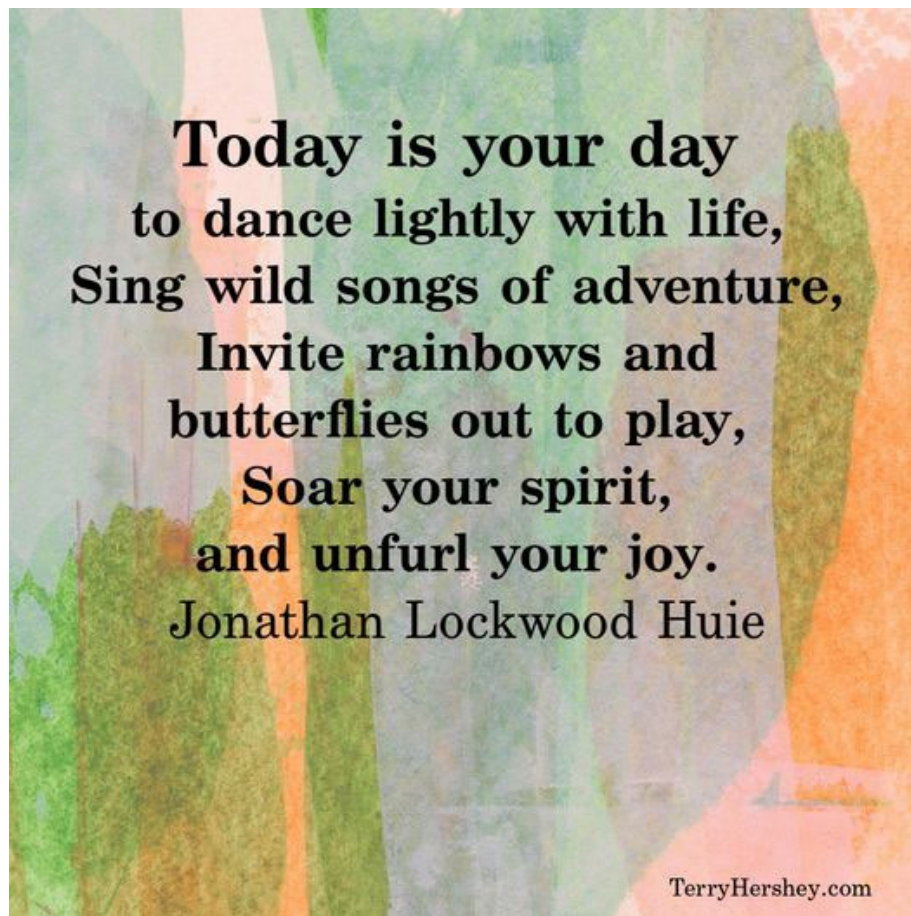




October 2024

Our Mission at Vista de la Montaña United Methodist Church

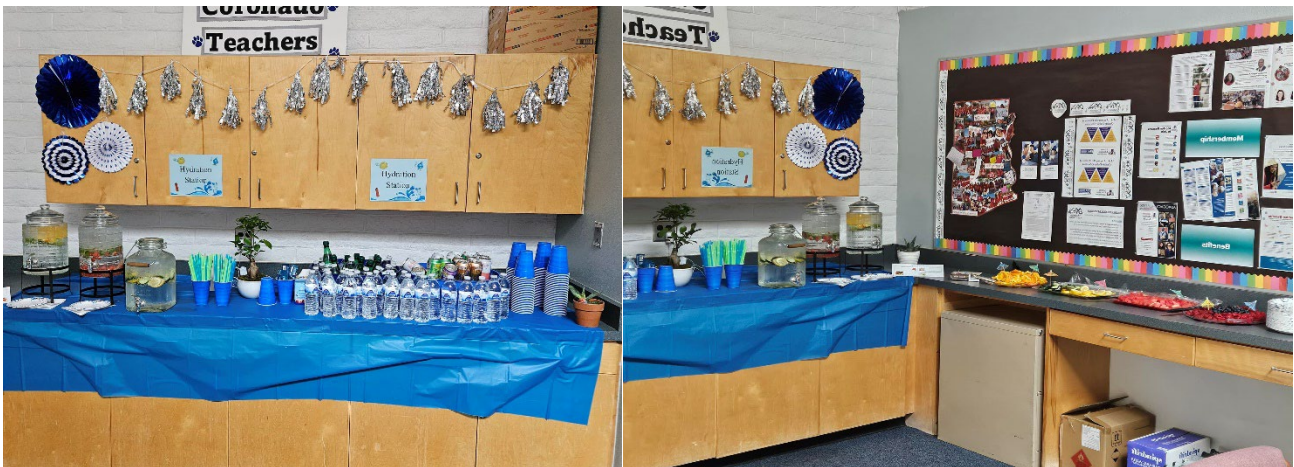
To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, and to reach out to others, help them, welcome them into our family of faith as we gather for worship, fellowship, education, and service.



“Tuesdays with Pastor Mary”

New! Tune into Vista’s Facebook page every Tuesday for our new recurring post, with a message from Pastor Mary. To access Facebook, go to our website: www.vistaumc.org and click on the Facebook icon.

Coronado Teachers’ Hydration Station – Thanks to all who donated to the Coronado Outreach project. We delivered 184 bottles of plain water, 48 large bottles Perrier, 48 sparkling waters, and 36 Liquid IV Hydration packs. We also collected \$130! The school was overwhelmed by your generosity.



Address for ALL Echoes articles!

The email address for all Echoes articles is Echoes@vistaumc.org

Please make sure that you send your articles to that address only! If you send it to another address it is possible the article will not be published.

Gail Parson, Echoes@vistaumc.org

Blessing of the Animals



Why do churches bless animals? When we bless animals in the church, we are saying “You are a gift from God”. It is God who first blessed animals at their creation. So blessing animals is an original activity as old as creation, a thing we do in imitation of the Creator. Many churches hold a blessing for the animals in recognition of St. Francis of Assisi, known as the patron saint of animals. Born in Italy circa 1181, his love of God included all creatures. He would talk to and pray for the animals of the forest.

Those of us at Vista de la Montaña United Methodist Church in Catalina love to see which of God’s creatures will be brought in for a blessing. In the past, we have had the usual cats and dogs. Sometimes we see horses and last year, we had a tortoise from Vail.

Our program begins with blessings from the pastor, followed by scripture and music and completed with each pet being blessed. Seating is available.

This annual event will be held on Saturday, October 5th, at 10:00 am in the courtyard adjacent to our sanctuary. All creatures are welcome—on a leash, in a cage, in a bowl, in a box, with a saddle or otherwise safely secured. Stuffed animals and photos also will be blessed. A memory table will be available for those friends and neighbors of Vista UMC who want to remember their precious pets who have crossed over “The Rainbow Bridge”. A photo can be emailed to admin@vistaumc.org, dropped off at the office or mailed to Vista UMC, 3001 E. Miravista Lane, Tucson, AZ 85739. For questions, call the office: 520-825-1985

HELP WANTED SETTING UP AND TAKING DOWN CHAIRS FOR OCTOBER 5TH BLESSING OF ANIMALS (Set up: either Friday Oct 4th: set up or Sat, 8 am and take down after 10:00 am event). Patio area.

Mission Moments October 2024

“Serve the Lord with gladness” --- Psalm 100:2

As we move into autumn, we’ll be thinking about how to do just that—serve with gladness! At Vista, our history shows that we serve mainly through our varied mission outreach programs. It is a joyful experience. As we enter this season of “Commitment”, I am encouraging you to prayerfully commit to supporting one or more of our storied mission projects for the entire year.

At Vista, we serve our neighbors near and far

Snack Pak at Coronado School
Fuente de Vida Student Sponsorship
Emerge
Greeting cards
Loose Change
Agua Prieta Economic Development

Teacher Appreciation at Coronado School
Roche Fund
Impact Food and Clothing Bank
Creative Hands
Family First

Recent and Upcoming Events

- **Impact Food Bank:** donations totaled 90 lbs. Thank you church!
- **Teacher Appreciation Hydration Station at Coronado:** A huge success! The staff at Coronado has expressed their gratitude!
- **Pocket Change:** Our September collection will be donated to the Coronado Teacher’s Fund.
- **Trunk or Treat at Coronado School:** October 24 at 5 PM More info to follow!
- **Celebration of Learning at Fuente de Vida:** October 25. We will not be going in person but are exploring ways to support our students.
- **Greeting Cards:** Check out the display on our new rolling cart. Cards for all occasions and just 50 cents each!

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 9 at 3PM in the St. Matthew Room.

The Mission Team

90's Plus Celebration

Vista's elite club for those who turned 90 years or older in 2024 celebrated at church worship on September 15th. They were greeted with a rose and honored with a slide show of individual pictures. Vista UMC is proud to have 38 folks in this special category, with six new 90-year-olds this year added to the group.



Vista de la Montaña United Methodist Church Fall Adult Education Classes

SHARON SCANLAN & DONNA BORING

The first Fall Study begins October 2, at 9:45 a.m. in the Elizabeth Room for six Wednesday mornings. Our study will be 'Experience the Travel Narrative of Acts'.

Come experience the travel narrative of Acts, tracking the exciting journey of the early church from Jerusalem to Rome, all propelled by God's dynamic Spirit. This study will be led by Reverend Dr. Jim Lubach, a SaddleBrooke Ranch resident. No books are required except your Bible.

Vista's Adult Christian Education Classes have ended for the summer with a promise from facilitators, Jim and Linda Galka to continue the popular 'First Persons' classes again next year. These sessions consisted of fictional accounts of people who witnessed incidents in the life of Jesus by Ronn Kerr.

Everyone is welcome to attend, whether you attend

Vista or not! The church is located on the west side of Oracle Road, just south of the Golder Ranch Road stoplight. If you are interested in attending the classes, sign up by calling the Church Office at [\(520\) 825-1985](tel:5208251985), or emailing admin@vistaumc.org. We meet in the Elizabeth Room of the Education and Administration Building at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays. Classes last one hour.





Our October worship series, focusing on Jesus' words, "Do Unto Others" as we learn how to be Kind, Compassionate, Humble, Respectful and Love one another during this election period. Sundays, Oct 6, through Nov 3, 10:00 am.

Keep an eye out for emails during the next 6 weeks. Check your SPAM and JUNK folder.



October Anniversaries

PERAKIS, Alex & Jenny	10/02
PRESCOTT, III, Rob & Joyce	10/09
LUBACH, Jim & Kay Barber Lubach	10/19
HENDRICKSON, Bob & Jane	10/20
SCANLAN, Sharon & Steve	10/26

October Birthdays

PROKOP, Karen	10/01
HENDRICKSON, Robert	10/04
AYERS, Billy	10/05
BELYEA, Dana	10/08
KELLEY, Ed	10/09
SINOHUI, Lisa	10/13
GROENIER Sr, John	10/15
HENDRICKSON, Jane	10/16
POHNERT, Patricia	10/22
ROCHE, Eryn	10/23
HEDRICK, Susanne	10/24
HOAGLUND, Coralyn	10/25
LEONARD, Jon	10/25
PHILLIPS, Barbara	10/26
TONGA, Nanisi	10/27

Compassion Connection

In Need of Continued Prayers for Healing

Eileen Carender, Edith (Edey) Gallaher, Kay Gragg, Bob & Eileen Herd, Pam Holder, Ken & Sharon Hunt, Betty Little, Allen & Barbara Phillips, Tricia Pohnert, and Art Schweitzer.

Home Bound

Dr. Chuck Crown, John & Jan Crown, Florence Duckett, Bill Gureck, Fran Hampton, Margaret Overman,

Ken & Diane Podlasek, Sharon Poole, Pete Rice, Mary Louise & Walt Roberson, and Howard & Mary Lou Young.

Prayers for Comfort

For the family of William Hillman. William passed away September 14, 2024.

For the family of Roger Salava. Roger's service will be October 12, 10:00 a.m. at Vista de la Montaña UMC.

For the family of Cynthia Karcher. Cynthia's service will be October 27, at Vistoso Funeral Home.

Prayers for our Churches

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

St. James UMC, Tucson

St. John's UMC, Tucson

St. Mark's UMC, Tucson

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

Agua Prieta greeting cards are available for 50¢ each on the Patio before and after the service, and in the Library during office hours.

Complimentary Prayer Beads are available in the Narthex and in the Library.

Upper Room booklets are available in the Narthex and the church office for \$2.00 each or online at upperroom.org. It is free to sign up for a daily devotional email.

The church has purchased a **Wheelchair** to be used during worship if need be. The wheelchair will be kept in the Narthex.

Handbell and Chancel Choirs have begun Wednesday rehearsals. **Handbell Choir** meets at 11:00 am and **Chancel Choir** meets at 1:00 pm. Come and be musical with one or both great groups of people! Contact Carolyn Dwyer, Director of Music Ministries, if you have questions.

Vista AV Donations of Expertise, Time, and Money are Needed.

Seriously, our live streaming services on Sunday often have 200 listeners who watch the service, listen to the service, and pray with us as we pray. Many of the folks are long time members of Vista who can no longer attend. To continue providing live streaming we need to purchase some upgraded equipment. Also, we will need additional help in the booth on Sundays. Your time, money, and prayer will be greatly appreciated. If you choose to donate by check (be sure to note AV fund in memo space).

Thanks in advance;
The Vista AV Crew.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 124

If you had not sided with us, LORD, we all know where we'd have ended up. If we had not had you on our side when people turned against us, attacking with the fury of a wounded shark, they would have made mincemeat out of us. Their frenzied rage would have dragged us under, their lust for blood would have torn us apart. The thrashing waters would have closed over us, hiding the violence, concealing our fate. All the credit and all the honours go to you, LORD; it was you who saved our flesh from the teeth of our enemies. Thanks to you, we have shaken off their grip, and soared to safety, as free as a bird. Their savage attack was repelled, and we have escaped unharmed who guarantees our safety. It is you, LORD, the creator of heaven and earth, who guarantees our safety.

Kind

do you know
that one of your
greatest strengths
is simply being kind?
yes, kind.
you can change a life
being kind.
you can give hope
being kind.
you can bring joy
being kind.
so listen, today choose
to be kind.

*words by rechel marie martin
findingjoy.net*