

Navajo News



A Publication of La Vida Missions, Inc.
Bringing the Gospel of Jesus to the Navajo

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From the Director's Desk:

Warm Greetings From La Vida Mission,

To those who have obtained like precious faith with us by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ... 2 Peter 1, Galatians 1

It is a joy to send our warmest greetings and well-wishes to you with abundant thanks and gratitude for your kind support this past year. Whether your donation was small, medium or large, every bit is a huge help and blessing to ensure the continuation of the specialized commission given to La Vida Mission over 60 years ago – to reach the Navajo Nation, especially the Navajo children, with the truth of the Gospel and the Love of Jesus Christ. As His Ambassadors, we strive with you from afar to embody the outstretched hand of deliverance of our Lord and Savior of mankind, Jesus Christ. We thank the Lord for your partnership both through giving and through prayers, which are greatly appreciated and greatly needed.

The Lord saw us through a challenging year on many levels. Our students and their families face daunting challenges every day. The stories are heartbreaking. The Mission endured many issues, including staffing, water system and maintenance crises, all demanding a great deal of attention and resources. It is God's Grace that has upheld La Vida Mission thus far, and we depend on His Grace to continue.

If not for God's Grace to inspire the generosity of our donors, we would not be able to offer free Christian education to our stu-



dents and field trips like the 2024 Pathfinders' Camporee in Wyoming. Nor would we have been able to afford the cost of the new water tank and installation to meet the state's requirements to continue providing free potable water to the Navajo community. If not for God's Grace to impress individual hearts, as well as fellow SDA schools and churches who came gave of their time and cheerful energy last year, many important projects would not have gotten done. In addition to time and manpower, we received generous monetary donations from several mission groups which were greatly appreciated and much needed. Our long-time Paleontologist visitors, who have been grafted into the La Vida Mission family over the years, are always keeping us in mind, providing produce, canned goods, sometimes even bringing appliances, and most recently facilitating grant money for the school.

In spite of the many challenges we faced last year, and are still facing, it is always worth it for the children. As I type, the Lord has sent us four new students to add to our number in the past week: three are enrolled and one is in the process. Although our student count started out small in September 2024 (seven full-time students), I was personally more interested in quality above quantity, and concerned that we needed to allow our school staff time to settle into some of the changes made over the summer months. The biggest changes were with staffing and suspending the high school curriculum, at least until the Lord provides more teachers and the funding needed to support growth.

In short – we could not keep going without so many helping hands, and we thank the Lord for your gracious support. Thank You for helping us sustain this important mission.

May God Richly Bless You and Yours,
Kim Ellis



How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed?



And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?



And how shall they hear without a preacher?
And how shall they preach unless they are sent?

As it is written:

"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!"

~ Romans 10:14-15

~ Isaiah 52:7

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La Vida Mission, a supporting ministry of The Seventh-day Adventist Church, serves the Eastern Navajo Nation. It operates a K-8 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

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La Vida Missions, Inc. is a

nonprofit corporation of New Mexico.

Thank You for Your Prayers and Donations!

I have spent the past few days working on mailing the yearly donation receipts. I look at each one and Praise the Lord for the fine people who help support the mission. I tried to write a short Thank You note on each receipt and prayed for each donor. If you have taken the time to think about helping us, I want to spend some time thanking you!

A special thank you for each one who takes the time to send even a small donation to help us share Jesus' love not only with the students, but with everyone within our reach. And thank you to those of you who share the newsletter with others so that they can see what is happening here at the mission and they can become our prayer partners and supporters, too.

God bless each one of our readers, prayer partners and supporters. The Lord will not forget what you have done.

Please pray for us as we follow Christ's method of winning souls for the Kingdom.

"Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, "Follow Me."" Ministry of Healing, p. 43

Carol Gillham, Treasurer

Notes from the Fix-it Shop

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Are you singing the winter blues yet? It's been a bit cool here for a few days but most days are at least in the 40's which sounds nice but the wind has been blowing our buildings sideways....

We never seem to quite get caught up with the maintenance problems old buildings seem to create. Two furnaces have failed and some pipes are filled with ice..a problem we'll be dealing with a little later.

I have to commend our maintenance team. They try really hard to repair what they can, but they are not highly skilled technicians. Still, I am amazed at what they are able to accomplish.

We called a plumbing company to come to assess our plumbing issues. A hot water tank had to be replaced. A drain pipe fell apart under one of the dorms (at the far end). The TEAM was able to replace it from odds and ends we had stored for just such a use. A badly warped exterior door was replaced. We noticed a damp spot on the ground where it shouldn't be and found a broken pipe. Not exactly what we wanted mid-winter. Junior and Isiaha are digging in the dirt today to expose the problem. We really need the help of a plumber to finish the repairs to this aging infrastructure. If you know of someone who could come, even for a few days, please let me know.

We are very blessed by those who pray for us and those who are able to help us financially. Thank you everyone!

Lee McIntosh

School Plumbing Needs



Several months ago we noticed a bad smell coming from the boy's bathroom at the school. We asked a Constituent of La Vida Mission to investigate. He took a good look down into the sewer pipes that come from the bathroom and discovered that the old cast iron pipes have collapsed. Due to lack of immediate funds to repair the situation, the students and teachers have been moved into space within the Administration Building. I have contacted a key member of a school that came here as a Mission Group eight years ago to repair a similar problem and they have agreed to come later this year to cut into the existing concrete to the bathroom (through tiled floors) and replace the failing pipes. This needs to be completed before we can return students to the school. A rough estimate of the cost of repairs is around \$20,000 as the bathrooms will need to be re-done at the same time. The sewer line will need to be

replaced from the school to a point where other pipes have been upgraded. We do have some funds but we are praying for additional funds to complete this project in a timely manner. Please pray and consider if you are able to financially donate to this project.

Thank you and
God Bless you all!

Lee,
Maintenance Supervisor



Current Financial Needs

We are still collecting donations for a tractor to help us maintain our roads and keep up with various maintenance projects.

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.

Positions Available:

Is the Lord touching your heart to step into full-time missions? We always need committed, mission-minded individuals to be a part of La Vida Mission. Currently we are looking for a maintenance manager and an office manager/book-keeper. If you are interested in one of these or other possible positions, please contact Ms. Kim at 505-786-3004, email kim@lavidamission.org, or mail a letter of interest to PO Box 3308, Farmington, NM 87499.

In Memory of

George & Margaret Armstrong
Sharon Fandrich
Pastor Stephen Gillham
Arlo Goley
Wayne Hyatt
Art & Barry Lizer
Bonnie Lloyd
Jose Lopez
Walter Maier
Larry McCoy
Michael McCurdy
Pat & Brenda McDonald
Fleta Oliver
Vicky Pioche
Aunt Veda Scholder
Bob Shores
Emily Smith
Kenneth Smith
Jeanne L. Thomas

by Lanny & Barbara Davis
by Delbert Fandrich
by Carol Gillham
by Pastor John Goley
by Lynette Hyatt
by Oradelle Lizer
by Harry Lloyd
by Diane Lopez
by Mabel Maier
by Nancy McCoy-Wearner
by Ramona McCurdy
by Rhonda McDonald
by Mr. & Mrs. Jack Wood
by Mike & Linda Lamb
by Judy Crane & Sister Joyce
by Karmen Shores
by Douglas & Melody Wheeler
by Lola Smith
by Paula Montajo

In Honor of

Our Savior Jesus Christ

by Michael Bower

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 and letters.

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

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

•**Donors** for La Vida Mission 2025 Overseas Mission Trip & Project.

•**Bentley Systems (CAD computers and CAD Programs)** for STEM grant.

•**Sherman Mohler** for books and other logistics for teachers on getting started with "Scratch".

Remembering 2024

