



VISTA de la MONTAÑA UMC

Echoes

October 2020

Dear Members and Friends of Vista Church,

I need your help! At the end of October, I am going to start a preaching series called “**You were created for such a time as this.**” **Esther 4:14.** It will be based on our membership vows: “prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.” The question I will be addressing is how are you living these out during this time of the Coronavirus? How are you being “**Present**” when we are not meeting together and socially distanced? How has this time affected your “**Prayers**”? Are you praying more, or less, or in a different manner? How are you “**Serving**” when we can’t meet people face-to-face? How has it affected your “**Giving**”? And finally, how is “**Witnessing**” working in this time of isolation?

I need your stories to share in my sermons with the rest of the Congregation. You can have a positive impact sharing what you have currently been doing and experiencing, to encourage and inspire others. These can be written like an Upper Room devotional. You can also reach back to share from positive experiences before the pandemic hit.

Please email your stories to me at vistaspastorfred@aol.com or send them to me in letter form to the church office. You don’t have to touch on all the 5 topics but the one(s) that have meant the most to you.

Here is an example of a woman writing why “Prayers/Presence” was so important to her. Peggy wrote, “*God is my constant and often I find myself on my knees thanking him for the wonderful life I’ve been given. One time I didn’t know where our next meal would come from to feed my children. A friend called that afternoon and asked if we would come to dinner! God is so good.*” That friend was answer to Peggy’s prayer. Peggy went on to work at the Church’s food bank knowing the desperation others face.

Here’s the order in which I will address each topic:

October 18- Prayers

October 25- Presence

November 1- Witness (All Saints Day)

November 8- Service (Organ and Tissue Donation Sunday)

November 15- Gifts (Pledge Sunday)

So please share what God has been doing in your life in order to bless others!

In Christ’s love

Rev. Fred Baum

“I will bless those who bless you,... and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” Gen. 12:3

October 2020 Finance Report

For the month of August income was +\$2,227 above budget and expenses were -\$1,353 under budget. YTD net income is over budget because many members have already graciously completed their 2020 pledges. YTD expenses are -\$9,433 under budget but +\$46,337 more than 2019. \$28,252 of the increase is in interest and principal payments on the mortgage. The principal has been reduced to \$537,334 from \$550,000.

Live Streaming attendance in July was 713.

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 submitted our Forgiveness Application September 11 to Canyon Community Bank.

Stewardship Campaign News

Vista's Stewardship Campaign is about to begin! If all goes according to plan, this year's Campaign will begin on Sunday, October 18 and culminate on Consecration Sunday, November 15. During the five Sunday Campaign, Pastor Fred will lead us into a deeper understanding of what it means to be a Methodist through an examination of our membership vows. As live streaming services continue, we hope to also experience the joy of greeting one another face-to-face during this special time in our church year.

FROM THE STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

On Saturday 19 September the SPRC interviewed Ms. Ravin Miller for the Office Manager position. Subsequent to that interview the SPRC made a formal offer of employment for that position to Ms. Miller which she has accepted. We anticipate Ravin starting her new job as the Vista Church Office Manager on or about Monday 5 October as Pat and Pam begin their transition to retirement. Please join the SPRC as we warmly welcome Ravin into our Church family and as we bid a fond farewell to Pat and Pam.

Meet Ravin Miller

"Ravin grew up in Tucson and recently returned to the area as she was in Phoenix where she furthered her theological and worship ministry studies at Grand Canyon University. With a diverse background in office management along with a passion for people, heart for ministry and gift for organization and administration, she brings an energetic and fresh attitude to Vista's team. Ravin's favorite activities include leading worship/ writing music, photography, hiking, slacklining, skiing and playing ultimate frisbee. During her free time, you can find her performing at local music venues, spending time with family and friends, drinking tea, studying philosophy and spending time outdoors. Ravin currently serves as the Director of Worship at Summit Ridge Community Church in Tucson, Arizona. She is currently finishing up her studies in health services coordination at Western Governors University online and has an adorable cat and German Shepherd pup."



Mission Outreach Ministry Report for October 2020

Fall is with us and we have experienced one of the most unusual Spring & Summer of our lives. In spite of the uncertainties of these times, God has been with us thru it all and we have all received the ministry from our Vista Church thru Live Streaming, the fellowship of our Christian Education thru Zoom, as well thru our Email's and telephones that have kept us in touch. Our Mission ministry continues thru the generosity of our congregation and the dedication of our Mission team over these many months of pandemic rules and regulations.

I want to emphasize one of our numerous Mission Ministries, Family First in Oracle. They have been serving over 14 years, to the families in Oracle, as well as those all the way up the copper trail to Winkelman, with education on parenting and prenatal care. Their material assistance store helps with baby formula & food, diapers, toys and clothing (newborn thru 4T) as well as adult diapers for the elderly in the community. During this pandemic they have been assisting their clients with educational parenting programs on line, but also with curb side deliveries by appointment. We have not only given them financial assistance, but by the good work of our Creative Hands ladies, Jan Bohe (team leader), Ginny Updegrove, Sandy Acre, Linda Miller and Connie Simonds, with 46 pieces of clothing for the children's clothing bank. In addition we have supplies multiple packages of diapers both for babies and toddlers but also adults and thanks to Jan Hopke Almer and team, 60 back packs with school supplies for this school year. This ministry has been one a mighty Christian influence to those they serve. We have received a lovely letter of appreciation from the directors Claire & Frank Grochocki, thanking Vista Church for all our support to their Ministry.

We have also received a letter of thanks from Barbara McClure (director of Impact) for our special donation of \$2,400.00 to the food bank this past month. This was a great help, as 65% of their support comes from the Golden Goose that has been shut down for many months now. The Goose is now reopened, but only 35 shoppers are allowed in the store at a time due to the rules of the pandemic. We are working in coordination with Impact to meet the needs of our Snak Pak program this fall. You will be hearing from Kathy Campbell (team Leader) in the near future about the new Snak Pak program that will be in place for Coronado K to 8 School.

We want to continue to support the food bank at Impact on the 1st Sunday of the month for those in our community who need food supply for their families. Thank you so very much for your support during these past months.

Yesterday I had a good conversation with Pastor Gela from our sister Church Fuente de Vida in Agua Prieta, Mexico. I am happy to report that all the supplies we delivered to the storage in Douglas Az. have been transferred safely into Agua Prieta. All the backpacks and school supplies were crossed by a young lady who lives in Douglas Az. but attends church at Fuente de Vida in Agua Prieta. So far 90% of the back packs and school supplies have been given out by appointment only at the church and pictures were taken of each student, the other 10% are waiting to be picked up. Schools have not opened their classrooms yet and classes are on line for all the students.

Missions, continued

Sadly, many of these kids do not have the equipment to receive the lessons, like tablets, & laptops, so this is making it hard to learn. If you have any of this equipment that you are not using any more, it would be a big blessing if you would give it to us to take to them so their education can continue. Pastor Gela expressed her gratitude and those of the congregation of Fuente de Vida, for our financial assistance that got the utilities turned on for those who lost them, due to lack of funds when their work places shut down.

They also expressed their gratitude for the resources to acquire medications that were needed, as well as cleaning and disinfecting supplies for their homes. This Sunday 9-27-20 they will be opening their church with social distancing for 50 to 60 people at a time and holding 2 services per Sundays to meet the need for space. The children will attend on Saturdays for their Sunday School classes. They have asked for our prayers as this new era opens their ministry after many months on line.

Again I want to express our appreciation for your support of our Vista Mission program. It is and has always been our hope and aim to show the face and love of our Lord to those we serve in our community and beyond.

Yours in Mission Service:

Dee Berman... Chairman

520-825-7115 deerick1968@gmail.com

From the Building Committee

Storm Damage Repair

We are still pending receipt of the final check which will enable us to begin the storm damage repair work.

Water Sheeting

Work begins on Monday 28 September with a scheduled completion date of Monday 5 October. During that time the south parking lot will be closed to all visitors.

We remain very thankful for all those who pledged their financial support and honored their pledges.

“With God, all things are possible”

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Dear Vista Congregation. We thought it was time to provide an update on what's been happening with respect to our Pray Shawl Ministry during this long absence.

We have all been busy either knitting or crocheting items for our home bound and former Vista members. Shawls and pocket pray shawls are now available to be blessed by Pastor Fred once we reopen. According to my sources, October 11th, 2020 seems to be the target date provided all continues to go well with respect to the CoronaVirus downward trend. Let us all hope and pray that trend is maintained.

While the livestreaming has been a great substitute during this time, it hardly compares to actually being there in church, mingling with all of you, the members, and greeting as we used to. Once we can reopen, it might not be possible to shake hands as before but at least a friendly smile, a wave of acknowledgement, a nod of one's head. Something to indicate hi, good to see you, how have you been etc. I think I can say, we all look forward to that time.

Some information you might not be aware of:

Some years ago a lady from Maine who owned a yarn store at the time had a need to pattern the first handmade prosthesis. She had had mastectomy surgery and having looked at her choices of prosthetics at that time decided her option was to make one for herself. She became the first, and with the help of her friends, provided them to many more patients having had this surgery. Later, Barbara Demorest of Washington State, a cancer survivor herself, asked permission to make and distribute free of charge to anyone requesting such a prosthesis. With permission granted, the charity was founded and is now called "KnittedKnockers Charities, Inc.". This nonprofit organization is now throughout the United States and is worldwide. With the help of several other volunteers these ladies are able to supply these prostheses to every woman asking for them in whatever size necessary or color requested.

Today it is quite the organization with distribution, quality control and mailings being performed weekly. There are now more than 700 groups involved in the making and distribution of these mailings.

The difference between these handmade and the silicone placements is vast. First the silicone is very heavy, hot, not washable and expensive. The knitted knockers handmade prostheses are washable, soft, lightweight, free of charge and overall more comfortable to wear all day. Since they are flexible, one can add or subtract the filling to suit your particular fit. They are also great for patients undergoing lumpectomies and radiation, and/or undergoing reconstruction.

If anyone either in our congregation or perhaps has a friend/relative in need of such a prostheses, please let our Pray Shawl Ministry know. We would be happy to discuss the matter privately, in your home or one of our homes in order to offer discreet conversation and comfortable surroundings. Should you prefer to look into this matter yourself, please take a look at: <http://www.knittedknockers.org/> Many thanks and please stay safe.

Yours Prayer Shawl Ministry

Sharon Hunt

Ilene Nevins

Shirley Newman

Trick or Treat!



Candy donations are needed for Vista youth! Please drop off in Vista's front lobby during business hours. Thank you!



Walk to Bethlehem...

Producers for the video version of this year's "Walk to Bethlehem" are in the editing process now! Thanks to all of Vista's actors who answered the casting call and showed up (on time, we might add!). The two days of filming proved to be enlightening as we managed to do it all within the CDC guidelines.

In addition to a special thanks for "lead producer", Rob Moody, from California, (Pam's son), we would like to thank the following folks who generously gave their time and donning of costumes:

Pastor Fred, Nancy Yob, David Yob, Benith MacPherson, Darrell Parson, Gail Parson, Marty Lenzini, Jay O'Donald, Don August, Mary Berg, Peggy Smith, Sandy Schwartz, Linda Olson, Kathleen Greer, Sue Hedrick, Jim Bleess, Dan Boring, Donna Boring, Linda Whittington, Andrew Colby, Slim Crowson, David Alligood, Karime Munton and Dave Munton.

Thank you, Benith, for also helping in the beginning with the assembling of costumes and accessories.

But wait! You've heard it takes a village, right? Pam and I want to take this time to thank the hundreds of Vista's members who, over the years, have helped to keep this event alive. Without all the previous pictures we used for the background of the video, this production would not have been possible. Now let's get ready for God's blessing!

Pam Holder and Robin Conner

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

Hospitality

Hospitality committee wants to share with you the special event we put together to celebrate the birthdays of those in the Vista 90 Years Plus Birthday Club. It took place on Sunday, Sept 20 at 10 am during the worship service.. First, I must set the stage before Sunday, Sept. 20. I told all the seniors to watch the church service on that Sunday to see the surprise we had for them. Next, Robin Conner and volunteers made lavender and purple corsages and/or boutonnieres for the 26 90+ seniors. I put together 26 flower boxes and mailed them to the members. The final step was a video show of all the members and happy birthday music made by Pam Holder. On Sunday, Pastor Fred honored them with a prayer. The video was shown at the service and we were all able to sing 'Happy Birthday'.

What an outstanding presentation on that Sunday. Hospitality co-chairpersons want to thank all those wonderful volunteers who made this special event possible. I have heard from those birthday seniors and they want to send their thanks for surprising them with this special birthday Sunday

Delores Brindle, Hospitality Co-Chair



Picture of Corsage and Boutonniere

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 !

November Celebrations



Anniversaries

HOAGLUND, Larry & Coralyn	11/01
WALDO, Duane & Marilyn	11/22
SCHWARTZ, Pete & Sandy	11/28
MILLARD, Ben & Jan	11/27
RYTTER, Noel & Jane	11/29

Birthdays

DAVIES, Joan	11/01
MEHLHORN, Mary-Ann	11/01
WHITE, Logan	11/02
VAKERICS, Molly	11/03
BOERDING, Sue	11/04
STEGINK, David	11/06
HARWICK, Peggy Jo	11/07
CROWN, Jan	11/09
FOSTER, Mia	11/10
LAFLEUR, Joyce	11/12
RADKE, Carla	11/12
SALAVA, Roger	11/12
FLOYD, Cialyn	11/13
HILLMANN, Bill	11/15
TOMPKINS, Alice	11/16
HILLMANN, Mary Jane	11/17
HOAGLUND, Larry	11/18
TRIBOULET, Linda	11/18
PODLASEK, Diane	11/19
AYERS, Dixie	11/21
PARSON, Gail	11/21
HOLDER, Pamela	11/22
ANDERSON, Maureen	11/25
BUKES, Milt	11/25
SHERMAN, Barbara	11/25
WINKLER, Sallie	11/25
VERMILYE, Juliette	11/26
WHITE, Cameron	11/26
BILLS, Elsie	11/29
PRICE, Maurice	11/29

Happy
Birthday!



VISTA de la MONTAÑA UMC

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TUCSON, AZ 85739

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

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VISIT US ON FACEBOOK

AND AT OUR WEBSITE:

www.Vistaumc.org



October 2020

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