

# Smoke Signals... From the McKinneys

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Dear Church and Pastor,

This is one of those newsletters where I do not know where to start. All sorts of things have taken place and it makes it hard to leave out some of the things that were mostly on the side of blessings and good and if I have room, I will give the rest.

**The Blessings....**of having paid off the mortgage note in April and on October 18, the Tacoma Indian Baptist Church had the privilege of burning the note before a house full of people during their 27th anniversary and dinner on the grounds!

I was asked to be the preacher that day, so my wife and I had a blessing.

**Then**, the Lord saw fit to take home one of our dear preacher friends. Manuel Purcell, was a man I led to the Lord many years ago and he surrendered to the ministry and he went back to the Suquamish Indian Reservation and preached there for the last 22 years. He and his wife Geri were faithful to that ministry and it showed with the presence of so many people he had influenced to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

We were honored to be the speaker with so many coastal people present and the sad thing is, there is no one to keep that work going.

**A few days before that**, we had attended a memorial for Missionary Mike Lane at the Faith Baptist Church here in Tacoma. Bro Lane was Pastoring Faith Baptist at the time of our coming to Washington and he was the one who was instrumental in us coming to the Northwest. He befriended us and provided the means for us to make the move to the this area a lot easier. Even after he and Debbie became Missionaries to Honduras,

he stayed in touch to show his friendship to the end....people that make a difference!

**I just got word** that our previous Pastor Tommy ODell, has had his homegoing after having been in Tacoma since February earlier this year. We will never understand things on this side of heaven, but on the other side, we will see. As the song says, " we will understand it better by and by".....amen!!

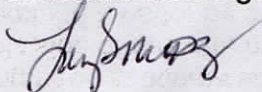
Continue to pray for the Trinity Baptist Church in Grand Prairie, TX., and for the calling of a new Pastor for the days ahead and for it's transition.

**The Burden....**we carry for the Northwest consist of the way they are traditonal in the Indian ways and are set there. It seems to always go in that direction in almost every conversation, but this time I talked to an Indian Man who had no religion of any kind. There was no mention of Christianity or religion at all and he had never been to a Pow-Wow and that really got my attention. He gave attention to hearing the gospel and never interrupting the conversation but his only philosophy was that we are here to work hard, and to make it better for the next generation.

He did not believe in faith, fate, or even reincarnation..... he did not weigh the good over the bad nor did he claim to be infidel nor agnostic. But he did take my literature in relation to the plan of Salvation. I meet all kinds of Indians....pray for us!

Keep praying for us in health and finances for a vehicle and for the Lord's leading in the work of missions!

May the Lord's Blessings continue,



Larry G. McKinney

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October Support \_\_\_\_\_

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