



VISTA de la MONTAÑA UMC

Echoes

SEPTEMBER 2019

PASTOR'S PEN

Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, *“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.”* I write this the last week in August. For me as for many who grew up in my era, and the ones before, this was the last week of “Summer”. The “Fall” season began after Labor Day when we went back to school and lasted roughly to Thanksgiving. “Winter” began at the first cold snap after Thanksgiving and lasted until the trees started budding again. That’s when “Spring” began, which lasted to the end of May which was always “Memorial Day.” It did not matter what the “official” start days were, these were the events that marked the seasons of our lives.

Now school starts at the end of July or Early August. There are Fall Breaks, Winter Breaks and Spring Breaks with the season of Christmas and Holy Week being dropped. Things have changed for the current generations, but for all generations there are seasons of our lives. There is a rhythm to life that is given by God and imprinted into our lives. The most common we all share is the rhythm of rest and work that God enshrined, lest we forget, into the 10 Commandments.

Lately the season of our life together as Vista Church has been a “season of building”. As Ecc. 3b says, we have gone through ‘a season to tear down and now we are in a season to build up.’ The season of building will shortly come to an end. In my mind around the beginning of the season of “Winter”. Completion date of our new building is December 18th!! The construction company “Concord” is on schedule and on budget. We will be moving in before you can blink an eye, but first we will go through our regular “Fall” season and all the events that have come to be part of our life together.

The first week of September the Adult Choir, the Bell Choir and Vocal Seniority kick off and our choir returns. The youth have their Promotion Sunday. The Missions committee sponsors the trip to Agua Prieta. This is followed by All Saints Sunday, the Pledge Sunday, then comes Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and the New Year. In the meantime, we figure our budgets, nominate and elect our leaders, and celebrate our accomplishments at our Church Conference. Yes, there is a “season for every activity under heaven.”

So, keep this and more in your prayers as we continue our preaching series on “Teach Us to Pray” that goes to the end of September. Pray for our denomination. Pray for Vista Church. Pray for the new members that have come in this year that they may find their place to serve and belong at Vista.

In Christ’s love,

Pastor Fred

Construction Progress

from the Building Committee

The New Vistas Building tour on 25 Aug showed the physical results of over two and a half months of demolition, excavation, site preparation and framing.

The next scheduled tour is on Sunday 29 Sept at which time we will have the individual rooms completely framed and the joists in place holding the beginnings of a roof. Progress remains on schedule and on budget with no safety issues.

Through the loving generosity and unwavering faith of you, the congregation, everything except the new nursery and toddler's room is now fully funded – Thank You.



Vista UMC Finance Committee September 2019

The Vista UMC Finance team has had a very busy summer!!

We opened a collateralized money market account for the New Building Fund at Canyon Community Bank and migrated our two money market accounts with TIAA and CIT into this account.

We finalized a construction loan with Canyon Community Bank for \$550,000.

There are still 4 Building Fund CD's with CIT, TIAA and UMCU that will mature in October and the funds will be moved to the bank.

Our Desert Southwest Fund account was closed and an additional CCB money market account was opened.

July Year-to-Date 2019 Financial Results

We have had a very good year. Year-to-date income exceeded the budget by \$6,577 and expenses were under budget by \$6,151. Net income for the General Fund is \$45,615 YTD, which is ahead of budget.

Special thanks to those of you who use ACH or credit card payments because it has made a big difference in steady monthly income in the summer months instead of a big dip! If you aren't using an automatic monthly payment for your pledge, please consider it! Contact Dennis Kimmel to set up your account.

Attendance for May – July represented a 7.8% increase, including San Manuel attendance! Additionally, we had 991 view our service on Live Streaming, which is an average of 76 weekly. Viewership is very consistent every week.

Our committee will resume meetings in September when we begin our 2020 Stewardship and Budgeting processes.

Sharon Scanlan, Finance Chair

Darrell Parson, Treasurer

Dennis Kimmel, Financial Secretary

Valerie Hammons, Pastoral Assistant

Dinner for Six

If you like to eat, if you like to visit with friends, and if you like to cook, or not, the Dinner for Six is for you!

Please see me on the patio to sign up. I'll be there every Sunday in September. And remember, DFS is not just for couples - and going out is acceptable- and brunch or lunch are options.

Joyce Holman and I are hosting a "Kickoff" dessert party" on Sunday Sept. 29 from 1-3pm for all DFS'er that have signed up.

Call me if you have any question.

Sandy Schwartz

Hospitality

HAVE YOUR CAKE AND SERVE IT ALSO



I hope you have had a restful summer. Summer is a great time to connect with family and friends out of the area. Hospitality has been busy helping folks to serve goodies on Sunday after the service.

We have had many more folks this year sharing their special days with us. We have had more birthdays and anniversaries to celebrate with our church families. Thanks to all those who have gotten us involved with their special days. It is fun to take time on Sunday to hear the stories behind the special events.

We are now moving into the fall season which brings us a little cooler weather. The cooler weather causes many groups to plan outdoor activities after the service. Do plan to stay after the service and join in those activities. It is a great time to increase your vitamin C from the sunshine. We are so lucky to be able to spend at least 75% of the time out of doors.

Hospitality planned events for September are:

Sunday, September 8th: Grandparents Sunday Celebration – Surprise when it comes to goodies on this special day. There will be announcement in the church bulletin. Plan on attending church this Sunday.

Sunday, September 15th: Hospitality again will be having a “Happy Birthday Celebration for 90 and older”. Guess what will be served at the birthday party?

Delores Brindle is gathering new names of folks that are turning 90 sometime during 2019. Please contact her so your name can be added to the birthday list. If you called her last year then you do not need to do it again. Contact Delores at 520 907 5706 or E-mail: deloresjb@gmail.com.

If you like to share a special event with your church family, please stop by the goodie sign-up table which is always located at the end of the goodie table. We always have room to squeeze you into a Sunday. Yes, it is better to sign-up early verses later. Hope to see you at the table. Your Hospitality committee is always looking for folks to sign-up for goodies for the rest of the year. There is a goodie work sheet available to guide you through the process. It can be picked up at the goodies sign up table. You also can call Delores at 520 907 5706.

HELP, HELP is needed for the hospitality committee. We are looking for a few folks who are willing to be involved in conducting the goodies on Sundays. If we had three or four folks that would be available to contact folks to remind them that they have signed up to bring goodies that week. The contact can be done either by telephoning or e-mailing those folks who are scheduled for that Sunday and give the names of who also are going to serve with them. It does not require any meetings. It is like Nutrisystem states on T.V, no meetings. HEY! Contact Delores Brindle. See telephone number and e-mail above in this article. You can also talk to her on any Sunday.

It is time to say a big thank you for those who brought all those great goodies these past few months. Like I have said before it is like Christmas morning, you open that package to see the surprise inside. Be one of those to bring your favorite goodies.

Thanks to those who have been making coffee every Sunday. We get so use to stopping at the drink table to pick up some coffee or another type of drink. La Verne Tucker is looking for candidates to sign up to do coffee making once a month and once a year. What a way to do your stewardship. You can call La Verne Tucker at 520 971 7766 or look for the little lady wearing a big hat. She sure could use your help. Here is something special about La Verne this year. Her family surprised La Verne on Sunday, June 9th with a 90th birthday cake. Who knew she was turning 90 this year? Way to go La Verne.

Written by Delores Brindle, co-chairperson for hospitality. Pat Reykdal & Don Smith, co-chairperson for hospitality.

What a Fantastic Summer!

Thank you, God!

September is still a very busy month even though our children returned to school in August.

On September 15th, we will hold Rally Sunday.

Promotions, forms to be filled out and a family fun party at the Rupe's.



Thank you to the Vista congregation for your love and prayers. A special thank you to our Intercessory Prayer Team for their special prayers and pencils to make our children and youth days God-filled.

Our Missions project for September is a Down's Syndrome Walk. Please see Valerie/Peggy Jo or one of the youth group if you would like to sponsor/donate to this walk.

Our graduating youth are working together to form our Young Adult Ministry. With different schedules, it will be difficult, but they are planning on getting together at least once a month. What an awesome new ministry for Vista!

Thank you each and everyone for your continued support and most importantly, your love for the children and youth here at Vista!

Valerie Hammons

Pastoral Assistant

Vista de la Montaña UMC

New Adult Christian Education Classes

We are proud to announce that the next class in our series will be an eight week study of the New Testament Book of Acts. The course will be taught by Reverend Alan Campbell and will begin on Wednesday September 11 through October 30th at 10:00. Please sign up by texting Donna Boring at 703 980 0750 or emailing her at dlboring@comcast.net.

The Adult Sunday School class will begin the study of the book The Clash of Kingdoms starting in August following the Sunday service in the patio room.

For more information check with Linda Whittington.

SNAK PAK NEWS

On September 12 Vista begins its ninth year of participation in the Snak Pak program, a program of Feeding America administered locally by the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona. The purpose of the program is to provide supplemental food to children who have been judged to be nutritionally at risk, particularly over the weekend.

Volunteers each week pick up Snak Pak food from Marana Food Bank and deliver it to either Vista or Santa Catalina Catholic Church, where volunteers from each church assemble it into 60 Snak Paks, which are given to the children on Friday. Our Snak Paks benefit children chosen at Coronado K-8 School in Catalina.

The Snak Paks alternate each week between two different menus

Menu #1

Granola bites
Veggie bean crackers
Chicken ravioli
Cream of mushroom soup
Oatmeal pouch
Cereal bowl
Bean dip
Applesauce
Mixed fruit cup
Shelf-stable 1% milk

Menu #2

Granola pouch
Cereal bowl
Canned chili
Goldfish crackers
Sunflower seeds
Rice with chicken and vegetables
Applesauce
Mixed fruit cup
Shelf-stable 1% milk



For this school year Vista will once again pay the CFBSA \$4,500 and Santa Catalina will pay \$5,500. This money essentially covers the cost to the CFBSA of the food, not administration or transportation.

Unfortunately, the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona has informed us that the 2019-2020 school year will be the last year they will participate in the program. They feel that the program is too costly for the amount of impact it has on hunger, and overall donations to the CFBSA last year were down \$1,000,000.

We do our packing at 12:30 on Thursdays. We can always use more volunteers. If you would like to help, please call Kathy Campbell, 825-4661.

Vista members and friends have been incredibly generous with their gifts of time and money to this program, and the children thank you. It does make a difference in their lives and the teachers say it makes a big difference in their readiness to learn.

Kathy Campbell

A Few Words from our Lay Leader

Vista Life these past months and down the immediate road. These are busy times on the Vista Church property. We can't help but notice as we must drive through the construction as we come to church or attend a meeting. If you haven't paid attention the slab is poured! 120 yards of cement nicely finished make up a very noticeable floor. On that are rising the bearing walls! We will soon have a building framed out. Our building will come together rapidly at this point.

There are many separate Vista members to say a thank you to. We will hold off on congratulations until we walk in the finished building. By the looks of the floor area and the height of the metal studs, this will be a real addition to Church life. We will facilitate every conceivable activity in greatly improved surroundings. Soon the construction trailers will be removed, the barricades and fencing taken down and we will have our property back as it was earlier but with new digs!

Say a prayer for continued progress and safety. We are three years into this building project and about a year to go. The **rest of Vista is humming right along, the construction really isn't the impact to our activities some may have predicted.** Good for us! This was suggested, thought out, drawn up and a contractor hired. Now we see the progress.

San Manual satellite church is alive and well. Sparse, but sparse it still, well. Hey, its hot out there and 4pm is just about the heat of an August day. All of us hope for this project. We feel strongly as the calendar runs out, October for instance, people will come out to attend. This mission continues to serve the Lord through outreach and is in the best of spirit and fellowship.

We here at Vista had no idea we could do this, a Vista service at a second location. We have our trials and a flub here and there, but this is heartfelt sharing, a real outreach. We aim to continue to deliver the Christian Bible word. It is good and good shall come of it. Amen.

CHINESE FOOD DINNER!

Remember these, we went here twice and everyone had a great time. This is Golden Dragon, 7090 N Oracle (at Ina Road, SE quad near Safeway). The restaurant has gone through considerable change since then. Well, to the point, new owners have brought things to a first class state of affairs. The food is better than ever. Dim Sum is available on weekends and first rate. For us, Tina will take as many folks as we can pack in and we order off the menu. Her husband, Tom is her able assistant. They are delightful, hard working people. Tom is a many year Avra Valley farmer. Tom and Tina will feed us well with Hong Kong version of Chinese food. I asked, what is the difference? Tina told me in earnest, mainland food is boring. VC and I have been there several times and we recommend this as a fine, fun dining experience.

So, here's the deal! We sign up an intent to show up. A date will be selected, end of September or early October. The eating regime works well when each table of 8 orders 7 dishes and shares. If all 8 agree to have sweet and sour pork for instance, order 2 of these then 5 other dishes. Each table splits the food bill in equal shares. It is up to you to eat your share, You snooze you lose. Each person stands their own bar bill. Beer and wine are available. This is great fun and socializing. Arrange your table seating before you get there. There are plenty of tables. This will probably be on a Thursday evening, seating at 5:30 sharp. You MUST be on time! This works and we will have a ball. Cost w/o drinks will be around \$18.00 ish per person. Please leave a tip appropriate to a table of 8.

When you see me after Church with a tablet taking names, it is a sign things are moving along. Ill make an announcement 2 weeks out.

Jim Bleess

Missions Outreach Ministry

Well it looks like the summer is drawing to a close and we will all be getting back into our regular routines. I hope it has been a time of rest and renewal for you all. This summer has been a busy one for your Mission Team.

On Wednesday, August 14, we had a very informative presentation by Ash & Naomi Abdou, sharing with us their Ministry to support new Christians from the Muslim faith. They live in Southern Spain with their 3 children, but minister all over Europe and Northern Africa Countries. We had a great attendance and were blessed by their presentation.

We also delivered 90 backpacks to Family first this summer during their open house and got to enjoy the hot dogs and the kids picking out their backpacks full of school supplies. Many thanks go to Jan Hopke Almer and her team for all the work & love that goes into the school supplies and the backpacks.

Thanks to your support, we sent 160 backpacks full of school supplies for our Sister church Fuente de Vida in Agua Prieta Mexico. You supplied the tuition for 14 students in High School and 2 young mothers who are going to adult High School, as well as 4 students in College & Tech School and helped David Soto get his Masters program finished.

Even if it is a summer of rest, your Mission program keeps rolling! We were able to bring a birthday Celebration each month to the Senior Center in Catalina.

I received a shipment of lovely new cards from Fuente de Vida, and will be selling them to you for 50 cents the first part of Sept. they are all sorted and placed in trays for your examination. We hope you will stop by our table and check them out. MANY THANKS TO ALL OF YOU THAT SUPPLIED US WITH YOUR USED CARDS IN THE MISION BASKETS IN THE NORTHEX!!

Please mark your calendars for the 26th of October for our trip to Agua Prieta for the annual Celebration of Learning Festival. We will start sign ups the 1st Sunday of Oct. We still need some female items for the **Mother's Bags. Please drop your contributions in the Mission baskets under the table in the narthex.**

Our next Mission Meeting will be on the 2nd Wed. of the month Sept. 11th at 1:00 PM. in the Patio room. We look forward to the reports of all of our team leaders and your presence with us. Remember that Mission Outreach is at the heart of our love for our Savior and others.

Yours in Mission Service: Dee Berman, Chairman

520-825-7115 deerick1968@gmail.com

Volunteers are needed to assist with the communion preparations for services on Communion Sundays and for the multiple services during the Christmas and Easter seasons.

With several assistants the duties can be rotated and only require 4-6 services a year.

If you can help with this important stewardship, please contact Connie Simonds at 520-904-2228 or call the church office@ 825-1985.

Real people, real stories, real support



Free Caregiving Workshop

FHAN, Faith Health Alliance North sponsors a **free** annual workshop addressing issues of health and aging. This year's gathering focuses on the caregiver.

It will be held on October 16th, 2019 from 1 pm to 3:30 pm at Vista De La Montana United Methodist Church, 3001 E Miravista Ln, Catalina, AZ. Registration begins at 12:30pm.

Caregiving can be challenging, demanding and unrelenting, but for the right person, with the proper support system, it can also be a rewarding experience.

Caregiving roles take on countless shapes and forms. They assist older adults, the ill, disabled friends, and family members. Caregivers help every day in small and big tasks, handling daily activities, such as bathing, managing medications or preparing meals.

While some people with disabilities and older adults receive care from paid professional caregivers, most family caregivers providing intensive levels of care for a loved one do not get consistent help from family and friends.

Perhaps the best way to know what you can expect as a family caregiver is to talk to other caregivers who have been through the experience as they share their collective wisdom of what has worked for them and what has not.

The workshop offers an opportunity to listen as other caregivers share their stories. There will be an opportunity to learn about community resources available and for you to find the support you need as a caregiver.

Register by calling 928-351-7545 or email at FHANworkshops@gmail.com.

NEW GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP BEGINS SEPT 5

Many people who are grieving wonder if they would benefit from joining a support group. Each individual grieves in his/her own way but many have found that learning about grief and what to expect and discovering that others have the same feelings they do helps them gain insight into their own grief and learn ways of coping. Most people find that besides receiving support, giving support to others benefits them as they go through their own grief journeys.

The group will be lead by Pastor Fred and Gerry Alberts and will begin Thursday, September 5th at 10:30 in the Patio Room. The sessions will be 1 1/2 hours and will run 8 - 10 weeks.

If you have questions or wish to register, call Pastor Fred at 825-1985 or Gerry Alberts at 825-4642. You are welcome to attend even if you have not registered. Non Vista people are welcome.

September Celebrations

HOLDEN, Larry & Jackie	09/02
RADTKE, Gene & Paula	09/02
ALLIGOOD, David & Edna	09/03
HOEFT, Peggy & Russel	09/05
HOWES, Keith & Ginny	09/05
MANN, Bernie & Diane	09/06
RIDDLE, Bill & Faye	09/08
WATTS, Beler & Cheryl	09/12
PARKER, Kevin & Kat	09/13
HOLMAN, SR., Jim & Joyce	09/16
MC FARLAND, David & Glenda	09/16
MILLER, Bob & Fran	09/16



CARPENTER, Karon	09/02
FLOYD, Thomas	09/02
PENUELAS, Sinai	09/03
TOMPKINS, Gifford	09/03
O'DONALD, Louise	09/06
HOPKE-ALMER, Janice	09/07
MC FARLAND, David	09/08
BRINDLE, Delores	09/10
LITTLE, Don	09/11
STAKER, Sue	09/11
WILLIAMS, Andrea	09/11
HEYWOOD, Mary	09/13
LOGAN, Joan	09/14
STEVENSON, Jean	09/14
PARKER, Raymond James	09/15
CARPENTER, Boyd	09/19
COLLINGE, Bob	09/19
RIDDLE, Faye	09/19
ROBINSON, Grant	09/19
HEISS, Lyle	09/20

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

GARCIA, Jacquie	10/01
AYERS, Bill	10/05
PENUELAS, Karime	10/07
BELYEA, Dana	10/08
KELLEY, Ed	10/09
TONGA, Michelle	10/21
POHNERT, Patricia	10/22
HEDRICK, Sue	10/24
HOAGLUND, Coralyn	10/25
LEONARD, Jon	10/25
PHILLIPS, Barbara	10/26
TONGA, Nisi	10/27
ORAM, Joy	10/29
LINDAHL, Carol	10/30
HERNANDEZ, Lauren	10/31

Happy Anniversary to:

PERAKIS, Alex & Jenny	10/02
ZIMMERMAN, Terry & Anita	10/02
BODE, Jerry & Jan	10/09
GOINS, Bill & Donna	10/14
DUENKEL, George & Lynn	10/24
SCANLAN, Sharon & Steve	10/26
HARWICK, Jamie & PeggyJo	10/27



CELEBRATING THE BIRTHDAYS OF VISTA FAMILY WHO ARE 90 + YEARS OLD!

On Sunday, Sept. 15, Vista will celebrate those who are 90 years old, or older. If you are in this age group, and not on our list, please call Delores Brindle ASAP at 520.907.5706. And plan to join in the celebration following the service on the 15th.

Mildred Baum	Dana Belyea	Marlin Bolar	Dottie Lou Colby	David Combs
Lois Cooke	John & Joan Davies	Charlotte De Windt	Betty Jean Emberton	Jeanne Farnum
Mattie Landrum	Jim & Ginny Jackson	Betty Little	Peggy Marks	Dick & Ilene Nevins
Maurice Price	LaVerne Tucker			

Why I love the 90th Plus Birthday Celebration (September 15th this year)

Several years ago, I began to dread the future...my own mortality...and the "time I could have left". Until then, I had mistakenly associated deep yearnings and ambitions with the energy and idealism of youth, certainly not 90 year olds.

Last year, as I talked to Vista honorees of the 90th Plus Birthday, I was touched by the fact that we all have joys, hopes, fears and longings that never go away no matter how old we get, and so my attitude on aging began to change...towards a positive level and all things possible.

I've learned from them that age is just a state of mind. I assumed the "elderly" eventually lose their vibrancy and thirst for life. That couldn't be further from the truth. They still laugh like crazy, fall in love like mad and pursue happiness fiercely. Their story is worth being heard.

Please come and join the joyous 90th plus birthday celebration on Sunday, September 15th, immediately after church.

Robin Conner

SOUTH DISTRICT LAY SERVANT CELEBRATION

The Fourth Annual Lay Servant Celebration will be held at First Church Tucson on Saturday, September 21st. Registration & Continental Breakfast will begin at 9 am. District Superintendent, Mark Conrad will be delivering the sermon during Worship at 11. A catered lunch will be served following Worship. It will be Mexican Food and there is no cost to the Lay Servant. Please RSVP to Gretchen Lofgren, gretchie22@cox.net if you plan to attend. A correct count is needed for the lunch. You may bring a guest (spouse, etc.)

VISTA'S LANDSCAPE CREW HARD AT WORK!

Over the course of several Thursday mornings, Vista's landscape crew has worked diligently to remove the weedy groundcover in the cross garden on the east side of the patio. On August 22, they replaced all of the groundcover with rock, which will be maintenance-free and require no water! Thank you, Landscape Crew, for a fantastic job, and for all of the other things you do for Vista to keep us looking good!



VISTA SONG OF JOY CHORUS FOR MEMORY-IMPAIRED AND CAREGIVERS

There are 70 choirs for the memory impaired all over the world. Vista de la Montana Methodist Church, 3001 E. Miravista Lane, Tucson, Arizona near Catalina, will be number 71!

Hoping to clarify misperceptions on the part of our culture regarding those whose short term memory is compromised, the church has created the Vista Song of Joy Chorus. The group will meet for two hours one afternoon a week for a period of eight weeks. At the end of the 8 week session, the chorus will present a gala community concert.

There is no charge for the program.

It is becoming well known that although short term memory is quite limited for some, long term memory is remarkably intact. Music is a very effective stimulant of long term memory and offers comfort, joy and pleasure. The chorus gives the memory impaired a chance to be competent again, to bring joy to others through song, as well as feel happiness at being and working in a chorus with others.

We are in the process of recruiting the memory impaired and their spouses or caregivers. Singing skills or talent is not required. Please contact: Dr. Jane Stump, Director, Vista Song of Joy Chorus, at: janebarrstump1@netzero.net or 520-288-6840 for questions or to sign up.

VISTA de la MONTAÑA UMC
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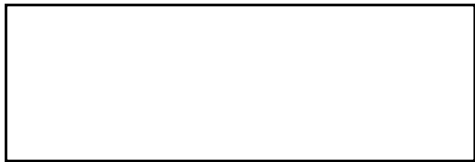
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A Vision of Vista's Future — Soon to be a Reality!

