



VISTA de la MONTAÑA UMC

Echoes

April 2020

PASTOR'S PEN

In my reading from the Moravian Texts this week I once again read of the last plague on the Egyptians when the angel of death took their first born and “passed over” the Hebrews. I wondered how scary it would have been to hear the wailing in the night of those who lost loved ones. And though the promise was there to the Hebrews of being “passed over” and they were doing everything they were told to do (lamb’s blood on the doorposts and lintel) it still must have been a terrifying night.

It was a long night of waiting—waiting on the Lord. Today as the Coronavirus spreads throughout the world bringing sickness and death to people and sickening the stock market and economy, we too wait for it to “pass over us” (as we wash our hands, stay home and practice social distance.) And pass over it will. But in the meantime, there is a lot of worry out there and even in our own hearts and minds. So, in faith and trust in God that whatever happens we are his. Wait on the Lord. Hear the promise for those who do from Isaiah 40:29-31:

²⁹ He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹ but **those who wait for the Lord** shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

In Christ's love and service,

Pastor Fred

From the Building Committee

The Building Committee continues to make progress correcting the few remaining Education and Administration Building action items while a few new ones just pop up out of nowhere. In addition to the process of transitioning the new building to the Trustees, we are scheduled to remodel the Patio Room into a Nursery-Toddlers' Room. To be sure that we get it right we engaged a Civil Engineering firm to determine how to best correct the water sheeting problem from the south-facing parking lot and sidewalk into the Patio Room that has plagued the Church for many years. Once the Civil Engineer's recommendations and plans are received, we'll weigh the alternatives and initiate best-value, cost-efficient corrective actions. After those problems are solved, we'll remodel. After the Nursery-Toddlers' Room is completed we'll begin to focus on improving the hill parking lot. We have been truly blessed with the Congregation's generosity in well wishes, prayers and donations. We are acutely aware, on a daily basis, that those 2019 and 2020 pledges are really needed to pay all the bills.

Hospitality

The Hospitality committee's main mission at Vista has been serving food and/or goodies. The Pastors in the past and Pastor Fred have given us the guidance to accomplish the committee mission. I have been on the committee since 1999 and it is the first time that I have been faced with the question, "should we continue serving goodies during the corona virus situation?" Unfortunately, that question has been answered as we are now worshipping Online only. Of course, this will all pass, and we will return to service at the Vista campus and we will have goodies!

I want to thank all the hospitality partners who have been overseeing and assisting those who have been providing goodies to everyone since I have had my surgery. What a great team!!! I am missing sampling all the great goodies served on Sunday. Sunday goodies is when I get to satisfy my sweet tooth.

Thank you to those who have been providing goodies on these chilly Sunday mornings. Oh yes, and those folks that have been making hot coffee to go with those goodies.

Memorial Services: Thanks to Cheryl Watts and the memorial team for doing memorial services while I have been out of commission.

Delores surgery results: I have had the spinal cord stimulator device surgery done to handle the left side pain. It has been more than successful. I have been pain-free since 2/25. I want to say thank you to everyone who have been praying for me. I am proof that prayers do work. Thank you!! It is such a good feeling to be part of Vista church family.

Delores Brindle, Co-chairperson

Mission Outreach Ministry

Dear Vista Family:

These are uncertain days as we continue to do all we can to help others. We will not be meeting for our regular Mission meetings on the 2nd Wed. of the month until further notice. Do keep all of our Mission Ministries in your prayers. At Fairwinds Desert Point where I live, we are in a complete lockdown. We are not allowed to leave the grounds until further notice, so I am glad we have our Live Streaming at Vista, and we can worship together while we are in our homes.

This month I want to lift up to you the good work of the Creative Hands Ministry. I am including in my letter to you a report by Creative Hands great Team Leader, Jan Bohe. I have included some pictures so you can see a sample of their good work. I would like to ask you good folks, to keep an eye open for remnants of fabric for the making of children clothes by Creative Hands, perhaps at Walmart, Joann's, the Golden Goose Etc.... Please call Jan at 520-825-9725 for further information.

I pray that each of you will remain in good health and good spirits as we face this Corona Virus challenge together as the great Church Family that we are. It will soon be time for our Easter offering that is used for the needs of the Mission Projects that we support at Vista. I want to thank you in advance for your continued support of our Mission Outreach Ministry.

Enjoy this lovely Spring time knowing that God is with us as we continue to serve those who are in need in our community and beyond.

Yours in Mission service:

Dee Berman Chairman

520-825-7115 deerick1968@gmail.com



CREATIVE HANDS

Creative Hands started out as Mt. View Crafters in 1997. We had many women who made lovely things for Bazaars at Vista to earn money to give to the church for various projects. In 2002 we decided to stop the Bazaars as the number of women participating dwindled down and only a few were having to do it all. The decision was made to concentrate on quilt and lap robes, hospital smocks, baby layettes and children's clothes. In 2003 we came under the umbrella of Mission Outreach with a new name of the "Creative Hands". After 2 of our quilt-makers moved away, we concentrated on children's clothes for Catalina Community Services later known as Impact of Southern Arizona. In 2014 through 2019 we also gave items to the Family First Pregnancy Care Center in Oracle and in 2016 we gave items to the Barnabas Project (a military family). Each sewn item has Vista's name tag on it. During September-May, on Fri. mornings at Vista, we meet to cut out the clothes, putting them in bags so women can take them home to finish sewing the articles. Impact and FFPCC are always delighted to receive our hand-made clothes from these productive women. Here are the totals of items sewn or bought

2002=46 plus 5 quilts	2011=523
2003=125 plus 14 quilts	2012=372
2004=251 plus 60 quilts	2013=212
2005=295 plus some quilts	2014=184 plus 48 to FFPCC
2006=234	2015=592 plus 75 to FFPCC
2007=388	2016=453 plus 54 to FFPCC plus 62 to Barnabas Project
2008=310	2017+=209 plus 37 to FFPCC
2009=445	2018=339 plus 64 to FFPCC
2010=563	2019=330 plus 59 to FFPCC

Thanks to Linda Miller, Virginia Updegrove, Liz Zebal and Connie Simonds who sew and to Alice August who shops for the clothing bargains for us. We really can use more help in cutting and sewing. We can provide assistance. This is a wonderful volunteer project with the clothing going to needy children here in our community. We have great fellowship and a wonderful feeling of accomplishment. Please join us.

Jan Bohe, leader 825-9725



Vista UMC Finance Committee

February 2020 Financial Results

Income YTD is on budget. Expenses YTD are -\$4,226 under budget.

February attendance was 1,277 (including streaming). This was a 20% increase. Actual church attendance was equal to last year.

The church has ongoing bills and payroll to take care of every month. Since not many can be present in person in the near future, we are encouraging people to send checks to Vista Church UMC 3001 E Miravista Lane Tucson AZ 85739. Or you can use your "bank bill pay" app. Another option is you can set up an ACH transfer between your bank and the church's bank. (Contact the Financial Secretary Dennis Kimmel at 204-0451.) Easier yet, use online giving using your credit card at our website. Click on the Donate link. You can set-up regular payments or do one-time gifts with your credit card.

It is important to begin paying down the mortgage principle in addition to the monthly interest payments we will be making to Canyon Community Bank. We borrowed \$550,000 to supplement our building pledges. When we make a principle payment, we reduce our interest payments. If you want to consider additional gifts to the church, gifts designated to pay down the mortgage principle would be extremely beneficial.

From your Finance Team;

Sharon Scanlan, Finance Chair

Darrell Parson, Treasurer

George Butkovich, Assistant Treasurer

Dennis Kimmel, Financial Secretary

DINNER FOR SIX UPDATE

The End of the Year Party, originally scheduled for April 19, is postponed until it is safe to gather again. Most likely it will be combined with the Fall gathering.

If you have any questions, please contact Sandy, 818-9792



Agua Prieta School Supplies Mission Project



Mark Your Calendar: Sunday, May 17th will be AP School Supplies Sponsors' Appreciation Sunday, provided we are back to normal and able to assemble for worship. Join us for a piece of cake in appreciation of our many generous donors to this mission project. Last summer Vista church members provided school supplies and backpacks for 162 children and University students at our sister church Fuente de Vida (Fountain of Life). The School Supplies Mission Project is part of our Mission Committee's Economic Development Program in Agua Prieta (AP), Mexico. **A donation of \$25 per student buys the long list of school supplies and a backpack required for students to attend the public schools.** Letters are being sent in April to past student sponsors giving them an opportunity to keep their same student(s) for the 2020-2021 school year. After the letters are received, if you would like to continue sponsoring your student(s), please make your check to Vista UMC with AP School Supplies in the memo line **no later than May 17th**. If your student is no longer at Fuente de Vida you will be given the opportunity to choose a different student from our Adopt-a-Student Apple Tree later in May or early June. Our goal is to complete fundraising for school supplies no later than Sunday, June 14th. After that date, Jan Hopke-Almer, Benith MacPherson and Dee Berman will focus on purchasing new school supplies and organizing their delivery to the students at Fuente de Vida Church. Any additional donations will be used to buy Academic Achievement Awards, student gift certificates and prizes for the Celebration of Learning on October 24th in Agua Prieta. Thank you for your generous support of these needy students and families from our sister church.

Blessings, Robin Conner and Peggy Smith
AP School Supplies Mission Project Coordinators

Walk to Bethlehem is here again:

December 9, 10, 11!

Our first meeting was scheduled to be held on Tuesday, April 7th, but the Covid-19 pandemic has preempted our plans! We will postpone meeting until we are given the all-clear to assemble once again.



In the meantime, as we wait, be thinking about what part you wish to play in the 2020 Walk to Bethlehem. Watch for announcements in your Sunday bulletins as we get closer to the event. If you have a burning desire for a particular job, feel free to call Pam or Robin. No need to wait for the sign-ups to let us know!

This local community event is getting popular and we've already had inquiries, so don't hesitate to sign up for something! Your help is needed and greatly appreciated!

Pam: 520-825-1985 (work)
520-343-1225 (cell)

Robin: 520-818-1177 (home)
916-549-4939 (cell)

Celebrations

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

RUPE, Marvin & Jean	04/03
OBEAR, Jim & Jody	04/04
HUNT, Ken & Sharon	04/09
BRINDLE, Kermit & Delores	04/13
PHILLIPPI, Lou & Nancy	04/20
YOUNG, Joe & June	04/21
LITTLE, Don & Betty	04/29

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

NEVINS, Ilene	04/02
BUKES, Janet	04/03
BELLAH, Bill	04/05
DURBIN, Curt	04/06
SMITH, Leo	04/06
BESCH, Jo Anne	04/07
OLSON, Linda	04/07
PHILLIPPI, Nancy	04/07
ROOKER, Joanie	04/07
EXTRACT, Clif	04/08
EGGEBRATEN, Dean	04/09
WARD, Linda	04/09
SIMON, Jim	04/11
ZELLO, Linda	04/12
COOKE, Lois	04/14
HOWES, Keith	04/14
RYTTER, Jane	04/17
WATTS, Beler	04/17
TERRY, Cliff	04/18
JACKSON, Jim	04/22
LANGWIG, Donna	04/22
MILLER, Linda	04/23
MOYER, Michael	04/24
OBEAR, Jody	04/26
SALAVA, Fern	04/27
REYNOLDS, Richard	04/29

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

HIGGINS, Dennis & Peggy	5/8
BIXBY, Dave & Lynn	5/10
MOYER, Michael & Jenna Rae	5/10
PARSON, Darrell & Gail	5/10
BLEESS, Jim & Bon Ceil	5/11
DAVIES, John & Joan	5/23
BULL, Fred & Kim	5/25
AUGUST, Don & Alice	5/27
WILLIAMS, Norm & Andrea	5/27
ZEBAL, Ken & Liz	5/27
DANIELS, Bill & Becki	5/28
AUTHUR, Bob & Janelle	5/31
PODLASEK, Ken & Diane	5/31

MAY BIRTHDAYS

BYWATER, Gene	5/3
MILLARD, Jan	5/3
HERD, Eileen	5/5
MEISE, Pat	5/5
O'DONALD, Jay	5/6
SMITH, Don	5/6
GRAY, Linda	5/7
PRESTON, Mary	5/7
HUBBARD, Jo Ann	5/8
PHILLIPS, Allen	5/10
FARNUM, Jeanne	5/11
HERNANDEZ, Kiana	5/13
BERG, Mary	5/14
MAWHINNEY, Susan	5/15
YOUNG, Mary Lou	5/16
BROWNING, Jerry	5/17
BILLS, Harper	5/21
MILLER, Robert	5/21
FUJITA-HERNANDEZ, Ami	5/23
RUTKOWSKI, Marilyn	5/23
CAMPBELL, Kathy	5/24
ATWOOD, Jan	5/26
BULL, Kim	5/26
GOETZ, John	5/26
ISAAC, Al	5/27
NELSON, Ruth	5/28
GUPTILL, June	5/29
AGUIRRE, Jasmine	5/31
COFFMAN, Anne	5/31

VISTA de la MONTAÑA UMC
3001 EAST MIRAVISTA LANE
TUCSON, AZ 85739

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.
PHONE 520-825-1985

E-mail: VistaUMC@aol.com
VISIT US ON FACEBOOK
AND AT OUR WEBSITE:
www.Vistaumc.org



April 2020

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U.S. POSTAGE

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Join us ONLINE!
No need to miss
Lenten & Easter Services

Palm Sunday

April 5 10:00 am

Holy Thursday

April 9 7 pm with Communion

Easter Sunday

10:00 am with communion

www.vistaumc.org