



FEBRUARY 2025

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.

Today's TO DO LIST

1. SMILE
2. DON'T SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF
3. THINK POSITIVE
4. INSPIRE
5. LOVE
6. BE GRATEFUL
7. BE HAPPY

“Tuesdays with Pastor Mary”

Remember to tune into Vista’s Facebook page every Tuesday for a message from Pastor Mary. To access Facebook, go to our website: www.vistaumc.org and click on the Facebook icon.

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 If you send it to another address, it is possible the article will not be published.

Nancy Yob, Echoes@vistaumc.org

Letter of Thanks from Pastor Gela

Iglesia Metodista de Mexico "Fuente de Vida"
Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mx
December 30th, 2024

Vista de la Montana UMC
Pastor Mary Dotson



Subject: Gratitude for Your Generosity and Partnership

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

With deep gratitude and joy in our hearts, we write to you to express our sincerest thanks for the incredible blessing that your relationship and support have been to our community. Over the years, we have felt your love and solidarity, and this year has been no exception.

Your generous donations have made a significant impact on many families in our congregation and beyond:

Donation of backpacks and school supplies: Thanks to your support, dozens of children were able to start their school year equipped with the tools they need to learn and grow. These backpacks carry not just supplies, but also hope and encouragement for a brighter future.

Clothing for those in need: The donated clothes have provided warmth and comfort to those who need it most, especially during these challenging times.

Gifts for the children: The smiles on the children's faces as they received their gifts were priceless. Beyond the items themselves, they felt loved and valued, reminded that there are people who care deeply for them.

Support for university and high school students: Your assistance has been crucial in enabling students to continue their studies. Many of these young people would not have been able to pursue their education without your help. Furthermore, some former students have already graduated, transforming their lives and advancing in their professional careers, a testament to the lasting impact of your generosity.

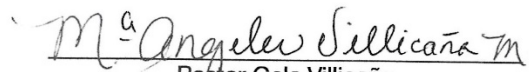
Each of these acts is a living testimony of God's love manifested through you. Your generosity not only meets material needs but also strengthens the faith and hope of those who receive these blessings.

We are profoundly grateful for this fraternal bond we have cultivated throughout the years. We look forward to continuing to strengthen our ties of love in Christ and to working together as one body to glorify His name.

May God continue to bless your church and each one of you, multiplying all that you do for His Kingdom.

On behalf of our community, thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

With love and gratitude,


Pastor Gela Villicaña
Fuente de Vida

Fellowship Focus



THE YOBS. One of the most recognized names around the Vista campus, this couple continues to breathe life into the functioning of Vista UMC. To those who know them, this comes as no surprise. The entire Yob family was involved when Vista began. Even though David wasn't a member in the beginning, he volunteered many hours with the family to create and maintain the Vista campus we have today. Fast forward to 2025, and the Yob family takes up 26 chairs at the Christmas Eve service, including ½ the children on the "Meet at the Steps" segment. To bring us to this point, let's take a look at how it all began.

Nancy was born in Morgantown, WV; grew up in Urbana, OH, and moved to Tucson in 1975. She attended Ohio State University; however, she left because it had more students than her hometown had people. It was a bit overwhelming. She started working at Grimes Manufacturing in Urbana as a key punch operator in 1967. Mr. Warren Grimes invented most of the early aircraft lighting systems for commercial airlines. Nancy's job at Grimes introduced her to the first computers. She laughs when she realizes that the first computers installed at Grimes would probably be replaced by a laptop today!

David was born and raised in Raton, NM. After high school, he graduated from DeVry Institute in Phoenix and went to work for Hughes in El Segundo. He transferred to Tucson in February, 1980. Both Nancy and David graduated from the University of Phoenix.

Nancy started working for Hughes Missile Systems in April 1976. She started as a keypunch operator, and two of her managers encouraged her to try new things. She eventually held positions on Developmental and Production programs, both International and domestic. Her favorite part of working for Hughes was that they allowed her to travel to partners and vendors in the US and Europe.

Her favorite trip was the month spent in Scotland working with a subsidiary to eliminate hardware quality issues.

David started working in El Segundo in July 1975 as an Electronic Technician. He operated a Laser Range Finder. In 1980, he applied for a job in Tucson as a Quality Engineer. In his career there he became a Quality Program Manager for several major developmental programs.

The couple met at Hughes Missile Systems Company (now Raytheon) In February, 1980. Nancy worked there 27 years and David 35 years, with a portion in El Segundo. Their first date in 1982 was at Tucson's Reid Park Zoo, with their 4 boys, then ages 3,3,3 and 5. Marrying on September 22, 1984, they also joined together their 4 sons, Jeff, Jason, Wyatt and Morgan, along with a daughter, Sarah. This union led to 9 granddaughters, 2 grandsons, 4 great-granddaughters, and 7 great-grandsons, as we know the Yobs today.

In early 1990, Rev. Jerry Haas, St. Mark's UMC, asked for volunteers to help start a church in Catalina. Nancy and her mom volunteered and said they would help but would return to St. Mark's when it was up and running. 35 years later, Nancy is still here. Nancy and her mother and father (Eyleen and Donald Paugh) were Charter Members.

When they started at Vista, Wyatt and Morgan were 10, Jason was 11, and Jeff was 12. They were all involved in sports year-round. At one time, they could tell you where every park was in Pima County! Fortunately, at that time, the games rarely were played on Sunday mornings. So, Wyatt and Morgan joined them for church every Sunday. Dottie Lou Colby was one of their Sunday School Teachers. Some of their favorite memories are the services held in the "Cafenasium" at Coronado K-8, (Cafeteria at lunchtime and gymnasium the rest). The pulpit was placed under the basketball hoop, and the boys thought they should be able to shoot a few baskets for Reverend Cooke to catch. He disagreed.

Nancy taught Adult Sunday School for 13 years, supported the Audio/Visual needs for 22 years, and volunteered for and supported many of the committees. David and the boys set up basketball and volleyball areas for the youth.

Nancy and David like to try new restaurants, as evidenced by her Facebook page. They love cruising, with a 5th Alaska cruise planned for this May. Short trips anywhere in the Southwest are frequently taken and spending time outdoors, especially at the Grand Canyon North Rim and Mesa Verde National Park, both spiritual places. They spent a lot of time hiking in their younger years and David still hikes in the Catalina State Park. Time spent with family always takes priority.

Vista activities for Nancy include starting Vista's Prayer Bead Ministry Group, including teaching classes, Evangelism and SPRC Chair, Bell Choir participation and helping in the A/V booth. David has been a Trustee and is a member of the Methodist Men. He maintains the Columbarium/Meditation Garden area and the Remembrance Garden.

Vista is a part of their family!
-Robin Conner



Have you given away Prayer Beads provided in the Narthex and Library?

We would like to hear your stories from the people you gave them to. We have had several members share wonderful stories about what the beads have meant to their recipients and would like to share those stories with the Vista community.

Please email your inspiring stories to: Nancy Yob at: Echoes@vistaumc.org

If you would like to join us in making Prayer Beads, the Vista Prayer Bead Ministry Team will be meeting the first Friday of each month to make sets for Vista, the local community and various military groups. **ALL** are invited to join us. If you don't know how to bead, no problem, we will be happy to teach you. Beads and other supplies will be provided.

WHERE: St. Matthew

WHEN: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The February 18th meeting for United Women in Faith will be held in the Elizabeth Room with Linda Galka presenting a program entitled "Five Wishes." All Vista women are invited to attend the meeting.

Upcoming events for United Women in Faith:

1. TMM, Tucson Metropolitan Ministries, tour is Tuesday, March 18 at 10:30 AM. The address is 1550 N. Country Club Road in Tucson.
2. At the April 15 meeting, the group will collate 62 back packs for the Family First charity.
3. Bake sales are planned in April and December.

United Women in Faith appreciates the support for our bake sales and the Christmas stocking project.

Impact Food Bank

"Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ"
Ephesians 5:20

We are continuing to grow our ministry outreach with Impact Food Bank of Catalina. In January, we helped meet another immediate need of Impact Food Bank. As of January 20th, we have collected 140 boxes or bags of pasta. Thank you church for your generosity. During the month of February we will be collecting soup, which is a staple during the winter months. Please plan to participate in our **Souper Sunday** collection.

December donations: We collected 185 cans of tomatoes and 41 pounds of additional food donations. Your generosity is appreciated by our neighbors.

Dental Kits: Visiting the dentist soon? It was suggested that we donate the free toothbrushes, toothpaste, and dental floss that many dentists give patients at their checkups. Just add them to the Impact Food cart in the courtyard on Sunday morning.

Loose Change Collection: Our November collection was \$101.57. No collection was taken in December.

January Goal: 350-400 boxes or bags of PASTA

Sunday 1.5.25 we collected **110** bags or boxes of Pasta.

Sunday 1.12.25 we collected **43** bags or boxes of Pasta.

Sunday 1.19.25 we collected **59** bags or boxes of Pasta.

Serving our neighbors together,

Linda Galka

3rd Annual Souper Sunday

Four teams remain in the Super Bowl Hunt. In the next few days, we'll know the final two contenders. Join the fun and support Impact Food Bank! Cans of soup will be collected **February 2** and **February 9**. Vote for the Super Bowl team you think will win. Each can of soup is a vote! And every can of soup donated will help feed folks in our neighborhood. Vote often! The winning team will be announced during Super Bowl Sunday coffee hour. Last year we collected 155 cans of soup. Let's aim higher this year!

Go team Impact!

Vista Youth - "Do Unto Others" - Lessons and Fun Activities

Our youth Sunday School lessons and activities mirrored the church's sermons and scripture lessons "doing unto others" during the past weeks. In November, we painted posters and cards for family, neighbors and friends, to express our gratitude for everyone's love and support. In December, we continued to send as many cards as we could, and we created very creative and beautiful lanyard/carabiner clip gifts to be included in the Methodist Women's Christmas stocking project. We invited parents and families to join us for refreshments and this beading project and had so much fun that more gifts were made off campus and brought back to church to share. Thank you Dottie Lou Colby for bringing goodies, thank you Nancy Yob for beading supplies, thank you United Methodist Women's of Faith for sharing your Christmas mission project, and thank you kids and families for your generous hearts. Kiana and Jean



Carolyn and Olivia



Mischa, Kiana, Amy, Marv, Logan, Olivia, Sierra, Pam



Natassja, Olivia, Sierra, Pam



Kiana, Mischa

Fry's Community Rewards


Vista de la Montana UMC is enrolled as a member of Fry's Community Rewards Program. Our Member Number is 22553. Our church receives a cash rebate quarterly, calculated on how much our members have purchased at Fry's or any Kroger affiliate.

Fry's/Kroger's goal is to build stronger communities through local organizations. If you are a Fry's V.I.P. member, consider enrolling.

PLEASE NOTE: Before you can link your Fry's V.I.P card to an organization, you must have an email address and an on-line account.

Basha's and Safeway do not have similar programs. Amazon has ended theirs.

Arizona 3-day Academy for Spiritual Formation

 April 22 – 25, 2025


 Singing Earth's Song: Lament, Praise, Prayer

- “The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof; the world, and they who dwell therein.” Ps. 24:1. The environmental crisis demands a response from the faith community, because the problem is not just a scientific or political problem; it’s a spiritual problem. Materialism dictates our value system; we’re short-sighted about the use of the earth’s resources. Local churches have often chosen denial or complacency rather than hope and engagement, even though the environment is often the number one concern of our young people. This retreat is a journey into the heart of our faith tradition and the scientific community as together we find ways to respond.

 FOR MORE INFORMATION and TO REGISTER, go to <https://dscumc.org/3-day-academy-for-spiritual-formation-april-22-25-2025/>.

 REDEMPTORIST RENEWAL CENTER (<https://desertrenewal.org>) – here in Tucson.

 Faculty Presenter – Rev. Molly Vetter

 Science Consultant – Dr Gary Paul Nabhan

 RETREAT TEAM

- Rev. Jerry Haas, Retreat Leader jndhaas@gmail.com
- Rev. Susan Morgan, Theologian
- Rev. Tweedy Sombrero, Spiritual Guide
- Gail Parson, Hospitality
- Joe Hill, Worship Coordinator
- Derrick, Accompanist

Gail Parson – please feel free to contact me with any questions you have about this event.

Call or text (520) 275-7117 email gailma@comcast.net

February Birthdays



SCANLAN, Sharon	02/01
BIXBY, Lynn	02/02
BELLAH, Mary	02/04
CAMPBELL, Alan	02/07
OVERMAN, Margaret	02/10
HERD, Robert	02/11
KIMMEL, Nancy	02/11
BARBER LUBACH, Kay	02/13
RADTKE, Paula	02/17
LARMOUR, Margaret	02/19
REMPEL, Barbara	02/19
LUBACH, James Louis	02/24
HILTON, Anne	02/25
HOMAN, Lila	02/26
BAUDER, Kathleen	02/28
HOLDER, Craig	02/28

February Anniversaries



JACKSON, Jim & Ginny 02/01

February Adult Christian Education: “Those Fabulous Wesleys” During the month of February, the Wednesday at 10 AM class will feature the life and times of Susannah, Charles and John Wesley. John, as the founder of Methodism has made a significant contribution to most of our lives, and you may well be surprised at how he has impacted you. Charles Wesley is best known for his many hymns including the words to “Hark the Herald Angels Sing.” Susannah, their mother, is perhaps the most interesting of all. She was a strong, committed woman and she instilled this in her children and her community. In addition, we will look at John Wesley’s Three Simple Rules: A Wesleyan Way of Living and his “Do All the Good You Can” and his famous Quadrilateral. The class will begin on February 5th. To sign up, call the church office at 520-825-1985. For further information, call Donna Boring, Coordinator of Adult Education.

Because Easter is so late this year (April 12th), we will start our Lenten Studies in March.

Coming soon! Vista UMC has had a successful weekly spiritual class for 5 years based on the Upper Room Disciplines; daily devotionals based on each week’s four Lectionary scripture passages. If you are interested in joining a new group, we will have an informational meeting in early February. Classes are one hour. The new group will select when, where and how they will meet – in-person or on Zoom.

This is a meaningful way to build your relationship with God and with new friends. Consider joining a class that has been held for years in Methodist Churches around the country.

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Explore the Many Ways to Give to the Church

NO COST TO YOU OR TO VISTA

1. Monthly Bill Payment through your bank

Simply go to your bank's website and schedule a monthly check to Vista. This is the most convenient way to donate and there are no fees involved. Your bank will mail the check to Vista. If you have any questions, please email finance@vistaumc.org

2. ACH – 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 email finance@vistaumc.org. A form is required to begin the process. If you change your annual gift, you also need to contact Finance.

3. Weekly, Monthly Giving Using Pledge Envelope

If desired, 2025 envelopes are available for all members for giving in-person or to be mailed to the Church. Stop by the Church Office or email the Financial Secretary at finance@vistaumc.org if you would like envelopes.

4. Non-cash Gifts to the Church – Stocks or Property

Anytime you wish to make a non-cash gift to the Church (i.e. - stocks or property), it is critical that you email finance@vistaumc.org for the proper procedures. You can complete your annual pledge through a stock gift, which may provide a tax incentive if you donate appreciated stock.

5. IRA Gift from your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)

Retirees ages 73 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.

6. Credit Card and Automatic Bank Giving Using the Vista UMC Website or the QR Code.

THERE IS NO COST TO VISTA IF THE MEMBER COVERS THE 3% FEE. OTHERWISE, A 3% FEE IS CHARGED TO VISTA On our Vista UMC website: www.vistaumc.org. Click the Donate link. You can also use the QR code on the bulletin. You can set-up regular payments or do one-time gifts with your credit card through Vanco, which is a very safe site used by more than 25,000

churches nationally and recommended by the UMC. We have used it for many years. If you have any questions, please email:

finance@vistaumc.org

Compassion Connection

In Need of Continued Prayers for Healing

Marlin Bolar, Eileen Carender, Loni Degen, Edith (Edey) Gallaher, Kay Gragg, Bob & Jane Hendrickson, Bob & Eileen Herd, Ken & Sharon Hunt, Betty Little, Margaret Overman, Allen & Barbara Phillips, Art Schweitzer, Jan Springer and Carol Wilson.

Home Bound

John & Jan Crown, Florence Duckett, Bill Gureck, Fran Hampton, Margaret Overman, Ken & Diane Podlasek, Sharon Poole, Walt & Mary Louise Roberson.

Prayers for the Families of the Departed

Lars O. Eriksson, died December 19, 2024

Mary Lou Young, died January 14, 2025

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:

Catalina UMC, Tucson

Desert Skies UMC, Tucson

Oasis UMC, Eloy

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

FLOWER SIGN UP CHART FOR 2025: Please consider sponsoring one or more flower arrangements in 2025 to enhance the Sunday worship experience at Vista. The donation is \$50 per arrangement, and the money is not required when you sign up.

Agua Prieta greeting cards are available for 50¢ each 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.

A wheelchair is available during services in the Narthex.

Service and Volunteer opportunities.

- AV Booth members needed
- Shepards needed (contact Robin Conner)

We're Hiring: Choir Director, Hand Bell Choir Director, and Media/Tech Manager. If you or someone you know feels called to one of the par-time jobs, please send an email indicating your interest along with your resume to pastor@vistaUMC.org.

The February Communion and Loose Change Collections! February's collections will benefit **IMPACT**. Thank you for your generosity! Every penny counts!

How to contribute to the offering if online:

1. Open the camera app on your cell phone.
2. Focus the camera on the QR code by gently tapping the code as it
3. Appears on your camera.
4. Tap on the yellow button—myvanco.com
5. Fill in the card, amount, etc.



Thank you for your donation!

***May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
And rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of his hand.***