



VISTA de la MONTAÑA UMC

Echoes

September 2020

I want to thank everyone for their cards, phone calls, emails and personal expressions of care at the passing of my mom. Truly, you are a people, a church, who reflect the nature of Christ. The Bible teaches us to “Mourn with those who mourn and rejoice with those who rejoice”. Rom. 12:15 Your expressions of care have helped us mourn with you and you joining with us in the Livestreaming of her service have helped us rejoice in her life that was well lived. The following is a blog I posted on Facebook and our website. I know most of you have already read it, but I updated it a bit for this publication.

My mom died on August 13th, 2020. It was her 3rd birthday. Yes, at the age of 96 she celebrated her 3rd birthday!! 96 years ago was her 1st birth day, the day of her birth. Sometime later as a child she celebrated her 2nd birthday. This was the day she was “born from above” as John. 3:3 says. Being “born from above” is also translated in the Bible as being “born again”. As Romans 10:9 says, “This was the day she believed in her heart that God raised Jesus from the dead and confessed with her mouth that he was Lord,” which made that day the day she was saved! Thursday August 13th was her 3rd birthday for she died, and her spirit was born into Heaven. She is now in her forever home with Jesus, with my dad, her mom and all her faithful family and friends who have passed on well before her. I pray that all who read this have had, in this sense, their first and second birthday and are looking forward to their 3rd. “For no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him.” 1 Cor. 2:9

Shortly after my dad died, I had a dream of him lying in bed on his side curled up like a baby. At the time I thought that most of that dream had to do with the fact that the last year of his life he was bed bound lying on his back most of the time. But upon reflection I realize that what I saw was an image of him as he was born into Heaven. May we indeed all live with faith and love so that we too can be born into Heaven and celebrate our own 3rd Birthday!!!

In Christ's love

Pastor Fred

PS Thanks to all who made the Livestream memorial service for our family possible. It was also a walk thru of what we will do to open up face to face worship in the future. Right now, we are praying that Sunday October 11th, we will begin that process. Let's pray the numbers go in the right direction and that is down.

From the Building Committee

Hill Restoration

Phase 1 of hill restoration and improvement is complete. Please drive to the Church and see for yourself. The improvements protect the well and add approximately six new parking spaces directly across from the Education & Administration Building.

Phase 2 will improve the seven new parking spaces by adding a cement curb, paving, sealing, striping and bumper curbs

Phase 3 will improve the hill by crack sealing, FOG coating and then adding a long storm gutter.

Storm Damage Repair

The insurance claim was settled for \$75,000 on 28 August. We anticipate SCBS initiating repairs in September.

Water Sheeting

We are still pending receipt of one or more technically viable and cost-efficient proposals.

Nursery Remodel

We are still pending receipt of one or more technically viable and cost-efficient proposals.

THANK YOU to all those who made and are honoring pledges and THANK YOU to all those who pray for us and encourage us – THANK YOU

With God, all things are possible.



Vista Mission Outreach Ministry Report

Dear Vista Family:

When you read this, we will have completed 6 months of lock down and live streaming from our much missed Vista Church. Little did we know that on that lovely spring day in March that we would not be returning to our church home for this long a period of time. So much has changed in all of our lives. There are those who were among us that are no more, but our mission work carries on in spite of the hardships to do so. I want to thank you all for your continued support of our Mission work at Vista. I have listed below some of the work we have been able to carry out. God bless you all, for the love and grace you have shown for those in need.

- 1) Report on Fuente de Vida, our Sister Church in Agua Prieta Mexico, School Supplies Trip, on 8-6-20 to Douglas AZ. to our storage warehouse in a caravan of 5 vehicles. We delivered backpacks for 160 students, donations from Bob Snider's clothes closet, donations of bedding & towels, card making supplies, supplies for sanitation for the corona virus pandemic like Lysol, anti infection cleaning products, soap etc. a sofa bed, clothing, soft ice cream machine & an espresso machine. Our many thanks go to Pastor Fred Baum, Jan Hopke Almer & friend Mike Pidone, Glenna Snider, Craig & Benith MacPherson, and Marty and Alice Ann Lenzini for all their wonderful help in getting this huge load to Douglas and then unloaded, for the future hauling of all these items across the Border. I also want to thank Pastor Roger Blumenthal of the Pantano Christian Church for his help in acquiring, then storing and loading the soft ice cream machine (680 pounds) and the espresso machine for use in our Coffee & Sweets shop in Agua Prieta. This shop will help support Pastor Gela's ministry.
- 2) Roche Scholarship Fund: We are sponsoring 4 existing college students and accepted 2 more new University students, Elian Lopez Perez, (19, Electronic Engineering) & Jorge Rene Acuna Gallardo (25, Law Degree) into the University in Agua Prieta. It is thrilling to see our backpack & school supply program extending into University studies for some years now. This fall we have 8 of our students in (Preparatoria) Agua Prieta's High School program and we will be seeking their support from the Methodist Church in Sun Lakes, who have been our partners with the High School education program for some years now.
- 3) Family 1st received 100 backpacks with school supplies as well as 46 pieces of handmade clothing for new babies and children's clothes up to size 4T, from our Creative Hands, and another 12 outfits from Jan Hopke Almer. Many thanks go to Jan Hopke Almer and Jan Bohe's teams. Also 8 cases of baby diapers and baby wipes were delivered along with a good numbers of handmade children and adult face masks. We received a nice Thank you from Frank & Clair, Directors of Family 1st.
- 4) I am happy to announce that our Snak Pak program will be going forward but in a new way, along with our partnership with the Catholic Mission in Catalina, who have added \$1,000 to our budget. If all goes as planned, we will be able to get our food delivered by Amazon Prime to the Coronado K to 8 School in Catalina. Team Leader Kathy Campbell, has spent many hours working out the details as we know them right now. We shall see how this school year works out, as we seem to get different information every week. It has been a rough go during this pandemic for parents who need to work and at the same time, see to all the needs of their children.
- 5) 30 Backpacks and school supplies were delivered to the Emerge Center, a program against violence and abuse in Tucson. Thank you Jan Hopke Almer.

6) I have been helping seniors of our Impact Senior Center reconnect with friends and family members from their youth that they have lost contact with. Using my computer, I am happy to say I have had some success in doing so, even if it is an Obituary. With this lock down situation people have time to remember happier times and want to know what happened to people they knew many years ago.

7) We sent Impact food bank \$1500 this past month with the generous donations from our Vista Family. We received a letter of thanks from Impact for our help.

8) I have been in touch with Barry and Gale Shuman, who are on our prayer list in the Sunday bulletin, and they are in need of a driver to assist them with transportation to Tucson from San Manuel for medical appointments, as well as finding homes for their 4 remaining cats that they sadly must give up due to health reasons. For further information please give me a call.

I want to thank our Treasure, Darrell Parsons, for all his help with our Mission funds, even going to the bank for me to make the deposits into the Agua Prieta Account in Douglas and keeping our records straight for our Mission work.

In closing I want to express our condolences from our Mission team, to our beloved Pastor Fred and family, who is so supportive of our Mission work at Vista, in the loss of his mother Mildred. May God comfort your hearts and bring you much joy as you remember all the good times you shared in her lifetime. Thank you again, Pastor, for your continued support of our Mission program at Vista.

Yours in Mission service,

Dee Berman ...Chairman of Mission Outreach Ministry at Vista UMC

520-825-7115 deerick1968@gmail.com

2020 Walk to Bethlehem—NOT Cancelled!

We are very excited to tell you that Vista will once again offer the Walk to Bethlehem!



However, this year it will be a virtual Walk! The Walk team will create a video version by using photos of empty shops from previous years and green screen video of the cast. Once the video has been created, we will be able to share with our community through our website and on Youtube in December. Please join us in praying that our video creation will be a success. Stay tuned for future announcements.

Blessings, Pam Holder and Robin Conner

Co-Chairs for the Walk to Bethlehem Committee

Happy Birthday, to our Super Seniors 90 + Years Old!



The Hospitality committee will be honoring those in our “Vista 90 Plus Club” with setting aside again Sunday, September 20 as the day to stop and celebrate those who have reached a milestone in their lives. Some have already celebrated their milestone this year, but others are anticipating it to come later this year. This Vista 90 Plus Club is an elite club. The membership requirement is you must be 90 plus and young at heart.

Here are the of those who are members of the “Vista 90 Plus Club”.

Jeanne Farnum	99	Peggy Marks	92
Betty Jean Emberton	98	Ilene Nevins	92
Mattie Landrum	97	Betty Little	92
Joan Davies	95	Corinne Kulick	92
Marurice Price	95	Dottie Lou Colby	91
Rev. John Davies	94	Bill Gureck	91
Dick Nevins	94	Ginny Jackson	91
Charlotte DeWindt	94	LaVern Tucker	91
Jim Jackson	93	Duane Waldo	91
Dana Belyea	92	Dorothy Conner	90
Marlin Bolar	92	Don Little	90
Kenneth Combs	92	Ted LaFleur	90
Lois Cooke	92		

Tune in to the live streaming church service on September 20 at 10 AM.

The contributions you have made and continue to make the lives of others simply by being you are immeasurable.

Special thanks to Robin Conner, the leader, along with those who assisted her to help make this a special Sunday.

Do you hear that? We are singing “Happy Birthday” to you all.

Delores Brindle, Hospitality Co-chairperson



90 PLUS HONOREES



DANA BELYEA 92



MARLIN BOLAR 92
CORINNE KULICK 92



DOTTIE LOU COLBY 91



KENNETH COMBS 92



DOROTHY CONNER 90



LOIS COOKE 92



JOHN & JOAN DAVIES 94/95



CHARLOTTE DE WINDT 94



BETTY JEAN EMBERTON 98



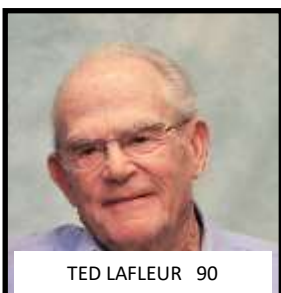
JEANNE FARNUM 99



BILL GURECK 91



JIM & GINNY JACKSON 93/91



TED LAFLEUR 90



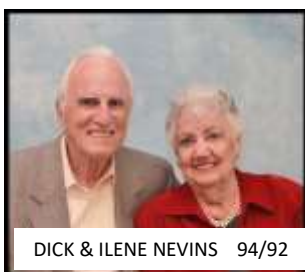
MATTIE LANDRUM 97



DON & BETTY LITTLE 90/92



PEGGY MARKS 92



DICK & ILENE NEVINS 94/92



MAURICE PRICE 95



LA VERNE TUCKER 91



DUANE WALDO 91

FROM THE SPRC

Dear Vista Friends-

Our wonderful Office Managers recently decided to retire and spend more time with their families. Their plan is to transition from work to retirement by the end of October. As a result, the SPRC initiated the search for a new Office Manager. Pam & Pat have well and faithfully served our Church for many years with love, understanding and compassion – they will be missed.

Valerie Hammons—Pastoral Assistant and So Much More!

This month we meet Valerie Hammons, Vista's Pastoral Assistant. Most of you already know her because you see her on Sunday morning in our Church Online worship service. You've also seen her at Vista wearing many hats.

Valerie began her church career like many moms, by helping out at Vacation Bible School at Christ UMC to be supportive of her two daughters' participation. She gradually became more involved by organizing social events that involved the surrounding community.

Along the way, the computer software company that she worked for was sold and while she was exploring what to do next, a secretarial job at Christ Church was offered. As time passed she became the office and business manager. She was also responsible for more community events as a Fall Festival in October, Night in Bethlehem and various children's programs. Ultimately, Valerie was working in the Children and Youth programs. After Pastor Fred came to Vista UMC, he offered Valerie a position here because he valued her dedication, creativity and just lot of hard work that she brings to the job.

Here at Vista, Valerie works with the children and youth ministry, and with the Evangelism committee which involves contacting visitors. She manages Vista's communications through advertising, Facebook, and other forms. She has also provided leadership and input for our ministry in San Manuel and is now a part of Vista's online Sunday morning worship services.

Valerie planned and implemented a virtual VBS for our children this summer as she works tirelessly to keep our children and youth connected to Vista and each other during this season of social distancing. She is using a number of other online projects to keep them growing in their Christian Faith journey, and will be providing online Sunday School beginning September 6.

Most of all, Valerie longs for the time that she can hug each one in person, because that's what we do in families!



By Dottie Lou Colby

Vista UMC Finance Committee

September 2020

For the month of July income was +\$2,229 above budget and expenses were -\$3,140 under budget. YTD net income is over budget because many members have already graciously completed their 2020 pledges. YTD expenses are -\$11,243 under budget but +\$23,248 more than 2019.

Live Streaming attendance in July was 861.

Methods of Giving

We have implemented Vanco's text giving option and GivePlus mobile application option, which use Vanco credit/debit card giving. See article.

Payroll Protection Program Loan:

We have completed using our PPP load of \$44,739 in July for payroll and Pastor Fred's benefits. We will be submitting our Forgiveness Application in September based on advice from our CPA and Canyon Bank due to a safe haven clause.

Mortgage Principal:

We have begun making mortgage principal payments and we had principal gifts of \$5,300. The principal has been reduced to \$539,429 from \$550,000. Mortgage payments began in August.

Your Endowment Fund

As it's been nearly a year since the Vista Endowment Committee moved the management of our funds from the Desert Southwest United Methodist Foundation (DSUMF) to Schwab, this is a good time to review the fund performance.

The funds actually moved to Schwab in July 2019 but were not fully invested until August. During the last half of 2019, the fund returned 3.8% net of contributions and distributions. As you may have guessed, 2020 has been quite a different story. The Covid-19 virus has had a significant negative impact on the stock market, but because of the conservative nature of our investments, our fund has actually fared quite well. As I write this in mid-May, our fund losses in 2020 have been offset by the gains in 2019. In fact, the fund is up .4%, net of contributions and distributions, for the period of July 2019 to mid-May 2020.

By moving to Schwab, moreover, we have reduced our management fees to zero. In the 12 months prior to July 2019, DSUMF fees had totaled \$1,912.22, and that was based on 51% of the current fund value. Eliminating the monthly management fees charged by DSUMF has helped, and will continue to help, the Endowment fund to grow.

If you would like to make a donation to Endowment or have questions or concerns about how to do so, please see any committee member (Jay O'Donald, John Witt, Dan Radke, or Boyd Carpenter) or refer to the forms and information available on Vista's website (<https://www.vistaumc.org/permanent-endowment-fund/>).

—Jay O'Donald

SNAK PAK PROGRAM

Vista and Santa Catalina Catholic Church are preparing to continue the Snak Pak program, which supplies a bag of child-friendly nutritional food each week to children at Coronado K-8 School who are judged to be nutritionally at risk.

In the past the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona administered the program and purchased the food, which then was picked up at there or at the Marana Food Bank by our Vista volunteer drivers and delivered to Vista or Santa Catalina, where it was divided into 60 Snak Paks by volunteers from both churches. The finished Snak Paks were then delivered to Coronado K-8 School, usually by a volunteer from Santa Catalina.

Now that the Food Bank of Southern Arizona no longer supports the program, Vista and Santa Catalina are totally in charge of administering the program and ordering and paying for food. On the basis of past experience and consultation with the social worker at Coronado and with our volunteers, it was deemed desirable to have the food delivered directly to the school, where it would then be packed at the school by our volunteers.

We have found the only viable option for supplying the food we need directly to the school is to order from Amazon. (Our Oro Valley Walmart now delivers, but their contract with the delivery service does not allow them to deliver the case size items that we need.) We hope to have the food delivered by Tuesday each week and then assembled on either Tuesday afternoon or Wednesday.

Covid-19 has complicated the situation somewhat. The social worker has indicated that if our volunteers do not feel comfortable right now coming to school, she will get teachers to help her put together the packs.

Each Snak Pak for this school includes 11 items:

One Kraft Macaroni and cheese cup
One Chef Boyardee ravioli cup or one Starkist chicken salad packet
Two Quaker fruit and cream instant oatmeal packets
Two Quaker chewy chocolate chip granola bars
One Dole cherry mixed fruit cup in juice
Two bags Goldfish crackers
Two Nutrigrain fruit and cereal bars

Vista provides \$4,500 a year for the program and Santa Catalina has increased its commitment this year from \$5,500 to \$6,000. This level of funding should allow us to provide 60 Snak Paks for 31 weeks of the school year.

October Celebrations



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Alex & Jenny Perakis	10/02
Bill & Donna Goins	10/14
George & Lynn Duenkel	10/24
Steve & Sharon Scanlan	10/27

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Jacquie Garcia	10/1
Bill Ayers	10/5
Karime Penuelas	10/7
Dana Belyea	10/8
Ed Kelley	10/9
Michelle Tonga	10/21
Tricia Pohnert	10/22
Sue Hedrick	10/24
Rev. Jon Leonard	10/25
Barbara Phillips	10/26
Nisi Tonga	10/27
Joy Oram	10/29
Carol Lindahl	10/30
Lauren Hernandez	10/31
Ron Venhuizen	10/31



Happy
Birthday !

September Celebrations



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Larry & Jackie Holden	9/2
Gene & Paula Radtke	9/2
David & Edna Alligood	9/3
Peggy & Russell Hoeft	9/5
Bernie & Diane Mann	9/6
Bill & Faye Riddle	9/8
Bill & Sandy Gureck	9/10
Belar & Cheryl Watts	9/12
Jim & Joyce Holman	9/16
David & Glenda McFarland	9/16
Paul & Shawn Oelrich	9/17
Robert & Barbara Miller	9/20
Marshall & Teresa Sanders	9/20
David & Nancy Yob	9/22
Bob & Barbara Sherman	9/24
Joe & Sue Staker	9/25
Jerry & Jean Browning	9/28



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Karon Carpenter	9/2
Tom Floyd	9/2
Sinai Penuelas	9/3
Giff Tompkins	9/3
Louise O'Donald	9/6
Jan Hopke-Almer	9/7
David McFarland	9/8
Delores Brindle	9/10
Don Little	9/11
Sue Staker	9/11
Andrea Williams	9/11
Mimi Heywood	9/13
Joan Logan	9/14
Jean Stevenson	9/14
Juan Venhuizen	9/15
Boyd Carpenter	9/19
Bob Collinge	9/19
Faye Riddle	9/19
Grant Robinson	9/19
Lyle Heiss	9/20
Lynn Duenkel	9/21
Noel Rytter	9/22
George Bauder	9/23
Morgan Bills	9/23
Wyatt Bills	9/23
Sandy Gureck	9/23
Jim Obear	9/23
Gordon Odell	9/23
Jean Rinehart	9/23
Laurie Iceman	9/24
Peggy Hoeft	9/25
Phil Preston	9/25
Joe Staker	9/27
Ken Zebal	9/27

Happy Birthday!

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



September 2020

NON PROFIT ORG

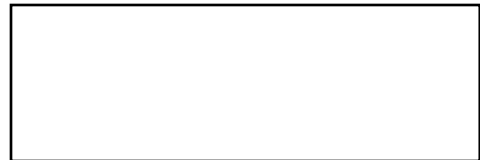
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VISTA SUNDAY SCHOOL ZOOM Starts September 6th!

Digging Into Foundations of Faith is a Sunday School program that lays the groundwork for what it means to be a Christian. Kids explore what the Bible reveals about who God is and how God sees us, how we fit in God's family, and how we live the Christian life. As kids understand core concepts of Christianity, they'll gain a solid framework for their own relationship with Jesus.

Our Family Ministry Team is hard at work, putting together the curriculum for an online ZOOM experience. Packages will be delivered to all our families with the supplies they will need. Each month a bag will have weekly supplies, snacks and a family sheet to discuss Sunday school with a Bible story, music and then each week they will have crafts, object lessons, discussions, music, games and scripture readings.

ALL are welcome to join us online. Please contact Valerie (520-825-1985 or valerievistaumc@gmail.com) if you would like to join us. Since this is ZOOM, invite your nieces, nephews, neighbors, grandchildren.....

We are also working on our Vista Children's Shop! Watch for more details soon.