

Navajo News



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Bringing the Gospel of Jesus to the Navajo

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Thank You, Rocky Mountain Conference Churches!



On Thursday, November 10, we were delighted to welcome Cathy and Mike Kissner with a truck load of donations from the Rocky Mountain Conference Churches. This is an annual blessing that arrives just before Thanksgiving and always supplies many of our needs and wants and gives us multiple reasons to be grateful to God for His provision. It is a special day, looked forward to by staff and students alike and the excitement will last for weeks as boxes are sorted and treasures discovered. Thank you so much, everyone who has given of their time, their resources and their prayers to provide what we need to continue our efforts at La Vida Mission. We gather together, after the truck is unloaded, join hands and thank our Father in Heaven for His blessings, for answered prayer and for our brothers and sisters everywhere who are part of our mission family.



A Teacher's Testimony of Thanksgiving and Praise

I truly praise God for all the blessings and providences that He has given to us as we work with Him for His people.

As a Bible teacher & an outreach worker in La Vida Mission with my husband, it is a wonderful opportunity to make a difference with the people in the school, church and in the community as we share the love of Jesus with them.

This month we are able to finish studying the Native New Day Bible series with my students. I felt impressed at how they listened attentively especially during our last series about the second coming of Jesus. I asked them some questions like: What will the follower of Jesus do if they are truly looking forward to eternity in God's new country? What kind of character will Jesus see in us when He comes? Does our lifestyle reveal to our neighbors and



friends that we are sincere in our loving commitment to our Creator and Savior? They all happily participated in class discussion and my heart was touched by their answers. I felt the Holy Spirit has guided us and when I left the room my heart was overwhelmed with joy and gladness. I hope and pray that those lessons will help them to be closer to Jesus and have a deeper relationship with our Father in Heaven. They realize too that when we endeavor to keep "all" of God's commandments, God is able to pour out "all" of his blessings upon us. And only if we have an open heart to do whatever God asks us to do, can we be taught by Him throughout eternity.

Please continue to join us in prayers for these students especially for those who have expressed a decision to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior and prepare for baptism in the near future.

– Beth Fugoso-Panganiban, Bible Teacher and Co-Outreach Director, La Vida Mission





From the President/Director's Desk:

La Vida Mission is now approaching that special time of the year. As I write this, Thanksgiving is just a few days away and Christmas is just around the corner. Yes, and we at the mission do have much to be very thankful for when we think about these last two years, how COVID affected our school and the over all operations here at La Vida. When all things are considered I must say we have been truly blessed. The number of schools and church groups that visited our campus this past summer and provided us with the necessary maintenance and upkeep to keep our school and campus in good repair was near unbelievable. Again, as I mentioned in my last article, we not only thank you for all the help but we also pray God will provide each of you and your families with a special blessing during this time of thanksgiving.

As we all know a new year is fast approaching and we also know several serious challenges are looming on the the horizon. First and foremost is the replacement of our water tank and our community water fill station. As I shared last month, God just may have answered our prayers for some funding help. A couple of months ago we were miraculously contacted by a man working for an organization called Dig Deep. We have met and will be meeting with them again in the very near future to see if and how much they are willing to contribute to the cost of upgrading our water system. Their funding would be in exchange for the use of our water. Dig Deep's primary mission is to install cisterns and to haul water to local isolated Navajo homes. If you want to know more about them and their organization, their web site is Dig Deep.org. They are legitimate and active on the Navajo reservation and in West Virginia and a corner of Texas, where good water is a precious commodity. Therefore, as you might imagine, we are now in the process of testing our well to see how much water it can produce and how much water we can actually afford to share with Dig Deep. Our initial well test results are encouraging but much more testing in necessary. Pastor Mark from the Farmington Church and our head of maintenance John are key players in this project. We all know that, here on the reservation, water is an extremely important commodity and what a blessing it would be if we could help provide our water to these local homes. Please keep La Vida in your prayers as your mission continues to serve the community through our school and its outreach programs. May God bless each and all of us as we serve our Lord and Saviour. Lee Vorhies

Water Project Update

Hello My Dear Friends!

Our latest total for the water project as of the 17th of November is \$117,158. You have been so gracious in your donations and in your prayers. As you know, it is our goal to be able to continue to provide safe and bountiful water not only to La Vida Mission but also to our neighbors, free of charge. There are stations near La Vida Mission that have water but our neighbors must pay for it and the quality is not as good. We are very blessed to have the amount of water we have. History has proved that this well is the seventh that has been drilled over the years. Some wells produced no water at all, while others produced little and of poor quality. Our current well collapsed in 2007 and was repaired the same year. This year the pump quit working and was replaced, placing the pump at 49.5 feet. We are able to keep the 23,000 gallon storage tank full with running the pump less than twelve hours a day. We are ever so grateful to our Lord and Savior for His provision.

Today, as I write this, tests are being conducted to determine how long it takes the well to recover from being pumped and how long it takes the storage tank to refill from being at 1/4 full. These two tests, run today and again in 2 weeks and then again in another 2 weeks, will help us determine the size the new tank must be. When these tests are complete, we will be able to order our new tank.

A bulldozer will be rented to build a road to the tanks, the perimeter fence will be removed and the old tank that is being replaced will be moved to allow for the new tank.

Before the new tank is installed a concrete foundation will be constructed to prevent the soil from slipping away from the tank base.

Even though I know you won't receive this newsletter until after Thanksgiving, I do pray each of you did have a nice Thanksgiving and that you will have a very Merry Christmas as well.

Again, we here at La Vida Mission thank you for your prayers and donations. We still need to raise funds to complete this project and we ask that you continue to pray as we trust God to finish what He has started and enable us to continue His work.

God Bless you all, Lee McIntosh



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How Many Can We Help?

Dr. Loretta Scott stated: "We can't help everyone, but...Everyone can help someone." That is how we feel here at La Vida Mission. There is so much need here in Navajo Land and we do what we can to provide for those needs. We educate, provide food and water and sometimes even gas and propane. We also provide opportunities for spiritual growth and a nurturing environment for kids.

We want to reach the Navajo Nation for Jesus: "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. 143]

In just a few weeks we are planning a Christmas Fiesta with a free flea market, giving away food, clothing, furniture, etc. and propane. This is a costly outreach – especially the propane tank fills.

We could not do any of this if it were not for you partnering with us. As you plan your end of year giving, please remember the needs here at the mission. Thank you for that!! Our donations generally drop off during January and February and we struggle during those months because our heating bills are the highest. Thank you for remembering us as we serve the Navajo during these cold winter months.

And we thank you for your prayers and generous gifts that we have received throughout this year! With partners like you we can win this campaign for Christ!

Carol Gillham, Treasurer



Students work on crafts during parent / teacher conferences.



The La Vida Mission School Choir has been organized again after more than 2 years of hiatus due to the pandemic. Part of the goal of forming this choir is to train students for ministry and

service for others. They have started visiting nursing homes, singing some songs and playing some instruments for the people there. If approved by the organizers, they might sing in the upcoming GYC on Dec. 28, 2022-Jan 1, 2023 at Phoenix, Arizona. It is our dream for the students to have choir uniforms so they can sing more confidently in front of the congregation. If this is something that speaks to your heart, please help us collect funds for their uniforms and future music activities. And please pray with us that as they sing these songs of praise to our Lord, that He becomes very real to each one of them.

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 food and vegetables.
- Elmer & Eva Sundeau for assorted clinic supplies & clothes.
- Zach George & Family for prizes for Fall Festival
- Renita & Reva's Family & Friends for prizes for Fall Festival
- Paleontology Group c/o Sherman Mohler & Joe Reavis for dryer, dishwasher, refrigerator, clinic supplies, dry food & groceries.
- Rocky Mountain Conference Church Members for the assorted donations & cash.

In Memory of

George & Margaret Armstrong
Wayne Hyatt
Mr. & Mrs. J. R. Kunau
Albert Lind
Barry & Art Lizer
Larry McCoy
Brenda McDonald
Fleta Oliver
Frank Putnam
Kenneth Smith
Romulo Tabo
Harvey Weber

by Lanny & Barbara Davis
by Lynette Hyatt
by Sam & Jackie Smith
by Margaret Lind
by Oradelle Lizer
by Nancy McCoy
by Pat & Rhonda McDonald
by Jack & Mary Wood
by Clare Putnam
by Lola Smith
by Arlegie Tabo
by David Davies

In Honor of

Irene Kalina
Jack W. Wood (his 83rd Birthday)

by Andrew Kalina
by Jack & Mary Wood

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



Fall Festival



On November second, La Vida Mission had its annual Fall Festival Celebration. The day started off normally. The school did flag raising ceremony and proceeded with the morning classes and routine. At noon, all the students were called in the gym to help set up the game booths. Each booth was assigned by dorms and classes.



We, the older boys dorm, set up our canopy along with the other groups. We decorated our canopy with Christmas lights, pumpkins, blankets, and pillows. The game of our choice was Ring Toss. We used mini cones and made rings with red and blue copper wires. The objective of the game is to toss a ring and land it on one of the cones from a certain distance.

The other games included Coin toss and Ping pong toss into a cup by the Small Girls' dorm, Music Genius by the Small Boys' Dorm, Bean-Bag Toss by the Big Girls' Dorm, Pick-up Sticks by Ms. Claire's Class, Elephant March by Ms. Glet's Class, Rodeo Roping by Ms. Vicky's Class, and Basketball Shooting by Mr. VJ and Ms. Beth. Ms. Dorie set up a Food Court while Ms. Carol and Ms. Ann set up the Prize booth where we could trade tickets for foods and prizes. We earned tickets from playing the games at the booths.

After about three hours of setting up our booths, all the students and staff were called outside for the Hayride. Everyone got on the trailer behind Mr. Bob's truck. We headed out to the Piche's Ranch to observe their livestock. We saw horses, cattle, sheep, and a little puppy named Paige. After the Hayride, we all went back to the gym and started playing the games, earning tickets, and eating. We had lots of fun spending time together that evening. We all ended the night with some cleaning and headed back to our dorms. It was indeed a Fun Night!

by Gian Paloma, Sophomore student of LVM



Nursing Home Visitation



We were so happy to have the opportunity to visit Reva and Renita's mother in a nursing home and spend some time with the residents there, singing and enjoying their company.

A week later we were able to take our students to another nursing home for them to sing and bring cheer to their residents. We will bring you pictures of that fun visit next month.

