

Navajo News



A Publication of La Vida Missions, Inc.

Bringing the Gospel of Jesus to the Navajo

Vol. 62 No 11

www.lavidamission.org

505-786-5539

November 2024

The First Fire Drill for the 2024/25 School Year

The students got excited when they saw a fire truck and two other vehicles rolling in to La Vida Mission in the early morning of October 9. The students were in the last lap of their running exercise before starting their classes when they were called to gather in the school chapel for a lecture on fire prevention. Personnel from the fire department of Crownpoint met the students and some staff and introduced themselves before the lecture.

The open area between the cafeteria and the school building was designated for a demonstration on how to put out a fire caused by different elements. Students and staff alike experienced operating the water cannon and the fire extinguisher.

Special thanks to the Crownpoint Fire Department and to Mr. Ross Ashcroft for coming to La Vida Mission upon the request for a fire drill.



Here are some of the students' reactions to the following questions about the fire drill:

What did you learn from the fire drill? What was the part that you enjoyed most? Given a chance to be a firefighter, would you join the force?

Jordan (Grade 4): "When there is a smoke in the room, you have to get down to the floor and find the wall that will lead you to the door. Feel the knob first. If the knob is warm or hot, don't open the door because there is fire in that next room.

The part that I enjoyed most was being able to operate the water hose and the fire extinguisher to put out a fire. Actually, I practiced using the extinguisher five times and the water hose four times.

When I grow up and have a chance to be a firefighter, I will join so that I will get a job and have a salary and be able to help my Mom."

Drevin (Grade 8): "I learned new things from credible and professional firefighters, especially the different causes of fire like air, heat, and fuel. I enjoyed using the fire extinguisher and the water hose. It was also very interesting to be inside the fire truck and see the different tools in it. Also, I like the coloring book that the firemen gave us. The hands-on experience was the best.

I am not really interested joining the fire brigade because I have other interests. I want to be a car mechanic as well as a welder."

Josiah (Grade 5) "It was cool when they introduced their names and their rank. I learned not to be scared of fire because there are tools that can help us to avoid it from spreading. Like all of the students and staff, I enjoyed using the hose and the fire extinguisher. I don't want to be a fireman though."

Shalita (Grade 5) "I felt bad that I missed the fire drill, the fun, and the things they taught during the lecture.

- Ms. Cielo



From the Director's Desk:

Warm Greetings Dear Reader!

As always, La Vida Mission (LVM) has been very busy since our last newsletter release! Amidst the busyness of regular day-to-day operations, everyone was involved with preparations leading up to the annual Fall Constituency & Board meeting held on Sunday, October 13. The LVM campus was abuzz the entire weekend with Constituency and Board members driving in from near and far to attend. The Constituency meeting, which took place the first half of the day, mainly involved reports from all of the LVM departments, voting in new members, and discussion on the need for a new tractor. The Board meeting mainly consisted of voting in new members and reviewing policy amendments. It is so worth all the hard work involved because it's an exciting time to reconnect with members coming in from afar who have a heart for this mission and willingly give of themselves to help and support us. The bottom line of the meetings... we have a dedicated and hard-working team who care about our students and the Navajo Community around us, and each one is greatly appreciated.

We also had a wonderful opportunity to engage with the Messiah's Mansion (MM) tour and exhibit which came to Farmington in mid-October, both as servants and as benefactors (see article on page 4). I am a huge fan of Messiah's Mansion because of my interest in the Sanctuary message, which stems from my time as a member of the Clairemont SDA Church in San Diego back in the 1990's, under Pastor Ted Tessner. Back then the exhibit was known as King's Castle. Pastor Ted was hugely into the prophecies and the Sanctuary message, and he taught Daniel, Revelation and the Sanctuary in some way, shape or form every Sabbath. I learned SO much! Just a few years ago I learned that oversight of King's Castle had long ago been passed on to former Clairemont Elder, Clayton Leineweber, and renamed Messiah's Mansion. Needless to say, I was overjoyed to learn the exhibit was coming to Pinion Hills SDA church and could hardly wait. Short but sweet, it was a huge joy to meet and work with the MM team (shout out to Olivia!! Love You my Sister!) and to see Clayton and reminisce about Pastor Ted, King's Castle and the old days at Clairemont church (thank you for taking time, Brother Clayton!). I highly recommend checking out Messiah's Mansion and doing the tour if it comes to your area. To see the exhibit schedule, find excellent resources on the Sanctuary, or to arrange an exhibit in your area, visit <https://www.messiahsmansion.com>. You will not be disappointed!

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Navajo News is published monthly
by La Vida Missions, Inc.
Bulk rate postage paid at
Phoenix, Arizona

La Vida Mission, a supporting ministry of The Seventh-day Adventist Church, serves the Eastern Navajo Nation. It operates a K-12 Boarding school for Navajo children, clinic, water/mail/clothing services and an evangelism outreach for the Navajo community. The mission is located off Highway 371, 55 miles north of I-40, just south of mile post #56, or 50 miles south of Farmington, New Mexico.

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Donation Information

Make checks payable to:

La Vida Missions, Inc.

Federal Tax Exemption #85-0168123

La Vida Missions, Inc. is a
nonprofit corporation of New Mexico.

In closing, Ms. Dorie continues to recover from the concussion she suffered from a fall during an all-staff project in the Little Boys' Dorm on June 4. She has slowed down in order to facilitate her healing. She continues to be the backbone of the Mission. I know she will say it is only by God's Grace, and we are thankful to the Lord for her. Please continue to keep her in earnest prayers for her welfare and full recovery.

Huge thanks to each of you for your prayers and support of La Vida Mission. May God Richly Bless You

Kim

"Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God?" ~ Psalm 77:13

Notes from the Fix-it Shop

Happy Fall Dear Brothers and Sisters!

It is hard for me to believe that October is almost over. Days are a bit cooler and some of us are using a little propane to keep warm in the early mornings. In an effort to keep our propane bill down, the guys have been repairing the flatbed trailer to take to get firewood. Our plan is to get some firewood within the next week.

All the required fall projects are almost done such as replacing furnace filters, draining swamp coolers, and cleaning fireplace chimneys.

We continue to take our vehicles into a shop in Farmington for repair at a great cost. We have two windshields left to replace. One of our vans lost two cylinders and had to be sold for parts so we are down to 5 running vehicles, one of which is strictly a maintenance vehicle. Since we drive students to and from Farmington and Crownpoint weekly, it is imperative that we have reliable vehicles. In addition our staff travels to Crownpoint several times a week for church and outreach as well as to Farmington to pick up needed supplies. They are long and lonely drives, especially as it is getting dark earlier and earlier.

Water Update: A Lead and Copper Inventory was completed and forwarded to the NM Environment Department. Two of our staff continue to receive credits in New Mexico Drinking Water Training as required by New Mexico. Our Source Water Protection Plan has been completed. This plan provides assessment and management recommendations for our water supply to protect our source of drinking water. We have developed an action plan to identify and prioritize specific projects to work on to keep our water safe from contaminants.

One of the bathrooms in the elementary school has been shut down until we can repair the sewer pipes. The old pipes have collapsed and will need to be dug up and replaced. We found an abandoned septic tank near the school that will be filled in before the old concrete gives way.

So...you can see, we have been busy and will continue to be busy.

Thank you for your prayers and donations. Without you, this needed work cannot be completed.

God Bless each of you!

-Lee McIntosh

Pathfinder Leadership Convention

After the International Pathfinder Camporee in Gillette, Wyoming, we were so blessed and grateful for the opportunity to attend another Pathfinder Leadership Training in Glacier View Ranch, Ward, Colorado (September 13-15, 2024) which is a yearly program of the Rocky Mountain Conference for the Adventurer & Pathfinder Club leaders. I went with Ms. Glet. Mr. Ben, & Mr. VJ and I praise God for their active support. It's a weekend of spiritual renewal, training, and refreshment with scenic creation and beauty, and we were inspired by how the presenters were so actively doing their part as leaders and their eagerness to share their knowledge with the attendees. The messages given by our speaker during our training were spiritually uplifting. One talked about an ever-present God even in our highs and lows and in between of our lives. Another was a reminder that reading the Bible and prayers are very important to our lives. It's a lie if we feel that we are far from the Lord because the Lord is always there for us. We left the convention refreshed and inspired to share the messages with our Pathfinder students.

At the convention, we saw the Pathfinder Booths and enjoyed the Pathfinder honors like marching and drilling, and more. We also went to breakout sessions like Pathfinder New Director Class & Intro. to Master Guide/Spiritual Gifts/Youth Evangelism. We enjoyed the last night in the pool too.

We're so thankful for the support of our church board & La Vida Mission admin for allowing us to attend this program.

- Beth Panganiban



Current Financial Needs

We are still collecting donations for a tractor to help us maintain our roads and keep up with various maintenance projects (like digging up the sewer pipes and filling in an old septic tank, as mentioned in the "Fix-It Shop" article).

If you would like to donate to this project, please let us know the donation is to go toward the tractor. If you would like more information, please contact Ms. Kim at 505-786-3004.

In Memory of

George & Margaret Armstrong
Bern Bliss
Lita Castillo
Pastor Stephen Gillham
Wayne Hyatt
Robert & Orlena Kunace,
Robert & Mary Lee
Art & Barry Lizer
Bonnie Lloyd
Jose Lopez
Larry McCoy
Brenda McDonald
Vicky Pioche
Nobert Sammer
Emily Smith
Kenneth Smith

by Lanny & Barbara Davis
by Simon Elloway
by Emilio & Sal Fariaz
by Carol Gillham
by Lynette Hyatt
by Jackie Small
by Lynette Hyatt
by Oradelle Lizer
by Harry Lloyd
by Diane Lopez
by Nancy McCoy-Wearner
by Pat & Rhonda McDonald
by Mike Lamb
by David & Maxine Smith
by Ramona McCurdy
by Lola Smith

In Honor of

Doc Buell

by Bruce Hermsdorfer

Thank you to all of the donors who make a difference at La Vida!

Bulletin Board

Special Thanks to:

•**Our Heavenly Father** for providing our needs.

•**Faithful donors** who support LVM with prayers, financial and other donations (including Box Tops for Education).

•**Student sponsors** for their many contributions, prayers, letters and Christmas gifts.

•**Echo Food bank, Farmington, NM** for produce and other food items.

•**Neal Kelley & Sharing Ministry** for donations of produce and cleaning supplies.

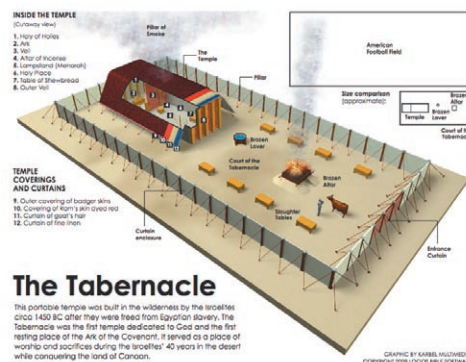
•**Sherman Mohler & Joe Reaves** for donations of food and grocery items.

•**Dr. & Mrs. Gardner and Rio Rancho Church** for donations of clothes and small household appliances for our Community Services work.

Messiah's Mansion Comes to New Mexico!

If you've never heard of Messiah's Mansion (MM), you don't know what you are missing! MM is a life-sized replica of the Old Testament Tabernacle described in the book of Exodus. The MM operation is based in Harrah, Oklahoma, near Oklahoma Academy, and travels all over the U.S., Canada and even overseas. This exciting exhibit came to Farmington (just an hour north of La Vida Mission) where the Pinon Hills SDA Church hosted the exhibit which gave guided tours from October 19-27.

Some of our staff got to serve the MM team alongside our Pinon Hills SDA Church family, helping to set up the massive exhibit on site at the Pinon Hills church (Oct 16-17), serving lunch and dinner to the MM team and as helpers the last day of the tour, and then helping with exhibit breakdown (Oct 27-28). And the biggest blessing was for our staff and students to go through the tour on Sunday, October 27. It is one thing to read about the Old Testament Tabernacle, but to get to walk through a life-sized replica with trained Bible tour Guides explaining the symbolism and meaning makes it come alive in a whole different way. This will surely be memorable to the La Vida students and their family members who were able to attend.



La Vida Mission's Maintenance crew – Bob Blair and Harrison Juan, Jr. – helped on day-one of set-up, which was no small feat. The exhibit takes two entire days to erect and requires a tractor trailer to fit all of the parts involved with the display... tents, curtains, pillars, posts, sockets, stakes, Tabernacle furnishings, life-sized replicas of the Priests, and more. There is a lot of lifting, pulling, climbing, hammering involved, as you can imagine! The MM team has the entire operation down to a science, each member assigned to their piece and intently focused on the mission at hand. We learned that erecting the walls of the Tabernacle is a serious and exacting endeavor. Everyone stops what they are doing and comes to the Tabernacle to pray before each wall is erected, stands by in silent prayer until done, and then gives thanks afterwards. On the north and south sides of the Tabernacle structure, for example, there are 40 panels – 20 panels on each side, as described in Exodus 26. The panels and sockets (panel bases) are pulled out of the trailer one at a time, connected together as one, and then carefully erected onto industrial metal bases. Each panel is the same height and width as specified in the Bible (Exodus 26:15-29) - 10 cubits tall (15 ft.) and 1.5 cubits wide (2.25 feet), using the standard 18" cubit.

The entire tour is a lesson in how the Tabernacle, with all its symbolism in furnishings, garments, Priestly intercession and rituals, intimately depicts God's great Love for humanity and the plan He implemented – at infinite cost to Himself – to save our souls from eternal death, be restored to our pre-fall state, and have Communion with Him here and now while we wait for that Glorious Day when we will see Him face to face and be with Him in Eden Restored Forever.



Please pray with us for the seeds that were strewn during the tour with our students, as well as all of the other tours, will be watered and rooted in the minds of those who came out. Over the course of the exhibit, 1,250 visitors went through the tour, and 350 requested follow-up for Bible study! We pray alongside the MM team that the Lord's name continue to be glorified through this exhibit.

Castle Valley Academy Choir Visits La Vida Mission

"We Shall See Jesus"
Choir, Strings and Handbells

Date: Friday, October 11th
Time: 6:30 pm
Hosted by: La Vida Mission
Seventh Day Adventist Church
700 County Road 7730
Crownpoint, NM

Training for His Service



What a blessing it was for La Vida Staff and community members when the choir from Castle Valley Academy came and ministered to us in song! It was a very special way to begin the Sabbath and a delight to withdraw from the hectic preparation for our board meeting and worship our Lord together with these talented young people.

Positions Available:

Dear Reader –

Is the Lord touching your heart to step into full-time missions? Do you know someone who might be interested in serving the Navajo Nation here at La Vida? We always need committed, self-sacrificing, mission-minded individuals to be a part of La Vida Mission. Currently we are looking for a maintenance manager and a bookkeeper but time flies and things change so if you are interested in either of these or a different position, please call Ms. Kim at 505-786-3004 or email her, kim@lavidamission.org. Or, if you prefer, you can mail a letter to her at PO Box 3308, Farmington, NM 87499.