

Navajo News



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Bringing the Gospel of Jesus to the Navajo

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Challenges and Blessings - GYC 2022

Our trip to GYC 2022 (Generation of Youth for Christ) was full of great blessings and life experiences, especially for our students' personal, professional and spiritual growth. We were blessed by all the lessons we've learned throughout the program. The lessons pointed us to how to be closer to Jesus and have a deeper relationship with Him. This was the first time that most of us were able to attend GYC and personally it was one of my answered prayers. We joined the united prayer at 6:00 every morning, as well as daily devotional and plenary sessions that helped us understand the true meaning of a Christian walk. We also visited varied ministry booths that were greatly inspiring. One of the most awesome experiences was outreach. Each person received one box with 30 copies of "The Great Controversy" and GYC staff encouraged us to give all of them to our neighborhood in Phoenix, Arizona and offer prayers for the people we encountered. Even though not everyone accepted it, we still praise God for a memorable experience, reaching out to the people there. We hope and pray that the books that we distributed will inspire and help them to know Jesus and be closer to Him. Our students told us that it was their best time ever and a good way to end the year and a great refreshment for the New Year.



An incredible thing happened on our way back, we got stranded in the middle of a mountain because of a snow storm. Instead of going home that day, we searched on Google for the nearest hotel but when we called the hotel, the only availability was 2 rooms with a 4-person capacity and we were 24 delegates. So we paid for 2 rooms so that some of the younger students could rest. As it was getting dark, we prayed to God to help us find a place that night, especially for the students. The nearest hotels were all fully booked and for the 2nd time we searched in Google to find the nearest church and God answered our prayers to have a place that night. We messaged our staff group chat that we were close to Payson SDA church. And one of our staff contacted the brethren of that church and we are all thankful that they accommodated us. They gave us food and a warm place to stay. We really appreciate them for being hospitable. We met Mr. Rod and Mrs. Barbara Hepburn and Mr. Dan and the church members of Payson SDA church and thanked them for allowing us to stay in their church. And it was not the end of our experience! Monday morning the snow was getting thicker and we

needed to leave that day because if we did not leave, we would get stuck for a couple of days more. We had to take an alternate route to avoid the storm, instead of 6 hours drive back home, we got stranded for 2 nights in different churches. The second one was in Heights Albuquerque SDA church. We also met Mr. Jep and his wife. They welcomed and accommodated us in their church. On Monday night, we slept again in the pews but were grateful. We praise God for His goodness and protection all throughout the travel and in time of the storm. It says in the Bible in Psalm 46:10, "Be still, and know that I am God..." and in verse 6, "He is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

The theme of GYC 2022 was all about Isaiah Chapter 58 and the main focus of that chapter is Isaiah 58:8 which says, "Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy reward". God wants us to show our love and care for those in need in this world even in a simple way and all throughout our experiences traveling home we can testify of God's providences through the people who assisted and helped us have a place to stay. GYC was an event worth remembering especially as it strengthened our knowledge and relationship with God. Truly, He has called us for such a time as this to be a blessing to others through our words and acts to show the world that we are abiding in Jesus.

We would like also to say a big thank you for all your support, especially to our donors and sponsors who made it possible for us to attend GYC through your gifts and donations. May the Lord richly bless you all a hundredfold! - Beth Panganiban
(Please turn to page 4 for an article written by one of our students about GYC and more pictures).





Prayer Requests

We know that many of you pray for our mission and for the prayer requests we bring to you. Indeed, this is an extraordinarily important gift and we appreciate it more than I can say. I am sure that you remember to pray for our students and their families, our staff and their families, our community outreach and that the Lord will bless our finances so that we can continue our service to Him. This month I wonder if you might add our Crownpoint church and the people that worship there to your prayer list. We have seen this church grow, despite the pandemic, and we are so grateful for God's blessings and pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to work with our friends there. Various staff members travel to Crownpoint on Sabbath afternoons to worship there with our local community.



Service at Crownpoint Church



Staff and students at Pinon Hills Church in Farmington

We go to share a blessing and we receive a blessing in return.

In addition, we want to thank all those who have given to the mission for choir robes for our students. It is one of our goals to be able to take our student choir out to churches, this will benefit our students by giving them the opportunity to serve God, meet other Adventists and raise awareness in churches that might not be familiar with our mission and school. Robes will increase their confidence in front of congregations and be usable for many years. We still are collecting money for this project and hope to have enough to purchase the robes soon. Thank you again for all you do for us and especially for your prayers!

Gayle Smith

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Donation Information

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Water Project Update

Greetings to my dear brothers and sisters!

I pray this finds you all well and warm during this winter season.

Our latest total for the water project as of the 25th of January 2023 is \$121,289. Your prayers and donations are so appreciated. Without you, this project will not be completed. Our needs continue to be about \$60,000.

New action taken has been that La Vida Mission was able to send 1/2 the cost of the new tank to D & R Tank of Albuquerque. The total for the tank alone is \$88,346 and the check that sent was for \$44,566. This deposit allows D & R Tank to begin construction of our new 18,000 gallon water storage tank. The new tank will be a welded steel tank that is fully in state compliance and code. Our old tank is a two-tiered bolted tank that has been in use for nearly 40 years. We expect delivery in early spring. If all goes according to plan and we receive the entire funds we need, we are hoping to complete the water tank project by summer. La Vida Mission crews have been clearing access to the site for the new tank, cutting back trees and removing fencing. Once the site is cleared our engineer will complete soil testing in accordance with regulations.

In addition to the tank installation, we will provide a bedding ring; a foundation for the tank which the NM Environment Department (NM ENV) is requiring. Two other deficiencies remain to be addressed: The community hydrant is to be re-vamped to avoid contamination between the hydrant and users. Our engineer is designing that project. The final deficiency is whether our well water is influenced by surface water. In talking with the NM ENV, we will do further testing after the new tank is installed.

An Updated Correction Action Plan was submitted on January 20, 2023 to the NM ENV and was approved January 25, 2023. We were granted a time extension of 180 days to further our work on the water system.

Again, thank you for your prayers and financial support of this worthy project.

May God richly bless each of you!

Lee McIntosh

La Vida Mission Sanitary Survey Response
Coordinator





Bob's Bakery

John 6:35

Greetings from the La Vida Mission bread basket. At LVM we are always striving to provide the children, staff and visitors with healthy bread products (sliced bread, rolls, pizza crust, etc.) to accompany a good meal. Now we want to add a bread outreach to the community surrounding our area. We will bake loaves of bread to take with us on a visit to a community member that might need to feel the love of Christ or receive support and a spiritual boost.

To enable us to follow through on this dream, we want to ask if you will please be willing to partner with Bob's Bakery. We need donations of several different products to help us produce these items.

- Organic wheat berries
- Spelt berries
- Vital wheat gluten
- Organic rye berries
- Organic whole grain oats



There are multiple ways that you can donate:

- 1)-The product can be purchased and have it delivered directly to La Vida Mission.
- 2)-Send your donation funds directly to the mission, please make sure that it is specified to be applied to the bakery outreach.
- 3)-If you would like to be part of this ministry on an on-going basis, you can find all of these items on Amazon where you can set up a subscription to be delivered on a routine schedule. (i.e. 25 lb. delivered every 2 months). Then Amazon will automatically bill your account and ship out the order per the schedule you have selected at the time of purchase. You will want to make sure that you have set it up to be shipped to the mission's address.



I would like to thank you for your time, and as always, please keep us in your thoughts and prayers. The Lord's return is not far off. So please keep a tight hold onto our Lord & Savior because He is the way, the truth and the life. John 14:6

God Bless,
John and Bob

In Memory of

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| George & Margaret Armstrong | by Lanny & Barbara Davis |
| Lita Castillo | by Emilio & Sal Fariaz |
| Arlo Goley | by Linda Jarboe |
| Francis Gregerson | by Phyllis Sean Gregerson |
| Wayne Hyatt | by Lynette Hyatt |
| Robert & Mary Lee | by Lynette Hyatt |
| Albert Lind | by Margaret Lind |
| Barry & Art Lizer | by Oradelle Lizer |
| Bonnie Lloyd | by Harry Lloyd |
| Larry McCoy | by Nancy McCoy |
| Brenda McDonald | by Pat & Rhonda McDonald |
| Richard Mitzelfelt | by Donna Mitzelfelt |
| Adelain O'Toole | by Gene O'Toole |
| Grace Pintacuda | by Jay Pintacuda |
| Frank Putnam | by Clare Putnam |
| Robert Sammer | by David & Maxine Smith |
| Bob Shores | by Karmen Shores |
| Emily Smith | by Douglas & Melody Wheeler |
| Kenneth Smith | by Lola May Smith |

In Honor of

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Irene Kalina | by Andrew Kalina |
| Eloise Jackson | by Mr. Jackson |
| Loving Children | by Sam & Jackie Smith |

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 food and vegetables.
- Tina Sanchez, Cheryl Marie Maghinay, Carole Goldtooth & Piñon Hills SDA Church** for donations toward La Vida Mission School's choir uniforms.
- Carmen Infantas** for beanies, Amazon gift cards for the staff and handmade angel ornaments.



My experience at GYC by Damiana (student at LVM)

My experience at GYC was thrilling and delightful. The event changed my thoughts and notion of being a Seventh Day Adventist. The journey overall was enjoyable being with my friends and family. The event was in Phoenix, Arizona, this being the first time there and exploring. The drive there took about 6 hours and the scenery changed almost every hour. We arrived at our hotel, checked in and went to our rooms. The rooms were very decorous. They provided us with meals and every afternoon we would eat out. After our breakfast we would attend the morning devotional. The morning devotional was led by Douglas Naa' and Steven Conway. They would alternate between morning devotionals and each were very inspiring including their background such as why they became pastors. After morning worship we would attend seminars. As I've mentioned, they were all very inspiring and all different in their own ways. A few of my favorite seminars were "Abused, Bruised but not Broken", "Medical Mission Work" and "Burning or Burnt Out." After hours of attending seminars we would attend lunch and the afternoon devotional, which was led by Sam Walters and Doug Batchelor. They all had very wise and knowledgeable testimonies. On the third day we gave out books to neighborhoods. They assigned us a route each. We overall gave out more than 400 books. This experience was very exciting, sharing the word of Christ to people who don't know. After giving books, we would attend the final testimony – final discharge.



This was led by Doug Batchelor who was previously sick but soon recovered and was healthy enough to give us the last seminar of the event. We later left with LaVida and headed back home.... at least we thought. We ended up getting stuck in Payson, Arizona due to the weather. The roads were all blocked off because of icy roads and black ice. The overall journey back was chaotic but we eventually made it back, with the Lord's help, in one piece. The highlight of the trip was spending time with my family and friends to learn more about the Lord and my classmate losing their luggage, but like I've mentioned, it all worked out.

Christmas Play by Natavia, (Student at LVM)

My perspective on getting ready for the Christmas play was excellent. I was thrilled to get started on painting, coloring and cutting. Watching everyone work together adding ideas, putting all the materials together, working together to get things done. As time flew by we were busy working hard, having fun, making memories. The first thing we did was get cardboard and print out pictures of sheep and goats. Something I didn't know about my classmates is that they have their own unique talents, ideas and good decent drawings. While waiting for the sheep to get drawn and cut, I was helping out with letters, making sure there was glitter on each corner. Having to think about how it was going to come out made me excited about how intelligent, talented and bright students we all are and how we wanted to do a good job. We were working on the project for a whole week trying to get things done like putting up the black sheets in the church, also adding the letters to it, making sure it stays in place. After putting up the letters, we all practiced our songs and the story play. Setting up the sheep to make it look like there were sheep out and about walking around, it took 2 days for our paintings to dry. After all I think we did well because I heard some laughing and saw some smiling faces.

I wasn't expecting a lot of people to be there, I was surprised and scared because I get a little nervous when there are an enormous number of people that I don't know. Before the play we took pictures with our presents that Toys for Tots got all the students, we all got presents. After the Christmas play, we ate at the gym with our families, enjoying everyone's company before the day ends because after that we had a 3 week break.



When I got home, I watched our Christmas play, which was live, we all did well. I think we were practicing the songs and play for a couple weeks. It has been 3 years since they did a play.



A Note to our donors:

Thank you for sharing and supporting La Vida Mission with your prayers and funding. We could not do what we do here on the Navajo Reservation without you. You provide the way for us to help the Native Americans in our community and share Jesus' love with them. We pray that God blesses you in your service to Him.

You should have received your donation receipts for 2022 by the time you read this. If you have questions or did not receive your receipt, please send me an email – carol@lavidamission.org.