

Navajo News



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

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Like a Spring in the Desert

"Thinly spread", "overwhelmed", "time-pressured", "stressed" and the like. These are common descriptions of our life at La Vida Mission during summer vacation (when everybody goes on vacation at different times and even when they return) and especially towards the end of it, when school opening looms on the horizon and so many things need to be in order still; the school and classrooms to be cleaned and reorganized, the dorms to be readied, and everything around the Mission to be prepared, not to mention the teachers' lesson preparations and many more. This summer vacation was no different, maybe even more challenging and busy because on top of the school opening, there is the Native Impact Bible Prophecy Revival Meeting and Health Expo in September that we are preparing for. So almost everybody and almost all departments at the Mission are stressed and stretched to the limit.

But God is always true to His promises. He will help and provide help. Isaiah 44:3 says, "For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants." And true indeed, God sent our much-needed rain and help, which came "like a spring in the desert".

With very short notice, not included in our mission schedule and calendar, Pastor Eddie from Oceanside SDA Church in the San Diego area, California reached out to our president-director Mr. Lee Vorhies and offered to come with a group of 30 or so youths from his church, if we would accept them, to help in whatever projects we have at the Mission. They were supposed to go to Alaska for a Mission trip but their plan was aborted by the pandemic and La Vida Mission was presented to them as an option by our Board Chair, Annette Williams, who happens to be a member in that church. With one week to prepare for projects they will do and plans they wish to accomplish; everything went smoothly and this group of dedicated youths and young adults drove up to the Mission on a Sunday evening of July 24th and what a blessing they have been! Like a gift from heaven, like a monsoon rain in the desert.

A local institution donated to our Mission an enormous amount of furniture and many other items which would have taken us at the Mission more than a week to haul and move but which only took them two days. They also joined us in our Native Impact ground preparation in Crownpoint by conducting outdoor VBS, Health Consultation and Health class and helping with our door-to-door Walking with Jesus book distribution in the Navajo Housing Area in Crownpoint. The group also helped with painting and fixing fences, working in our greenhouse, repairing some of our roads that were ruined by heavy rains and in many other various small but needed maintenance upkeep jobs at the Mission plus leaving some goodies for our girls in the dorm.

We are grateful to God for these His miraculous gifts and blessings. Thank you, friends, from Oceanside SDA Church. Praying you will come again next time.



If you wish to organize a Mission trip for your church or school or know of someone who would be interested, please introduce them to La Vida Mission. And please continue to keep us in your prayers.

– Dorie Panganiban

(more pictures on page 4)



La Vida Missions, Inc.
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<http://lavidamission.org>

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

Girls' Dormparents, Cafeteria Assistant,
Mechanic-Maintenance

Minimum Qualification:

- Members of the Seventh-day Adventist church in good and regular standing preferred
- Has identity and legal authority to work in the United States.
- Complete Child Protection Training and pass the standard background check
- Necessary degree and training for the position or the willingness to learn the job
- Complete a medical/physical examination as needed to determine fitness for work
- Be mature enough in age and emotion to handle the daily challenges of mission work
- Has experience working with young people and children
- Mission-minded and dedicated to work with our Native American community
- Demonstrate commitment to personal integrity, character development, & team work
- Hard-working, organized, reliable and willing to go the extra mile on behalf of ministry
- Ability to build a caring, friendly, and positive rapport with students & fellow staff

If interested, call 505-786-3001-3004; or email
office@lavidamission.org





From the President/Director's Desk:

I am happy to report that La Vida Mission has enjoyed a very good and productive spring and summer. The best news is, we are now focused on our new school year as we are involved in school registration and interviewing potential students and their parents. Our teachers and staff traveled to Denver to the annual RMC Teachers In-Service Training. Since our school has been closed more than open the last two years, our hope and prayer is that we may have a near normal school year. We are, however, concerned as the COVID infection rate is starting to increase in this part of New Mexico. On a lighter note, summer is vacation time for our teachers and staff here at the mission and several of our people have enjoyed well deserved holidays.

One of the highlights this year has been the number of young men and women from six different visiting schools that came and worked hard providing much needed upkeep and repair to our dorms, our school and the campus. As I have shared before, due to COVID during the last two years we had only one visiting school group so maintenance and upkeep has been minimal. It should be noted that the maintenance provided by these visiting schools is the life blood of our mission and school maintenance. This most recent group from the Oceanside California SDA Church arrived on Sunday, the twenty-fourth of July, which proved to be perfect timing.

Also, we had just been contacted by an organization who offered us a number of items including several rooms of dormitory and school furniture. This offer included a conference table, beds, study desks, standalone clothes closets and chest of drawers. They also blessed us with many containers of bed sheets, pillow cases, blankets and other items. Thankfully our visiting school group came with several pickups and with our trailers, we spent the better part of two days moving these items to our campus. Our plan now is to use these donations to upgrade our school, our dorm houses and our staff houses.

I must also share that the monsoon rains have found our campus this year and these heavy rains have brought us the additional challenge of road repair and upkeep. The rain is a mixed blessing as it also results in much additional work. To end with a positive possibility for us, one or more volunteer school groups may come during the November and December time frame.

I am more than happy to report that "The Life" La Vida is doing well as God continues to bless this part of His wonderful creation and His La Vida mission.



Right: Two of our students helped us pass out books in preparation for the Native Impact revival meetings.

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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-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

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Water Project Update

Hello Dear Friends!

The latest figure for our water project is \$94,900. Praise the Lord and a big THANK YOU to all our donors. Of that amount, \$200 has been spent for parts for the Community Water Hydrant.

Work continues on the final three deficiencies we were cited for during the Sanitary Survey done by the State in August of 2021. Six of the total nine deficiencies have been corrected. The Community Water Hydrant modification has begun. An overhead arm has been added from which a hose will hang to fill community water tanks. The largest project and most expensive is, of course, the installation of a new water storage tank. As this is a Modification of a Public Water System, the Mission will coordinate with a professional engineering firm, the NM Environment Department's Drinking Water Bureau and D & R Tank. Mr. Lee and I will be meeting with the professional engineering firm, DTF Engineering, this month (August) to begin the process of application and reviewing the many requirements. The third deficiency regards discolored water coming from our frost-free hydrants. The new Operation and Maintenance Plan calls for weekly flushing of the hydrants. I was advised by the Drinking Water Bureau's compliance officer that the hydrants will be re-tested following the new tank installation.

I completed and submitted our six month progress update of the Corrective Action Plan to Mr. Wayne Jeffs of the NM ENV Department on July 29, 2022 which is due August 2, 2022. As a part of the update, I asked for another extension to complete the project.

Again, thanks to all who have donated to this project. As you know the \$100K figure was an estimate. We will have more information about the final cost as it becomes available. Blessings to all!

Lee McIntosh, LVM Sanitary Survey Response Coordinator





Sister Churches Sabbath Fellowship, A Great Initiative

We're truly grateful to God that, after almost two years, we now have a permanent lead pastor in Pinion Hills, Farmington who also takes care of God's flocks in Aztec, Waterflow and La Vida, in the person of Pastor Mark Philips, a truly dedicated servant of the Lord.



We appreciate Pastor Mark for quickly reaching out to us the same week he moved to Farmington, making an appointment to visit and meet with us. It is very encouraging and inspiring and we thank God for his interest and sincere concerns for La Vida Mission and its various needs and ministries. He actually initiated this Sabbath fellowship of all his churches once a quarter with La Vida Mission and Waterflow as the venue so as to serve and bless these two smaller churches in his district. What a great initiative on his part!

Sabbath, July 30, 2022, Pastor Mark and his wife Julia came with a pretty good delegation of members from Farmington Church and Aztec to spend the Sabbath with us in worshipping our Creator and in fellowshiping with one another. To be able to continually comply with the Tribe's order of practicing the Covid-safety protocol of proper distancing and wearing of mask, we did the Sabbath service and eating lunch together after the service in the gym. Our local members from Crownpoint Company also joined us along with some of our local community members, which would have been more numerous if not for the rain and flood that made many roads on the Reservation around us impassable.



I myself felt the blessing of the Sabbath fellowship with fellow church members from other churches which we have not had since late 2019 when pandemic hit. Many others felt and commented the same. Quite a good number of people actually stayed until late afternoon just to visit with one another, encouraging each other in the Lord. The psalmist is indeed right when He wrote in Psalm 133:1, "How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity".

– Dorie Panganiban



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 a weekly supply of produce and other necessary food items.
- Neal Kelley & Sharing Ministry for donations of food and vegetables.
- Anonymous donor for assorted furniture.
- Anonymous donor for school & office supplies.
- Oceanside Church in San Diego, CA for working on many projects and participating in our outreach programs (as mentioned in articles included in this month).
- Frank Hardy for 1000 copies of "Walking with Jesus" books.

In Memory of

George & Margaret Armstrong	by Lanny & Barbara Davis
Meredith Genton	by March Genton
Oliver (Bob) Hacker	by Karmen Shores
Wayne Hyatt	by Lynette Hyatt
Albert Lind	by Margaret Lind
Barry & Art Lizer	by Oradelle Lizer
Larry McCoy	by Nancy McCoy
Brenda McDonald	by Pat & Rhonda McDonald
Alvin Ortner	by Patricia Watts
Frank Putnam	by Clare Putnam
Nobert Sammer	by David & Maxine Smith
Kenneth Smith	by Lola Smith
Lance Turner	by James & Shirley Turner

In Honor of

Irene Kalina	by Andrew Kalina
Jim & Debbie Murray-(Happy Anniversary)	by Aunt Pauline White

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



Four Birds With One Stone

Last week was a busy week at the Mission with the Mission group from Oceanside SDA Church in Oceanside, California.

They helped with various projects at the Mission but they specifically asked for an opportunity and chance to also serve our Native community so we took them to Crownpoint on Wednesday, July 27th, to help us in our Native Impact Evangelism ground preparation and hitting four birds with one stone.

They led out in an outdoor Vacation Bible School, puppet show, Bible stories, crafts and games, Health Checkup and Health Counseling to parents and grandparents while their kids are attending the VBS and distributing Walking with Jesus books (written in English and Navajo) in the Crownpoint Housing areas and Speedway Gas Station while Healthy Cooking Class was going on in the church.

It was an exhausting day and time to do all the above-mentioned activities but was a rewarding day most of all. Everybody went home full of joy and happy in the service of the King. We received texts and messages from parents and grandparents saying: "Our children had so much fun, thank you La Vida and your Mission Group friends", "Thank you for what you did, our babies enjoyed the VBS so much and we did too", "We are thankful for the health checkups, we sometimes have difficulty scheduling them quickly", and "We appreciate your services to our native community".



Please pray for the coming 2 Health Expos and the Native Impact Bible Prophecy Revival meeting on September 4-17.

– VJ & Beth Panganiban, LVM Outreach Co-directors