

We at Foundations For Nations have lived and served in this community for the past 10 years. We have sought to love our neighbors in practical and consistent ways. Through our food bank, we help feed approximately 2,000 people each month. We have provided water to homes, remodeled houses, celebrated birthdays and graduations, sat beside families in hospital rooms, mourned with them at funerals, and loved their children through our year-round after-school program. We have fed those experiencing homelessness, helped pay rent and utilities for families in crisis, provided backpacks and school supplies, and given Christmas presents to more than 300 children every year. We have hosted powwows at our church and attended community powwows as well.

None of these things have ever been done because we wanted something in return. They have been done because we genuinely love this community.

Yet the greatest expression of love we can offer is the truth of the Gospel. Jesus said, "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:32). My deepest concern is not my reputation, but people's eternity. Scripture teaches that Jesus Christ alone is Lord. He does not share His place with anyone or anything. Our salvation is found in Him alone, and our worship belongs to Him alone.

This has never been about attacking a people or their ethnicity. It has always been about pointing people to Jesus. Christianity is not merely a religion; it is a relationship with the living Savior who gave His life for us.

Jesus warned His followers that not everyone would receive His message (Matthew 10). The Apostle Paul asked, "Have I then become your enemy by telling you the truth?" (Galatians 4:16). Speaking biblical truth is not always welcomed, but that does not remove our responsibility to speak it with both conviction and love.

My heart breaks for this community. The struggles with suicide, addiction, violence, and sexual assault are real and heartbreaking. I believe with all my heart that Jesus is the answer. We cannot force anyone to believe, nor should we. Every person must make that decision for themselves. But we must faithfully proclaim the hope of the Gospel and allow people the freedom to respond.

As 2 Chronicles 7:14 reminds us, "If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land."

Love serves people in practical ways, and love also points people to Christ. To remain silent about the hope we have found in Jesus because we fear rejection or criticism would not be love for others; it would be self-preservation. My prayer is that every person, from every tribe and nation, would come to know the saving love and transforming power of Jesus Christ.

We will continue our mission, **Love God-Reach People-Impact Community**. The mission does not change. The property the church is on is owned through a fee simple deed. Many Native Americans and non-natives gathered this week at our worship service to lift up the name of Jesus! We are so thankful for the support of our Shoshone, Arapaho, Lakota, Navajo, and people of other Native Nations that have shown their support during this time. The church continues to operate. Our church community continues to be strong.

Our freedom of speech and religion is at stake as Christians. It is our constitutional right to boldly proclaim that Jesus is the only way, the truth, and the life. We will stand for that and continue to speak the truth in love.