

Vista de la Montaña

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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CONCORD

Vista
Church

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ASSOCIATES LTD
ARCHITECTS AIA

Pastor's Pen, June/July 2019

Dear Family and Friends of Vista Church UMC,

I want to thank all who could attend our groundbreaking on June 2nd. It was a great day in the life of our church attended by many guests who wanted by their presence to show their encouragement and enthusiasm for the task before us. As I write this the Administration building which served as our first sanctuary has been removed and transported to El Paso Texas. We received \$9,000.00 for that building. Ed's building, after more than 20 inquiries could not be sold, or even given away, because of transportation challenges, has been torn down and the site cleared for the beginning of construction today June 11th, 2019.

It struck me as I walked around these two buildings, before they were removed, how much love and care they had received through the years. The landscaping was beautiful and the buildings themselves well maintained. Truly, they were showing their years and wear and tear, but the only reason they were able to serve our church so long was the tender care they received. I also heard many stories of when they first arrived and the worship services and classes in these two buildings. I heard how volunteers remodeled them, painted them and more. I thought of all these things as the buildings were empty and ready to go and it was a bittersweet time, which I think many felt. The new was coming but the old had to go.

The Landscaping Crew did a lot more than landscaping with these two buildings and Sunday we said thanks for all they did but I want to say it once more, "THANKS". You did good work and in honor of the landscapers and their work, a couple in the church donated the \$11,189.00 needed to complete all of the landscaping for the new building. They wish for their identities to remain a secret, but their thanks for the hard work and love the Landscapers be known. Now with all the new landscaping you will even have more to do 😊.

Enjoy the pictures and articles within. We are going to try to post pictures every week on our website so those out of town can follow our progress.

In Christ's love
Pastor Fred

We have an answer to prayer!

Last Sunday it was shared that there was still a need for \$\$\$ for three items: The Front Entrance Canopy, the Nursery Remodel, the full landscaping scope **We are so happy to announce that the entire amount for landscaping has been received! God is so good!**

The two remaining items that still need funding are:

1. The Front Entrance Canopy - \$36,660
2. The Nursery Remodel - \$34,890

Please continue to keep these items in your prayers as we move forward with the construction of our new administration/education building.

From The Building Committee

Needs - Our Congregation must to come up with \$37,000 in new pledges and donations by 1 October to build an entrance canopy for the New Vistas Building. If a group of people would team up and pool your resources it could be more quickly, easily and effectively achieved. We hope that seeing the physical progress of constructing the New Vistas building excites you as much as it does us and that *“the spirit moves you”* to support our wonderful church.

Status - The demolition phase is complete and the construction phase has begun. SAFETY FIRST - We anticipate having earth moving equipment on-site for quite some time and do ask that you be aware of your surroundings at all time and that you do not enter the fenced construction area without first visiting the on-site project superintendent. You will NEED closed toe shoes, a hard hat and a reflective vest as well as his prior personal permission to enter the fenced construction area – SAFETY FIRST - is much more than a slogan.

You will probably see concrete poured during July and then a steel frame and girders raised as in the hymn Onward Christian Soldiers we march onward towards ribbon cutting in December.

Overview Report of Revenue as of June 10

| Church Transfers | Donations | Cash in Hand | Pledged | Grand Total |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| \$151,586 | \$824,335.31 | \$975,921.31 | \$180,052.69 | \$1,155,974 |

VALERIE HAMMONS WEARS MANY HATS!

We usually see Pastoral Assistant/Director of Youth Ministries, **Valerie Hammons**, during the youth portion of Vista's Sunday church service. She plays a critical role in supporting and nurturing the goals of the church, one of which is bringing youth to the senior based Vista Church. Our youth group has grown under Valerie's supervision. She helps with the youth summer programs, organizes and attends the annual youth trip, including conducting fund raisers. Her youth involvement includes outside programs in the local community which help to bring an awareness of Vista. She's been involved with the establishment of a new Vista church in San Manuel.

Of importance is her assistance to Pastor Fred as she helps to lead others into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. You can find her nurturing Vista's vision as she visits members in hospitals, care facilities, in their homes, and as well as making countless phone calls to not only those who are ill, but to prospective new members after each luncheon. Her assistance to the Pastor helps him focus on other aspects of his ministry.

Valerie finds time to serve on various church committees as she sees necessary. She has been very important in the development of our website and Facebook page. Under Valerie's expertise, Vista's publicity has greatly improved.

She is involved with the Finance Committee, including knowledge of software programs, bill paying and verifying bills being charged to the correct account. She does payroll, pays State and Federal taxes and handles all IRS issues and communications as needed. She also works with the Desert Southwest Conference Finance and Foundation offices as needed, including remitting apportionments and any collected funds for UMC funds.

She became a Stephen Minister Leader in January, 2018 and continues to encourage Vista's growth in all age groups. We can all agree that Valerie is a valuable asset to Vista UMC!

Mission Message for June

On May 25th we (Pastor Fred, Dee Berman, Jan Hopke-Almer, Linda Bretz, Rob & Joyce Prescott and Keith & Jane Lundsten) had the joy of going to Agua Prieta to Celebrate the College graduation of 2 more of our young people who you have supported, thru Vista's School Supply program, since they were in grade school. Both Marbeli Lopez and Eduardo Bautista graduated with honors. Marbeli has a Business Administration degree and Eduardo has an Industrial Engineering degree. Pastor Fred gave an encouraging talk and congratulations to the graduates and their families. What a thrill we all had, as we heard them share with us the struggles and great efforts they made to reach this achievement. We are so proud of them and know that they will make a big difference in the community of Agua Prieta. Our Scholarship program is specifically for young people from our sister church who are studying in Mexico and plan to continue their lives in Mexico and improve the lives of their families and fellow countrymen.

The Fuente de Vida Community Center was decorated with lovely table decorations, and a delicious lunch was prepared for us as a gift from one of the members of the church that owns a local restaurant. Following the lunch our team was given a tour of the grounds and a chance to see the new classroom building that will house the new computer class room and the Christian education programs. While the tour was taking place, I had an opportunity to meet with the High School students as well as 3 new college prospects for this fall who will be sponsored under the Vista Roche Scholarship Program. What a thrill to see all those High School kids around the U shaped tables witnessing the example our 3 graduates. I think back to the days 17 years ago when there were no High School Students at all. God is Good and continues to bless our shared ministry at Fuente de Vida Methodist Church. There were 2 sisters, 23 & 25 years of age, who are married with little ones who have asked for help to go to Adult High School and get their diplomas, so we will also be helping these terrific young women to move forward with a chance for a bright future. And now the best news of all, we were so happy to be able to fund the studies and finals for Luz Maria Lazarraga who received her PHD on May 30th with the highest grade average in all the nation of Mexico a 99.98 Grade level. What an amazing accomplishment! Vista Folks, what joy it is to see the fruits of our labors in the vineyard of the Lord!!.

Stay tuned for more info on all the exciting things that God has for us to do in the months to come.

We have just about all the students' school supplies covered for this year but if you wish to sponsor one of these great kids, please call Jan-Hopke-Almer at 520-301-4821 and see how you can get involved.

I shared with you in my last report some of the places you might want to serve this summer so I will refer you to last month's report.

Please mark your calendars for October 26th for our next trip to our sister church in Agua Prieta for the Celebration of Learning Festival. You will need a current passport, so check your date and get your renewals in time to go with us. I have reserved for us a 48 seats comfortable touring bus and the seats will fill up quickly. You will hear more about this in the future months.

Wishing you a very happy summer. Thank you so much for being part of the Mission Program at Vista!

Yours in Mission service:

Dee Berman

Chairman of Mission Outreach Ministry

LOVE WELL YOUTH 2019

Vista youth will be joining thousands of Methodist youth and leaders for days of discipleship, worship, Bible study, service opportunities, and life-changing fun! We expect inspiration, support, and challenges to grow authentically as a world-changing disciple of Jesus Christ..

We will be leaving on July 9th and returning July 5th. Two adult chaperones and five youth. One of our youth will be checking out the pastoral connections workshop. One is signed up to sign with this National Choir! We will have a food packing event and do mission work in the Greater Kansas City area.

Another are we are looking forward to is called **SACRED SPACE** (Hosted by The Upper Room)

The **SACRED SPACE** prayer room will be a quiet place in the midst of a busy event where you can meet God and pray through art, rest, creativity, and hands-on activities.

In this **SACRED SPACE**, you can explore creative ways to pray that involve more than sitting still, closing your eyes, or bowing your head. These interactive prayer stations invite you to experience God's love for you and for others and to practice various ways of expressing that love for yourself, for God, and for the world.

SACRED SPACE is all about participation—meaning you actually do stuff! In this **SACRED SPACE** you can:

- Create prayers through art
- Walk a prayer labyrinth
- Pray with all five senses
- Take a nap—because rest is holy
- Taste and see that the Lord is good

Be still and be with God!!!!!!!

THANK YOU VISTA for your support!

We are still accepting donations. Stop and talk to the youth at the table on Sunday. They are offering shares for ALL donations. Save the date of July 28th for the shareholders luncheon. ALL will be invited to a free lunch and report.

-Valerie Hammons



GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY JUNE 2, 2019



CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS - CLEARING THE LAND



May 29



May 29



May 29

Just a reminder to those of you who are fascinated by the construction process, please **DO NOT ENTER** the fenced work area, even if the gate is open. "Looky-Lou" holes are provided on the fencing for viewing the progress. Also be cautious when driving past the fence opening. Heavy equipment may be exiting with a load of dirt or debris, so pause before proceeding.



June 3



June 8



June 18

July Celebrations

Anniversaries

| | |
|----------------------------|-------|
| ALLEN, Bill & Marge | 07/01 |
| MACPHERSON, Craig & Benith | 07/02 |
| HILLMANN, Bill & Mary Jane | 07/11 |
| RICE, Pete & Karen | 07/17 |
| HERD, Bob & Eileen | 07/21 |
| BAUDER, George & Kathleen | 07/26 |



Birthdays

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| KAPER, Sandra | 07/01 | SPRINGER, Jan | 07/14 |
| EXTRACT, Laurie | 07/03 | UPDEGROVE, Virginia | 07/15 |
| HUNT, Sharon | 07/04 | HAMPTON, Paul | 07/16 |
| WITT, Carol | 07/05 | FOWLER, Nancy | 07/17 |
| ADAMS, Judy | 07/06 | LECORNU, Yvonne | 07/19 |
| BOHE, Janice | 07/06 | WHITLATCH, Linda | 07/21 |
| BRACKETT, Dave | 07/06 | CONNER, Dorothy | 07/22 |
| TOM, Loretta | 07/06 | MARKS, Peggy | 07/22 |
| RADKE, Dan | 07/07 | POOLE, Sharon | 07/22 |
| SALCEDO, Jose | 07/07 | ANDERSON, Dave | 07/25 |
| ELSON, Polly | 07/08 | LEONARD, Carolyn | 07/25 |
| JACOB, Betty | 07/09 | WYLAND, Sharon | 07/25 |
| TINGLEY, Paul | 07/09 | ROBINSON, Joan | 07/26 |
| SIMON, Jimmie | 07/10 | YOUNG, Joe | 07/26 |
| MACPHERSON, Craig | 07/11 | EXTRACT, Steven | 07/27 |
| PERAKIS, Alex | 07/11 | ODELL, Carol | 07/27 |
| GRAGG, Kay | 07/12 | NEVINS, Dick | 07/28 |

In Memory

Sadly, the Vista Family has lost two members since our last newsletter.

Gene Curtis went home to the Lord early on Sunday morning, June 16. He was at the Casa de la Luz Hospice Care Center on La Cholla. A celebration of Gene's life will be held at Vista on July 13, at 11:00 am.

Rose Bull went to her heavenly home on May 23.

Please keep the families of our departed loved ones in your prayers.

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OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

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VISIT US ON FACEBOOK

AND AT OUR WEBSITE:

www.Vistaumc.org



June 2019

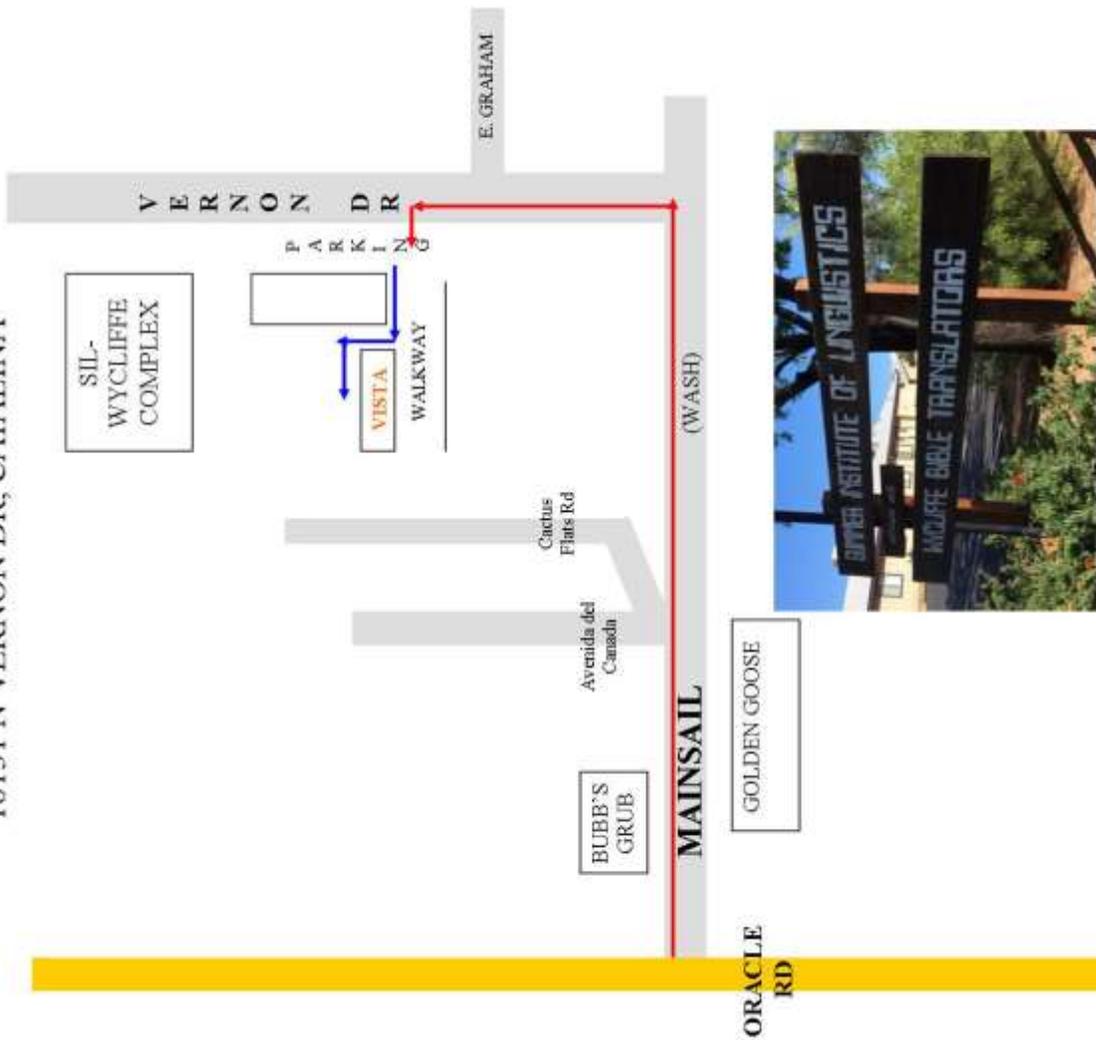
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ENTER PARKING LOT AT THE SIGN.