



I GIVE YOU PEACE, THE KIND OF PEACE ONLY I CAN GIVE.

JOHN 14:27

DEAR FRIENDS AND FAMILY,

This year, I've come to recognize more deeply that the work of Sacred Road offers something profoundly rare: an invitation to grow spiritually through life's complexities, with faith leading the way. In the context of reservation life, where generational stories, identity, and spiritual longing converge, that posture matters. Sacred Road doesn't ask our people to choose between honoring their heritage and growing in faith; it invites both to live together. And that has shaped me personally in significant ways. I feel more equipped, enriched, and emboldened to serve in this place than ever before.

Stepping into my role in Youth Ministry has been the greatest gift of my year. I had the privilege of spending the summer working side by side with our youth as they carried out community outreach projects: painting over graffiti, mowing lawns, pulling weeds, and caring for our church building. Many of these students experienced their first taste of leadership through service. What started as a task-based summer slowly turned into heart-level transformations.

As fall came, I watched that momentum continue. Our core group of youth began taking ownership with an eagerness and willingness to serve that I remember having at their age. They sought out new opportunities, asked for more responsibility, engaged deeply in Bible studies, and showed up ready to help, not only on church projects, but also in the lives of younger kids as well. The evidence of God's handiwork in them is amazing and tender.

Every week, I spend time with these students, seeing their consistency, their persistence, and their desire to understand God's love. I get to watch their questions deepen, their worship strengthen, and their identities take shape. These are some of my favorite moments of ministry. It is humbling to witness their growth and potential as future leaders in the church and community.

I believe these young people will one day be advocates for their heritage, their faith, standing in the tension of both with grace. Many will rise to lead within the church. I pray they see themselves not only as part of the community today, but as contributors to its future, and ultimately, members of a heavenly family.

Looking Ahead: Overflow Coffee Co.

In the new year, I will also begin a new ministry venture under the umbrella of Sacred Road called Overflow Coffee Co., a mobile coffee and drink trailer. While it will serve as an economic development project, its deeper purpose is to create space for young adults and youth to experience new ways of service, leadership, and community engagement.

The excitement from our discipleship students has already been encouraging. They have helped serve and train at two flea markets this year, and they are eager to continue. For many, it represents a first step into hospitality, work experience, and serving with confidence.



This opportunity is deeply personal to me. A long-held passion is becoming reality, and soon we'll be out in the community serving coffee favorites, building connections, and opening doors for mentorship through simple acts of service.

I'm honored to play even a small role in what God is doing here, in the church, through our youth, and now-soon, across our community through Overflow Coffee Co. Thank you for standing with us in prayer, support, and belief in the future of the Yakama people.

with love,

CONNIE YALLUP