

Navajo News



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Bringing the Gospel of Jesus to the Navajo

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2015 La Vida Native Campmeeting

Arise! Shine! Jesus is Coming! This 2015 General Conference theme was adopted by our "End-time Families Revival Campmeeting" held last week-end, September 25-27, 2015 here in La Vida Mission. Each segment of the program revolved around this theme. The opening program was on "End-time Families' Hope", the Sabbath School time and Sabbath afternoon seminar was on "End-time Families' Mission", the worship service was on "End-time Families Life and Commitment", and the last meeting was on "End time-Families Glorious Destiny".



It was a full and busy week-end that started at a wonderful Friday dinner prepared by our Cafeteria crew headed by Ms. Sonia Gayares. The Opening Program followed after dinner; all La Vida Mission students and staff and some guests participated. We did five mini-dramas played by all the four dorms with the fifth and last skit played by our staff. We portrayed the "end time families' hope", with each skit and mini-play giving a message on how end-time families' life could be as foretold in the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy and ending in the hope they can cling to from the Word of God. We're happy and proud of all our students and staff who did really well despite very short and limited practice time.

The opening program ended with a message from our main guest speaker, Bro. Dale Goodson who spent four years working at Monument Valley, two years at La Vida, and almost twelve years in Papua New Guinea. While working in the New Guinea rainforest, he realized the important relationship that exists between culture, worldview, and discipleship. He spent well over ten years studying this relationship and has spent years preparing missionaries in culture specific discipleship ministries. His ministry throughout the whole campmeeting was a blessing as most people commented.

Among our other guests and resource people for the various programs are Pastor Charlie Whitehorse, Native Ministries Coordinator for the Pacific Union Conference who did the translation for our main speaker in Navajo; La Vida Mission President Pastor Steve Gillham and his wife Carol as Teens' Church Service Speaker; Pastor Dale and Nancy Wolcott from Chinle, AZ as Children's Church speakers; Dr. Clare Putnam and Cynthia Risk who did the children and teen's programs respectively; Karen Peckham with her friend Julie Hummer-Bellmyer who did the Health seminar and cooking class; Orié Garcia with her husband Bob, as our lead singer; and Pastor Lee-Roy Chacon, president of the Texico Conference and his wife Nelva who gave the last worship service and commitment message.

The more than 200 children and adult campmeeting participants came from the different churches and places of the Four Corners and beyond of the Indian Reservation such as Monument Valley in Utah, Kayenta, Chinle, Pinion, Page & Coppermine in Arizona, Cortez in Colorado, and Waterflow, Farmington, Crownpoint, Grants and Albuquerque, New Mexico and we have guests who came from as far as Oregon, Wyoming and Florida.

The last day of the campmeeting on Sunday was quite busy also. While children and teens were having their program in school and the adults were attending the health seminar and cooking class in the church and at the same time, availing themselves of the free health consult and massage services by Michael and April Smith and Allen Fowler, the La Vida Mission Board and Constituency meeting went on in the Mission Board Room. Everybody met in the cafeteria for lunch and the campmeeting ended in our monthly "Community Service Day". All campmeeting attendees were welcomed to join our local community people in receiving free clothing and other household items in our Dorcas Hogan and free goody bags and liquid laundry detergent from our Church Community Service Center, a community service that we do in collaboration with the office of the "Partnership With Native Americans" (formerly National Relief Charity).

Everybody went home happy, re-energized, and committed to "Arise and Shine" with their hopes of Jesus Coming continually burning in their hearts.

Dorie Panganiban, Office Manager and Community Service Coordinator



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** and their many contributions, prayers and letters.
- James & Natalie Dodd** for Box Tops for Education, stickers and activity books.
- Clare Putnam** for Box Tops for Education.
- Andrew Kalina** for Box Tops for Education.



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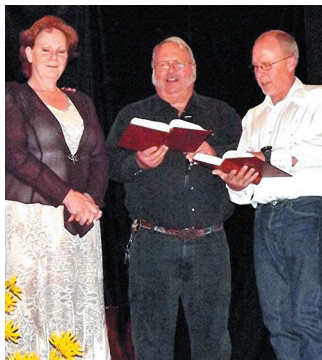
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What Happened to Dolores?



At our regular board meeting on September 27, Dolores Bentley resigned as Director for La Vida Mission. For four years, Ms. Dolores has been the Director for La Vida mission. She has loved her job and is loved by students, staff and community alike. As it turns out, she is also loved by Mr. Kent Barger who is an elder of the Nucla Colorado SDA church. Dolores and Kent met at Colorado Cowboy Campmeeting last July. Shortly after that, Kent came and volunteered at the mission. While volunteering they became friends, then sweethearts and finally decided they wanted to spend the rest of their lives together.

On October 3, at the close of the Sabbath in the Lilakai Julian Neil Memorial Chapel, they pledged their love to each other and became husband and wife. They plan to live in Norwood, Colorado, but will continue to support and be involved with the mission. Dolores has taken on the responsibility of Vice President for Marketing.

Steve Gillham takes up duties as new Director of La Vida Mission

Steve and Carol Gillham have been on a journey towards La Vida Mission since a group of students, accompanied by their director, were touring the Western United States in a little yellow school bus in the early '80's. They came to the coastal Brookings, Oregon Seventh-day Adventist Church, where they performed and told the story of La Vida Mission. Pastor Steve and his wife, Carol were very impressed with these youthful ambassadors. When the group left, they presented a gift of a beautiful sand painting that has been a treasured item for all these years and continues to hang on the Gillham's dining room wall.



When the Gillhams moved to Southern Colorado, they happily joined the Monte Vista Church mission trips to La Vida Mission and returned to conduct a Week of Prayer that resulted in several students studying for baptism. After a few years Pastor Steve was asked to join the Constituency for the Mission and in 2013 he became a board member and President.

At the recent Constituency and Board Meeting, he was asked to replace Ms. Dolores as Director because she resigned to take up her new duties as bride and housewife to Kent Barger of Norwood, CO. Ms. Dolores has been a valuable asset to the mission. She has led the mission into a new area of ministry by introducing a high school and every year the high school program gains strength. This year we have an excellent staff who are competent, dedicated and have a good working relationship. The team is characterized by an excellent spirit and high morale. We need to build on these strengths and go forward.

Now, as Pastor Steve humbly accepts the responsibility of the day-to-day operations, he asks: "Will you please pray for La Vida Mission, for the staff, the students and for us that God gives us the wisdom to lead for Him?" He adds: "Our desire is to make disciples for Christ here among the Navajo children and adults. We want to do all we can to 'Make It Easy for Kids to Know God'".

Dr. Clare's Class at Campmeeting

This year's camp meeting was filled with so many fun activities that the time flew by faster than ever.

All of the dorms spent much of the month preparing and learning their lines for our "end times families" skits. The big girls loved their skit and worked hard to ensure that it was a success, they even learned to ad lib in case one of them missed a line.

Before we could blink it was Friday and that meant DRESS UP TIME!!! And this is how it began. By the time they were done, our beautiful girls had transformed into lovely young ladies.

During this campmeeting I also got the privilege of being Dr. Clare Putnams' assistant in the 9-12 years old classes. How much fun!! Whenever I hear Ms. Clare is coming I say SIGN ME UP!! We were lucky enough to have not only Ms. Clare but Jason join us as well.

And while Jason vowed that the kids and I would never be able to take his picture...guess what Jason, we caught you sleeping on the job.

SURPRISE!!

Not only did all the kids enjoy picking on Jason but they also loved Ms. Clare's Bible lesson stories and getting to create their own clay pottery. We got to see all of their awesome God given talent shine brightly



through their creative hands.

Another cool project Ms. Clare's class did with the kids was they got to make their own mural. THE KING JESUS IS COMING SOON. All the kids got to pick some pictures that show God's love, beauty, and ones that show of God's soon return, they then placed them onto a beautifully decorated background and throughout the day the mural of God's wonders grew bigger and bigger.

The kids got to make Prayer journals, prayer rocks, necklace diaries on health, and so much more. But my favorite project of all was when we made decoupage flower pots!! THAT WAS FUN!!

Thank you so much Dr. Clare and Mr. Jason for all of the exciting and beautiful things you helped our camp meeting kids create. All of these things really do show the creativity, the fun, and the love of God.

Emily



STAY TUNED for more campmeeting articles and pictures next month.

In Memory of

Virgil Allen
George & Margaret Armstrong
Lucille Boucher
Anne Gutman
Darla Jahn Lee
Albert Lind
Barry Lizer
Wilma Pillsbury
Frank Putnam
Norbert Sammer
Vickie Messer-Sanchez
Roy Schneider
L H Stephens
Earl Thompson
Dr. Agatha Thrash

by his loving wife, Marcia Allen
by Lanny & Barbara Davis
by Ron Boucher
by her loving husband, Morris Gutman
by Rita Vital
by his loving wife, Margaret Lind
by his loving parents, Art & Oradelle Lizer
by Albert Pillsbury
by Dr. Clare Putnam
by David & Maxine Smith
by Francis Gregerson
by Joe & Marletta Niccoli
by May Stephens
by Ron Boucher
by Rita Vital

In Honor of

Lila Fehr
Patrick M. Ross
All the other Donors & Past and Present Mission Staff
Our loving & wonderful Creator
My loving Father

by Jim & Judy Culpepper
by Janet Claymore & Duane R. Ross Sr.
by Charles & Carolyn Reynolds
by Charles & Carolyn Reynolds
by Nadia Engka

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

Booster and Car Seats Desperately Needed

La Vida Mission has been blessed by an opportunity to teach very young Navajo children. However in order to safely transport these children and to comply with the state laws, we need booster seats and car seats for our vans. The cost of each seat is \$50 and we need 10 to adequately supply the vehicles with this important safety item. If God impresses you to help with this vital need, please mark your donation envelope "Car Seat". If you have any questions or have a new car seat you would like to donate, please call the office (505-786-5539) for more information.



Camp meeting is not just fun for the grown ups. The eight year old and younger group had heaps of learning and fun too. Granny Lorna, a granny to all, came from Colorado with just a few of her Navajo dolls, to tell us stories of getting ready for heaven.

The little ones loved looking and feeling the realistic little animals and dolls she shared to illustrate the love of Jesus and the promise of lions and lambs eating together in heaven some day.

The thirteen eager little jewels of Jesus also enjoyed some fun snacks of cloudy sky Jello, animal crackers, and a jeweled rice crispy crown.

Creative little minds also constructed a Jesus coming in the clouds craft and glittering, jeweled mansions.

They sang songs of heaven and played with soft animals that might someday be real and ridden on when walking next to Jesus in the home He's preparing for us.

April Wright



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Every donation helps us continue our work. Thank you so much!!

Meet Our Students

Meet Devin and his little brother Elias, or better known on campus as Sky. Devin is a returning student, but was missed for the past couple years. Sky is new to La Vida this year joining our first grade class. Both brothers add cheer and laughs to the classroom, always trying to get the other children to smile. While on campus the brothers live in the little boys dorm.



When asked what Devin likes best about La Vida, he thought it was maybe the food. Shy Elias, just shrugged. Both boys like playing with friends and wrestling with each other. Neither one likes sports much, but clowning around is always a hobby with these two brothers.

April Wright