four colors of humanity: red, yellow, black, and white. Thus the concept of a balanced and complete human is intended to be universal and represents the equality of all

humanity. The four colors further represent the four seasons: spring, summer, fall, and winter.

Surrounding the four colors of the circle is the Lumbee Pine Cone Patchwork. The pine tree is the tallest tree in this area and the most common. The top layer of the pinecone patchwork is represented by



black triangles, the second layer is red, and the undermost layer is yellow. The Lumbee Pinecone Patchwork represents the pride, power, and will of the Lumbee Tribe. The Pinecone Patchwork is a common feature of Lumbee quilt work as well.

The four directions, colors and the Lumbee Pinecone Patchwork are central features

of the Lumbee Logo. They are meant to portray the coming together of old and new traditions in one symbol of unity for the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina.

Although the meaning of the Lumbee Tribal seal is an inspiring ideal, in reality, much of what it represents has yet to be realized. We live in the deep south and prejudice still abounds between all four of the main ethnic groups which reside here (Native American, African American, Mexican, and Anglo-Saxon). The truth of tribal unity is far from realized; many Lumbee will tell the story of the "Indian crickets" which is a story of a young boy catching crickets in a bucket without a cover. The boy chooses not to cover the crickets in the bucket even though they might easily escape, because they pull each other down rather than helping one another or at least allowing each other to escape. Wholeness and health elude many in this area; drug addiction, alcoholism, obesity, diabetes, and heart problems are common here.

The best hope for realizing the ideals of the Tribal seal remains in Christ, the one who places all such ideals in the hearts and minds of all people.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

Commencement occurred at NABC on April 30th. We had four graduates this year, 3 of whom were Lumbee. Two of these are actively talking about going on to get their masters degrees in order to return here to teach. I have been encouraging them to go for it; it would be a great step forward for the school to begin to have Lumbees teaching here!

I spent May in Southern New England touching bases with some of our ministry partners. I want to give a very special thanks to Pastor Tom & Joanne Schwarz, their son Joseph, and dog Yogi for opening their home to me for the month and taking such wonderful care of me. Pastor Tom is the pastor at Central AG in Wauregan, CT. You know they have to be a special family to put up with me for a month!

Theresa is well. She is out of school for the summer, but keeping busy at home.

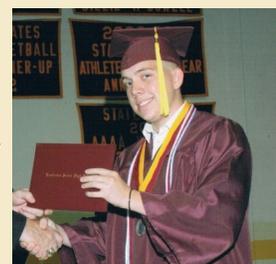
Caleb turned 18 on June 9th, graduated high school on June 10th, and is scheduled to head off to Marine boot camp in Paris Island, SC on July 10th. He is still very excited about this.

Levi returned home from a 2 month deployment late at night on June 8th. He will be home until the end of July (roughly) and then will be re-deployed for 8-months. Alicia and Dillon will be coming to live with us while Levi is deployed. We are looking forward to this. Keep Levi & Alicia in your prayers; its hard to be away from family for so long.

Thank you all for your prayers and support!



Together at last!
Levi, Alicia & Dillon



Caleb's high school graduation.

Summa Cum Laude! Highest honors!