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| |  | | --- | | Greetings WAC Community,  ". . . with humility comes wisdom."- Proverbs 11:2(b)  A young Native American shared at the leadership class I am taking how proud she is of her mother who went to a bank in Riverton where she was ignored by a teller. After waiting a while, her mother went to another teller window and was helped. Then her mother reported this to the bank manager and asked for an apology from the teller who had ignored her and received it. The teller first gave the excuse that she did not know her name was why she had not offered to help her. This happened not 50 years ago, but last week. Hopefully the next time, the teller will smile and say, "Hello, may I help you?"  An administrator of a school on the Wind River Reservation and who is non-Native and a member of my church spoke to my Sunday school class last week about his experiences. We had read The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie (a book I recommend) and wanted his take about schools on the WRR to compare with Alexie's account. He told about going to a grocery store in Riverton soon after he began working for the school district and seeing parents of his students and they would not make eye contact nor speak to him. He said, "I thought that they must not like me." But then he decided to take the initiative and to smile and say, "Hello." It worked; they smiled back and spoke to him. He now smiles and says, "Hello" to every Native American he sees when he goes shopping. He urged us to do the same. He says he notices that some check-out clerks will visit with the whites in line, but not the Native Americans.  So just smile and say, "Hello." It's a start.  Did you see this article in WyoFile this week about health care on the Wind River Reservation? Thank you WyoFile!  [Click here for the article.](http://www.wyofile.com/specialreport/generation-hope-future-native-health-depends-kids/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=weeklynewsletter)  Native Americans and allies, come to the Wind River Native Advocacy Center's Kick-Off Event on Nov. 14. Please register by Nov. 6. Learn about 2016 plans, a recycling effort and making your voice heard in Wyoming. [Download the flyer here.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001JugjmB966hEbzwzUlf7Q_PmP6MHWtE1RSaNc8EWarKXBD9y4crXmoPm-NFR16Pltnd8B2Ue-G7eW5f4cVj8ozGKvBdskM0qFRDhkEARAZA6D0k2GoS5xJ1Voze3-oHcBk4zdVzqybraBjl65ZqSJYUEnxJCVgyTxatWoSPJDkMHFjHVMFsWjG_1qX8vyuYXbErPTXY0tx4Ol8XZM7j-kbRAg438891M5bQseCqOcw23eogmlow2S34EBPh7uBtnC&c=_LGcE1P8zszvhJPyPe7X0q2Uzd8K9QGNVNkweaNm-aFs_aq-fDAO0g==&ch=idFgTGrfyProTl3AY4DSbRAAYWW1ntHAp0occDj8Pr9r40qI36JgKA==)  If you would like to become a member of one of our teams to engage in seeking justice in Wyoming, give me a call at 307-761-0755 or email me at [chesie@wyochurches.org](mailto:chesie@wyochurches.org). Our three teams are Spiritual Life, Sacred Ground and Peace & Justice.  If you would like to learn more about our program Building Understanding and Cultural Bridges with the Wind River Reservation and how you can become an ally on issues affecting Native Americans in Wyoming, please contact me.  The Wyoming Association of Churches asks for your financial support to advance our visioning to end racism in Wyoming and other justice work. Donate at [www.wyochurches.org](http://www.wyochurches.org) or mail a check to WAC, PO Box 1473, Laramie, WY 82073.  **Fear not.  Be bold.  Do justice.**    Blessings,  Chesie  Note that the Community Dialogue is Nov. 19, 6-8, Room 125, Intertribal Building, Central Wyoming College. | |

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