



VISTA de la MONTAÑA UMC

Echoes

January 2022

Forward Somersault with a Half Twist

At the end of October, I got to go hunting in the Catalinas in Molina basin near the “Old Gold Mine”. I have hunted in that area for deer since I was about 17. It is a very rough area covered with boulders, cactus, shin daggers and more things to make your life miserable as you traverse the 75-degree slopes. It is a place about which my Forest Ranger dad said, “Most deer back there die of old age.” Yes, in nearly 50 years of hunting there I have successfully bagged only 3 deer.



Well because of all the rain last summer the undergrowth was amazing. I could not see the ground almost anywhere I was stepping unless I was climbing up or down rocks. It was a bit unnerving in that the lizards were still out which meant the snakes were still around. I wear high top boots, but the undergrowth often went above my knees. I finally decided to get down off that hill before dark and started down the slope. I tripped and almost fell on my face a couple of times, so I decided to work my way over to the mine tailings where I knew there was a ½ inch steel cable that stretched most of the way back to the road. I figured if I got to the cable, I could make it down without doing a face plant in the cactus, shin daggers etc. by holding onto the steel cable.

Well, I almost made it to the cable! I was about 10 feet from it, and I had to duck under a low oak tree and slide down about 8 feet to reach it, but as I stepped over a downed yucca plant my right foot caught on the stem and that pitched me face first down the mountain. As I fell, I reached out my left hand and caught the cable as my body went over the cable. I did a complete flip with a half twist and wound up sitting on my butt about 10 feet from where I tripped. As I flipped over, I remember my face coming about 12 inches from the gravel as my grip caught and the momentum flipped me over and my backpack slapped me in the neck.

This all happened in less than 2 seconds. As I sat there looking down the hillside that I almost went down face first I began to assess the damage. First, was the gun. I checked and hadn't rammed the barrel in the dirt as I flipped. Next, I pulled the oak branch off my face and determined that I wasn't cut too bad across my cheeks. Next, I noticed my left shin hurt terribly, and I thought it was severely cut up and expected my boot to be full of blood when I got down the hill. It hurt too bad to look, so I waited until I got to the truck.

As beat up as I was, I didn't break any bones. So, I sat there. I took a drink of water and then headed down the hill grasping the steel cable firmly in my left hand and I didn't have any more falls.

2020 and 2021 have been 2 years that have flipped us over, twisted us around but here we are sitting looking downhill into a new year. We may be cut up and bruised but we are still alive and holding onto the One who holds onto us!! God in Christ is our steel cable that if we hold onto him, he will hold us up. Yes, it's been tough, but here we are in a new year, beat up bruised but nothing is broken, and we will move on.

I encourage you if you do nothing more in 2022, and every year coming up, hold on!!! Hold onto the One who holds onto you. Indeed, as the scripture says, “By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you!” 1 Cor. 15:2

In His Grip

Pastor Fred

January Activities

BEFORE CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday 9:00—9:40 AM St Matthew Room

Mel and Dottie McIntyre are offering this new before church Sunday morning class, using the Wired Word curriculum which applies Biblical principles to current events. Mid-week you will be emailed the lesson including- *In the News, Confronting the News With Scripture and Hope with Discussion Questions*. Check out the wiredword.com for more information and a sample lesson.

AFTER CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday 11:15 AM—12:45 PM St Matthew Room

The After Church Sunday School Class led by Linda Whittington has a long history of successful discussion and fellowship together in a combination in person and on zoom membership. Their class includes prayer, a video study with discussion following and fellowship. The current video study is on forgiveness. They provide a welcoming atmosphere for everyone and especially enjoy including new members. To join, please contact Donna Boring. For questions, please contact Linda Whittington.

CHRISTIANITY'S FAMILY TREE

What Other Christians Believe and Why

Wednesday 10:00-11:00 AM Elizabeth Room

Jan 12 – Mar 2 Rev. Jim Lubach

Pastor Lubach is back by popular demand with another fascinating class on Christianity. The book is available for \$9.99 at Cokesbury or \$10.69 at Amazon and will make an excellent pre-Lenten study. The book itself is described as follows: "Adam Hamilton presents a welcoming, inspiring vision of eight Christian denominations and faith traditions. Comparing the Christian family to our own extended families, he contends that each denomination has a unique, valuable perspective to offer on the Christian faith."

PROTESTANT PRAYER BEADS CLASS

Thurs. Feb. 17th 1:00-4:00 PM St. Luke Room Nancy Yob
When the Israelites felt lost and afraid, God gave them a prayer tool of knotted fringe. The fringe helped them stay focused on God. Have you ever felt lost or does your mind wander during prayer? Prayer Beads can help. Join leader, Nancy Yob, to explore the history of the beads, and create your own unique set. We will look at ways to use the beads to enrich our prayer time and strengthen our connection with God. There is a \$5.00 class fee to cover supplies. *(limited space – sign up early)*

Online Calendar

Please check our website for an up to date calendar for more details on meetings and events. www.vistaumc.org/calendar/

UP FROM THE ASHES BIBLE STUDY

Thursday 1:30 PM St John Room

Led by Lay Leader Jim Bleess, this Bible Study has been meeting since May and follows this pattern. Class members take turns reading aloud the Bible passages for the week, then have time for questions and a brief discussion period. They are currently starting the Gospel Luke. At the completion of these two books of the Bible, the class votes on the next book to read. The class has an open enrollment policy and welcomes new members. If you would like to join, contact Donna Boring. If you have questions, contact Jim Bleess.

Dinner for Six

Our Spring Session will begin in January
If you were part of DF6 in the Fall, you are automatically part of the Spring Session—unless you contact Sandy or Joyce by January 15th.

If you would like to be part of DF6, please let us know by January 15th. New lists will be made then.

If you have any questions call:

Sandy Schwartz 520-818-9792

The Upper Room Devotionals

January/February are in!

Stop by the Church Office to pick up your copy.
Office Hours are 9-5 M-F (closed 12-1 for lunch)

Save the Date

*This Is Christmas
Our
Walk To Bethlehem*

2022

Save the Dates December 7, 8, 9



& Opportunities

New Member Lunch With The Pastor

If you are curious about what membership in Vista Church is all about or have already decided to join, you are invited to attend a lunch on Sunday, Jan 23rd at 11:11am. We will meet in the Elizabeth room in our new Education and Admin building for lunch and a conversation with Pastor Fred and other members of the congregation.

Call the church office for lunch reservations. 520-825-1985.

Missions Ministry

The Grocery Cart will be back out on the patio to collect your food donations **for Impact's Catalina Food Bank** on Sunday January 2nd & February 6th

This is an important service to our community as our Food Bank distributes more than 460 bags monthly, totaling nearly 4000 lbs. of food, along with an additional 1300 lbs. of pantry goods, and thousands of pounds of produce, meat and dairy each month. So let's give thanks for our blessings and share them with others, to prevent hunger. If you prefer to donate funds, please put "Food Bank" in the memo line of your check.



January 25th! 6:00 PM

We hope your family joins us for this fun monthly event. Games will be provided, or you can bring your favorite one to share. At this time there will be no food sharing, so make sure to bring a snack and beverage for yourself.

Please contact Loni Degen at **520-461-2205** with any questions.

2022 FLOWER DONATIONS



The 2022 Flower Chart is in the Narthex. If there is an occasion for which you would like to celebrate (Birthday, Anniversary, In Honor of, In Memory of, or in Celebration of an event) please let us help you announce it by ordering a flower arrangement (\$50) to be displayed at the Altar on Sunday. Sign up in the Narthex or contact Janet Arnett at 719-323-4806, or the church office at 520-825-1985. Thank you!

Interested in being a Stephen Minister??

For more information contact
Dottie McIntyre or Valerie Hammons
520-825-1985

Did You Know?

YOU CAN GET THE ECHOES BY EMAIL? CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT
VISTAUMC.ORG@GMAIL.COM TO SIGN UP.

OFFICE CLOSED

The Church Office will be closed Monday
Jan 17th For MLK Day.

Thank You Shoppers



Thank you to all the Vista Shoppers.
If you haven't yet, please go to the Fry's website and link your card to Vista de la Montaña.

AND you can also link your
Amazon to the church.



Thank you for your
continued support!

Eyeglasses+ Collection



Thank you for all your donations of old and unwanted hearing aides, eyeglasses, cases & cell phones. As you Spring clean in '22 remember that there are a couple donation boxes on the church campus—in the Narthex and the Main Office.

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM SPRC

SPRC stands for **Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations Committee**. Staff/Pastor is the clergy and staff at our church, which includes all staff and not just Pastor Fred. The Parish is all of you, the congregation. Our main responsibility focuses on creating and maintaining a strong relationship between the staff and the congregation. We usually meet monthly, except June & July. Our meetings are Confidential, so only SPRC members may attend. There may be an occasion where a non-committee member is asked to attend, but only for their portion of the meeting. Anything shared in a meeting is held in strict confidence.

Your Vista SPRC is dedicated to helping the staff and congregation grow to our full potential in Christ. Sometimes this is a difficult task for SPRC when having to make difficult decisions in an effort to discern God's plan. Sometimes the job is easy and fulfilling when things are going well. Like anything we do in our lives there are ups and downs. The most important thing to remember is that we are all in love with Christ and have the same spiritual goal which is to have a closer stronger relationship with our loving God.

We are looking forward to making 2022 a positive and joyful year at Vista. Please share your concerns and definitely share the good things you see in our congregation and staff. If we look for the good, we will always find it, especially at Vista.

Pray for Pastor Fred, the staff, our congregation, and your SPRC. Remember that we are dedicated to support the relationship between the staff and the Parish – you.

Blessings, your SPRC members: Gerry Alberts, Pastor Fred Baum, Nancy Caber, Sandy Crown, Sandy Gureck, Alice Ann Lenzini, Dr. Bill Pohnert, Beler Watts and Nancy Yob

Explore the Many Ways to Give to the Church

Non-cash Gifts to the Church

Anytime you wish to make a non-cash gift to the Church (i.e. stocks or property), it is **critical that you contact Dennis Kimmel, Financial Secretary for the procedure**. He is in charge of all contributions for the Church. You can complete your general pledge or building pledge through a stock gift, which may provide a tax incentive if you donate appreciated stock.

The Ease of Credit Card and Automatic Bank Giving

You can give to the Church using your credit card for a one-time gift, or set up an automated donation on a one-time, weekly or monthly schedule. To donate, go to our Vista UMC website <http://vistaumc.org/> and on the bottom of the Home page there is a link to our **Donation Page**. It's safe, secure and easy to use. Not only can you give to the Church, but you can collect miles or points from your credit card! If you have any questions, please call Valerie Hammons, Pastoral Minister.

TACH – Automated Clearing House

Many of our members give through ACH – Automated Clearing House, which is a monthly direct deposit to the Church from your checking account. *If you would like to do this, please contact Dennis Kimmel, Financial Secretary.*

TIRA Gift from your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)

Retirees ages 70 ½ or older can transfer money *tax free* directly from their IRA to a charity such as Vista UMC and it can count towards your RMD (Required Minimum Distribution). It is important to consult your Financial Adviser to set this up properly.

Please consider selecting one of these ways to give, then follow through. The spiritual progress of the church lives on member donations. Step up, be counted!

Church Contact Info

Office Hours Monday-Friday 9-5, Closed 12-1 for lunch. Phone: 520-825-1985
vistaumc.org@gmail.com

Mission Outreach Ministry January 2022

Dear Vista Family:

As we enter a New Year we look forward to all God has for us to do in this new year, but first I want to thank you for all the good you made happen in this last Thanksgiving & Christmas Season. Your generous Thanksgiving offering was used to feed those in need thru Impact in Catalina, Snak Packs for Coronado K to 8 School in Catalina, and at Sister Jose Homeless Women's Center for snap top cans of food for women who make their homes on the cold streets of Tucson.

I am inserting Jan Hopke/Almer's report on the additional projects that your support made happen this past season and offer Jan my gratitude for all she does to see that those in need are not forgotten.

As we celebrated the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, the Mission Team thanked our congregation members for giving us the gifts to use in service and share God's love for others this Christmas season. The Mission Outreach Team and Susanna Wesley Circle collaborated to provide 25 Art Kits for the EMERGE Center Against Domestic Abuse Holiday Event in Tucson. Additionally, this year Pastor Gela from Fuente de Vida, our sister church in Agua Prieta, Mexico, made a special request for a Toy Drive and winter clothing. Like here in the United States, the COVID pandemic has made it even more difficult for poor families to manage daily life. In October the Mission Team drove to Douglas delivering 108 clothing items which included sweatshirts, knit hats and gloves. These were saved by Pastor Gela to be distributed along with the toy donations. Fifty-two Christmas stockings for preschool to teenage children were also donated assuring that all of their most needy children would get at least one special gift. All of these gifts included two pairs of stockings and older students' gifts included toiletries items.

We were recently made aware of the **Catholic Community Services Casa Alitas Program**. Migrant families who have left their home countries to escape violence and poverty are dropped off daily by ICE or Border Patrol agents at the Casa Alitas Welcome Center in Tucson. They provide humanitarian aid, medical services and short term shelter while assisting them in contacting family members in the US. They help the new arrivals get a confirmation number for a plane or bus ticket **purchased by their US family members**.

Casa Alitas provides a safe place to rest, eat, a change of clothing, hygiene items, and a chance to wash up. Through arrangements with the Pima County Health Department all guests receive a COVID test and vaccine as needed. Donations are needed of travel bags/backpacks, travel food (granola bars, protein bars, dried fruit, applesauce and non-melting items), bottled water, small travel blankets, toiletries, new socks/underwear, and small toys for the children. Bus rides typically take 2 to 3 days. Catholic Community Services of Southern Arizona collaborates with the US Border Patrol, Pima County Health Department and the City of Tucson.

As a demonstration of God's love for all His people, a donation was given to Casa Alitas during the Christmas week. We gave the youngest children a preschool backpacks (\$1 at Dollar Tree) with a stuffed doll or toy cars, Cracker Jacks, kid size gloves and two pairs of socks. Elementary children were given the same small backpack with a small doll/two toy cars, drawing paper, crayons, Christmas pencils, pencil sharpener and candy. Older students were given a Christmas stocking with two pairs of socks, gloves, toiletries, a small gift and candy. As Jesus taught us by example, may we be generous stewards God's blessings and love with the poorest in our communities.

Your Christmas offering will be used to support our Mission program and be shared with UMCOR that is helping the victims of those terrible tornadoes in the east and especially in Kentucky. UMCOR is on the scene and is helping hundreds of people recover from the loss of their homes and places of business. I want to thank you in advance for your faithful support.

I also want to remind you that our Warm Winter collection is still going on thru January and hope that you will fill the box in the narthex with warm winter clothes and good bedding for those in our community that need our help.

For many years I have sent out over 400 Christmas Cards but this year I am using this letter to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas, and to thank you for your continued support of our Mission Outreach Ministry. It is a joy and a privilege to lead a ministry that includes so many of our Vista folks in so many kind and giving ways. I also want to thank out Mission team for all their fine work and I am looking forward to all the good work we have to do in the coming year.

Our next Mission Meeting will be in the St. John's room on Wed. Jan. 13th at 1:30 PM. Remember that everyone at Vista is invited to attend and learn about our Mission programs.

Happy New Year 2022!!

Yours in Mission service: Dee Berman ...Chairman deerick1968@gmail.com 520-825-7115

SHEPHERDS IN 2022

Celebrating and bringing in a New Year enhances our anticipation for better opportunities in the future. January is a perfect time for Vista's Shepherds to meet and exchange ideas for communicating with our congregation. We are planning a lunch meeting for some time in late January and are looking for two more Shepherds to join our team!

Robin Conner, Chair-Shepherds Committee

robin.mikeconner@gmail.com

Home phone: 520-818-1177

Cell phone: 916-549-4939



How Can You Be A DISCIPLE?



**YOU DON'T HAVE TO KNOCK ON DOORS ANYMORE,
NOW YOU CAN JUST CLICK!**

Get a little help from your friends! Did you know when you share something from the Vista Facebook page, that's a hint to Facebook that this is the good stuff.

So PLEASE share Vista Facebook posts with your own Facebook Page! It doesn't just get Vista in front of our followers: it helps boost Vista in the newsfeed for everyone out there.

If you see something you like, please don't be afraid to react. That means hit the Buttons on the bottom. The more 'reactions' we get the more we show up in others feeds.

That is called sharing the good news! See you on Facebook. VistaUMC!

Vista's Remembrance Garden

Please consider ordering a personalized brick honoring a spouse, child, parent, family, and/or pets. The engraved bricks are \$125, with most all of the money applied to the Vista Building Fund. Complete one of the forms located either in the Narthex or the Church Office, and then deliver it to the church office with your check.



Leaving Your Legacy Through A Bequest

A popular way to leave a lasting legacy to your faith is to establish a bequest. A bequest is a gift from your estate—a transfer of cash, securities, or other property. You can make a gift to the Vista Permanent Endowment Fund by including language in your will or living trust dedicating a specific amount or percentage to the Fund. By including the PEF in your will, your investment will help Vista church keep the gospel message alive and growing.

Types of Bequest

Specific bequest: One of the many ways to support the PEF through your will or trust, and the easiest, is a bequest of a fixed dollar amount or specific property. If you would like your charitable gifts to remain in proportion to other bequests, you can designate a specific percentage of your estate, rather than a fixed amount, be given to the PEF.

Residuary bequest: If you do not wish to specify the exact size or nature of your charitable provision (often the size of a future estate is difficult to estimate), you might consider naming the PEF as a residual beneficiary of your estate. You may provide that all or a portion of the remainder of your estate shall pass to the PEF after other commitments have been fulfilled.

Should you decide to include Vista Permanent Endowment Fund in your estate plan, please supply your estate plan information on the form available at the web link below. If clicking on the link does not work, go to our website About Us/Permanent Endowment Fund/Form.

[Request-for-Grant-Form-V.1.pdf \(vistaumc.org\)](https://www.vistaumc.org/hp_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Estate-Plan-Form.pdf)

https://www.vistaumc.org/hp_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Estate-Plan-Form.pdf

*Join us as we pray for our
Friends, Family, Church,*

Compassion Connection

In Need of Continued Prayers for Healing

Frank Buck, Dorothy Conner, Dr. Chuck Crown
Slim Crowson, Suzanne Ewing, Steven Extract
Shane Gallo, Bill Gureck, Fran & Paul Hampton
Connie Kreamalmeyer, Stephen McCotter, Paul Oelrich
Margaret Overman, Allen Phillips
Joan Robinson, Rosetta Schemenauer
Barry & Gale Shuman, Meagan Spencer
Marilyn Waldo, Cheryl Watts, Teresa White



Home Bound

John & Joan Davies, Bob & Eileen Herd
Betty Jean Emberton, Sharon Poole

Prayers for Our Churches

Each month churches in the South District pray with and for each other. Please pray for the pastors, congregation, and community of the following:

January 2022

Duncan UMC, Duncan
San Pedro Valley UMC, Benson
UMC of the Good Shepherd, Kearny
And

Our sister church, Fuente de Vida in Agua Prieta, Mexico

Join Vista Church

***As we actively and intentionally pray
for our leaders, members and
Community!***

May the peace of God bring great Joy to you.

Are You Experiencing a “Winter” in Your Life?

In addition to the long dark nights, many people experience winters in their personal lives. A recent loss through death, divorce, or relocation may leave them feeling lonely. A hospitalization, a cancer diagnosis, or ongoing medical problems may leave them feeling isolated. The loss of a job, the fear of layoffs, or a financial setback can devastate one's self-esteem. Family and personal struggles may leave them with nowhere to turn for support.

If you are going through a difficult time, our Stephen Ministers can bring God's warm love back into your life. They provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care. They will meet with you privately on a weekly basis to listen, to support and encourage you, to pray with and for you, and to walk with you for the duration of your crisis.

To find out more about Stephen Ministry and how you or someone you know could be matched with a Stephen Minister, talk with Valerie Hammons or Dottie McIntyre. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you!



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

Children, Youth & Young Adult

THE DIGGING INTO LIFE OF JESUS

ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays 10:00 AM St John Room

Our new, DIG IN Sunday school curriculum is curriculum designed to create deeper Bible experiences for kids. It is designed to help kids understand Biblical concepts that guide them every day. These Sunday school lessons allow children to create experiences where they make discoveries, helping them to take ownership of their faith. And, DIG IN offers Bible lessons for kids that present the Bible as real and relevant, packed with rich meaning that applies to their lives today. We are ready to LEARN!

BE BOLD

FEARLESS PRETEEN CURRICULUM

JR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays 10:00 AM St Luke Room

BE BOLD Sunday school curriculum gives your **preteens** exactly what they need—validation of their faith questions, and a place to connect as they explore those questions together. And we'll guide you every step of the way as you become their conversation guide...and fellow explorer. Bible as real and relevant, packed with rich meaning that applies to their lives today. We are ready to LEARN!

CONFIRMATION 2022

Confirmation schedules and plans will be shared at the January 16th Potluck—Please contact Valerie Hammons or Peggy Jo Harwick for more information or to sign up.



ONE GOD, ONE WORLD, ONE PEOPLE

Stuart Watkins

One God,

One World,

One People.

And, whether your pain

Comes from a Tornado,

Fire,

Flood,

or Earthquake,

One People,

One World,

One God

Children, Youth & Young Adult

SR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL



Sundays 10:00 AM

St Mark Room

We will be working the Group's LIVE curriculum, engaging teens where they are in the world today. And today's teenagers are starving for "more of Jesus"—not just more information, but a deeper, richer, truer encounter of him. *LIVE Jesus-Centered Life* unlocks the door to deeper conversations and explorations that satisfy this hunger.

YOUNG ADULTS

Our newest group here at Vista is our YOUNG ADULTS, who met for the first Sunday of each month (01/02), with Valerie for coffee.

Vista is providing opportunities for young adults to stay connected to the church and each other. Valerie and Peggy Jo want the young adults to recognize there is more to life than what our culture throws at us.

Through prayerful support from their peers, encounters with Christ and opportunities to learn and grow their faith, we hope this new group will empower young adults to courageously live the Gospel. We hope to build a thriving and growing young adult ministry and Vista is a great place to start!



YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP TIME

Our next meeting Sunday January 2nd after church at Basha's Food Court at 11:40 – Contact Valerie Hammons or Peggy Jo Harwick for more information. We would love to see you and share where we have seen the face of Jesus in our lives.



CHILDREN, YOUTH & PARENTS

SAVE THE DATE

FAMILY MINISTRY POTLUCK

Sunday January 16th After Church



Connect & Grow 2022

SHARE THE WARMTH – ANNUAL WARM CLOTHING & BEDDING DRIVE

- The Clothing/Bedding Drive will begin on Sunday Dec. 12 and run through the end of January. Please donate ONLY clothing suitable for winter wear. All kinds of bedding is also appreciated. A box is located in the Narthex for your donations. All donations will be taken to the IMPACT Clothing Bank where they will be distributed to area residents in need. We appreciate your thoughtfulness during this time of year.
- Benith MacPherson, Missions Representative for IMPACT

January Celebrations

Birthdays

Dr Jim Herwood	01/01	Larry Holden	01/02	AJ Hernandez	01/03
Janelle Authur	01/07	Dennis Higgins	01/07	Kortney Hotchkiss	01/07
Ursula Price	01/08	Diane Mann	01/11	Shirley Devries	01/12
Cheryl Watts	01/12	Barbara Johnson	01/13	Thomas Wittkoski	01/13
Mia Tonga	01/14	Roman Aguirre	01/15	Diane Coleman	01/15
Robin Conner	01/17	Joyce Holman	01/17	Char Dedrick	01/18
Howard Kaste	01/19	Lori Campbell	01/20	Valerie Fowler	01/21
Theodore Lafleur Jr	01/22	Duane Waldo	01/22	Sharon Kaste	01/23
Nancy Yob	01/23	Norm Williams	01/24	Michelle Aguirre	01/28
Donna Goins	01/29	Sara Thompson	01/29	Rebecca Harwick	01/30

Anniversaries

Pat & Don Smith

01/01

Dr Bill & Tricia Pohnert

01/07

Finance Committee

November Income was -\$452 under budget. Expenses plus our mortgage payment were \$1,746 over budget. General Fund Net Income after our mortgage payment was -\$13,666.

YTD our income is \$5,434 less than 2020 and our expenses are \$2,709 less than last year including the mortgage payment. General Fund Net Income is \$2,725 less than 2020 due to a full year of mortgage payments but we are ahead of our budget.

The operating reserve is \$69,589, which is under our 2-month expense goal of \$80,000.

We now owe \$403,053 on our mortgage and it will be under \$400,000 at the end of December. Attendance was 662 in person and a total of 1,666 with Live Streaming and Facebook views, which is an average of 417 weekly.

At the December 7 meeting the Finance Committee approved recommending the 2022 budget to the Church Council who unanimously approved the budget. Income is planned at \$437,384 which is \$15,966 less than the 2021 income budget. Pledges are currently \$382,000 vs. \$415,000 in 2021. Expenses are planned at \$437,002 including our mortgage principal payment, which is \$36,531 less than the 2021 budget. Reductions are in staff, plant expenses and apportionments. Increases are planned in Worship, Youth, Evangelism and Outreach.

The assigned apportionments for Vista UMC represent a 9.6% increase (+\$5,744). The Desert Southwest conference is not budgeting an expense increase. But Leadership Ministries (the Bishop and District Superintendent expenses) is planned for a 3% increase and 11% for Vista. DSW has not taken the opportunity in the last two years to restructure senior leadership to reduce expenses. We are recommending paying all apportionments accounts at the 2021 rate and not paying Leadership Ministries, which we have withheld in protest since July 2019. The national General Conference is actively trying to reduce expenses in light of the reduced revenue, but our conference continues to plan increases in senior level expenses.

Budgeted General Fund Net Income after expenses and our mortgage principal payment is \$382. Historically, we budget both income and expenses conservatively.

Sharon Scanlan, Finance Chair

February Celebrations

Birthdays

Sharon Scanlan	02/01	Deede Baum	02/02	Lynn Bixby	02/02
Paul Arnett	02/04	Mary Bellah	02/04	Diane Bywater	02/04
Jackie Schaefer	02/06	Alan Campbell	02/07	Margaret Overman	02/10
Robert Herd	02/11	Alberto Garcia	02/12	Teresa Sanders	02/13
Mattie Landrum	02/15	Jim Bleess	02/16	Paula Radtke	02/17
Margaret Larmour	02/19	Barbara Rempel	02/19	Slim Crowson	02/20
Anne Hilton	02/25	Lila Homan	02/26	Dillis Ward	02/26
Kathleen Bauder	02/28				

Anniversaries

Jim & Ginny Jackson

02/01

Barbara & Bob Johnson

02/13

DISCIPLESHIP—BUILD YOUR LIFE IN CHRIST

While you settle comfortably on your seat during Sunday worship services, do you look around at the hustle and bustle and the folks who are working tirelessly to help bring you the Word? Pastor Fred doesn't just begin with his cheerful "Good Morning everyone!" welcome without help. Bringing Sunday service to Vista members and the rest of the world through streaming is a week-long venture, composed of both staff and volunteers.

What is the essence of Discipleship?

What is the common theme in all the commandments? It is **that we must love one another and serve one another**. This is, in fact, the essence of discipleship in the true Church of Jesus Christ.

Vista has scores of various volunteer opportunities created just for you. The Evangelism Committee is meeting diligently each month creating ideas to bring in new members. Once you are comfortably settled in our church and attending regularly, we offer opportunities to keep you involved...thus, volunteering. We all have talents, given to us by years of careers, other volunteer services, and previous church memberships. This is a wonderful way to move forward and share those talents with us. Start with Sundays and look around: Greeters, Ushers, Audio Visual, Communion Stewards and Servers, Sunday School/Teachers, Choir, and occasionally Hospitality. (As Covid disappears, and yes, we have faith it will, Hospitality will be more visible).

Volunteering doesn't end with Sunday worship services. All week long, behind the scenes are various opportunities: Our Shepherds Committee makes calls to keep Vista connected and up to date from the comfort of their homes. United Methodist Men (includes Landscaping among other activities), United Methodist Women, and Office Volunteers offer ways to meet new folks. Our Fellowship Committee struggled during Covid and a few folks are working on rebuilding it with "Game Night". Watch for the 2022 live, "Walk to Bethlehem" launch, reaching out to Vista's congregation to join the fun of putting together a wonderful event that reaches out to our surrounding communities....Our Missions Committee offers scores of volunteer opportunities and with 17 outreach programs, no one gets left behind while searching for something with which to fulfill your life.

If you don't want to volunteer at first, try getting to know other Vista members through the many Adult Education classes offered which are always listed in your Sunday bulletin and on our website: www.vistaumc.org.

Vista UMC: CONNECT AND GROW IN 2022!!

Robin Conner, Discipleship Chair

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Valerie Hammons

Work: (520) 825-1985



VISTA de la MONTAÑA UMC

3001 EAST MIRAVISTA LANE

TUCSON, AZ 85739

MONDAY - FRIDAY

9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

Closed 12-1 for Lunch

PHONE 520-825-1985

E-mail: VistaUMC.org@gmail.com

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK

AND AT OUR WEBSITE:

www.Vistaumc.org



January 2022

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*Movie Night
Returns to Vista*

Thursdays

Beginning February 3rd

6:30pm in the Elizabeth Room

*The series is deeply moving & highly
recommended by Pastor Fred!*



Connect & Grow 2022