

## MARY JANE MILES



Mary Jane is currently serving her second term on the NPTEC where she has fulfilled the roles of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary. Her intent is to continue working for the benefit of those who are often overlooked in the planning and allocation of tribal services which include funding for in-home services, hospice care, a dialysis center and an assisted living facility. Additionally Mary Jane aims to promote veterans services, advocate against age discrimination and stay vigilant on spiritual needs of the communities. She has personal experience with the absence of these essential services which help her recognize the need for them and also acknowledge that through empathy from leadership, they can be attained.

**Education:** Mary Jane was raised in Kooskia until her senior year when she moved and graduated from Lapwai High School. Her academic achievements include an Associate from Bacone College, a Bachelor of Science in Social Science from LCSC, a Master of Divinity from Fuller Theological Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Mary Jane maintains her learning of national, state and tribal government through her work on the NPTEC and of life's challenges by tending to those in need whether spiritual, emotional, or simple acts of kindness.

**Work Experience:** Mary Jane worked in numerous capacities throughout the years for the Nez Perce Tribe, beginning during her summer breaks from Bacone College, as she regards her time helping the Nimiipuu, well served. Some of her favorite appointments were with Senior Citizens programs that consisted of Director of NPT Sr. Citizens, secretary for the Noon Tahkehse Nim Nimiipuu, and with the Southern California Indian Center in Los Angeles. Another job she found most rewarding was with the Save the Children Federation in Albuquerque where she was allowed, as a tribal member, to take photos of the children on the Pueblos to match them up with sponsors who would provide financial support in school. Likewise, she enjoyed volunteer work with Interlink which involved driving clients to doctor appointments or dialysis, as it gave her joy conversing with the people. Mary Jane began her ministering on the Navajo Reservation at Tuba City, CA and the Tohono O'dom Reservation at Sells, AZ and continues her work at 1st and 2nd Presbyterian Churches in Kamiah.

**Hobbies:** Mary Jane has always appreciated music whether by playing the piano, taking in a variety of concerts, notably the Trans-Siberian Christmas concert or listening to Motown on Sirius. She attends lecture series at Fuller Theological Seminary, various Tribal ceremonies and Talmaks Camp meeting. She enjoys traveling whether to other reservations to experience their casinos and gift shops, driving in beautiful Idaho scenery along rivers or to Gospel Hump. As an animal lover, she appreciates seeing and understands the significance of nature in the wild.