

VISTA'S ECHOES

OCTOBER 2014

Ed-itorial

Something I have learned since moving to the desert is that almost everything sticks you. All the plants have some sort of sharp needle pointed stickers. I expected it from the aptly named prickly pear cactus, but everything, palm trees, grapefruit trees, orange trees, every bush and variety of cacti will stick you, and stick you bad. I have the scars to prove it,

There are times when we feel that is our life. Everything and everyone seems to want to stick us, prickly people, not just prickly pears. We feel wounded and, well, stuck! We wonder why folks can't be a little smoother, kinder, and gentler. If you are feeling particularly picked on, needled, or stuck today, then I have good news for you.

Jesus knows, understands and is with us even in the midst of the sharp and painful points in life. Jesus loved the world, but the world often did not love him back. He had to endure the pain and suffering of a cross, the anger of the crowd, and the hatred of the powers that be. Yet he did endure, and overcame, the pointed nails and thorny crown. Because of this, we too can not only endure, but overcome the worst that life has to offer.

If you are grieving, feeling beaten or bloodied by life, there are ways we can help each other. If you would be interested in a being part of a group that examines and talks about grief and loss (not just the loss of a loved one but any type of loss) please let me know. There are some among us who would benefit from such a group, and our Stephen Ministers are always there for help and comfort as well. Together we can heal and find hope, even in the midst of stickiest situations.

Ed

You Are Invited to the CELEBRATION OF LEARNING FESTIVAL

Saturday, November 1st
at
Fuente de Vida Church
Agua Prieta, Mexico



The *Celebration of Learning Festival* is both a thank you to Vista members for their educational support of the children from *Fuente de Vida Church* and a time to honor students achieving academic excellence (Grade B+ or above averages for last school year). This fun filled day includes an AWARDS PROGRAM with entertainment, ARTS & CRAFTS, GAMES and LUNCH. This is an opportunity for Vista members to meet these children and see how God has worked through us to help them obtain an education. Our chartered bus will take us across the boarder to the church located only a couple miles into Mexico from Douglas, AZ. A USA passport is required for this event. A trip sign-up sheet will be in the breezeway during the month of October. Participants may also call *Dee Berman* at 825-7115 or *Jan Hopke-Almer* to register to attend.

In preparation for this event, we are collecting prizes for the children and items for the **Mother's Gift Bags**. Gently used jewelry, scarves, coin purses and personal care products (i.e. hotel size toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, lotion etc.) are needed. Small toys, drawing tablets, color books, crayons, water bottles, and any sports items/clothing make great prizes. Your donations put BIG SMILES on the faces of these needy children and their parents. Thank you for your support of this eventful day!

2014-15 SCHOOL YEAR SPONSORS: *Vista* church is filled with the Lord's spirit clearly demonstrated by your generous sponsorship of the students attending our sister church in Agua Prieta. Pastor Gela had tears of joy in her eyes upon seeing we had school supplies for 114 students attending Fuente de Vida Church. We hope you can join us on Saturday, November 1st as we celebrate the success of this educational mission program. As God enfolds us in His loving arms, we have passed that love on to these needy children through your donations. **THANK YOU and God Bless You!**

Jan Hopke-Almer
Agua Prieta Education Leader

**PACKING FOR TRIP TO AGUA PRIETA
FOR CELEBRATION of LEARNING**





WALK to BETHLEHEM

It's hard to believe that it's already October! Only two months left to get everything done to create our **Walk To Bethlehem, December 10, 11, and 12**. Sign-up sheets will be appearing in the breezeway after church very soon! We will need many hands and many cookies! This year we are also going to try out a reservation system that will hopefully prevent the long waits that so many of our visitors have had in the past. I am working on an online reservation plan with the help of a programmer here in SaddleBrooke. We will also create a phone-in plan for those who don't 'do' computers! In the meantime, begin the prayer vigil NOW for good weather for the Walk. I'm looking forward to a successful and rewarding event for our community. And if you have old sheets, I'm still collecting! As in the past, we will also be in need of very old looking baskets, pots, and rugs. We would also like to have lots of (fake) trees to line the village streets. Let me know if you have something to loan that will help us furnish our village. We won't need these items until Sunday, December 7. I will be happy to pick up larger items prior to that time, and you can bring items to church on the 7th. Thank you in advance for all of your help and support!

Pam Holder, Walk to Bethlehem coordinator 520-343-1225

FALL FELLOWSHIP

October 18th *Women's Day Retreat*

October 31st *Bavarian Oktoberfest*

November 16th 2nd *Annual Church Picnic* at Catalina State Park
BYOE (Bring Your Own Everything) Plus a dish to pass around
Outdoor Games and a hike at 1:00 PM

December 6th *Cookie Exchange* at 1:00PM

December 31st *Night Watch Celebration and Game Night* 6:00 PM till 9:00 PM

Every fourth Tuesday of the Month is *Game Night* at 6:00 PM

Look for more info or call Barbara Sherman 825- 5426

Come to the 1st **Bavarian Oktoberfest** at Vista

hosted by our UM Women!

Join the fun of 'German Gemuetlichkeit" on

FRIDAY, October 31, 2014 as of 4 PM

Wear your Dirnd'l or Lederhosen,

but for sure your Bavarian Hat

Of course there will be Beer (the ginger and root kind)

& plenty of Pretzel's - plus

traditional grilled Bratwurst with Sauerkraut

including German Potato Salad, a crisp sausage bun,

coffee and homemade Apple cake + whip cream.

Tickets @ \$10.00 per person will be sold on the

Church Patio as of the 1st Sunday in October.

All proceeds go to UMW Mission.

For info call Loni Degen: 818-3192 or Judi Nibbelink: 818-6766



TUCSON CHAMBER ARTISTS TO OPEN VISTA FINE ARTS CONCERT SERIES SUNDAY OCTOBER 12

Southern Arizona's professional chamber ensemble honors the 200th anniversary of the National Anthem and other folk and spiritual music celebrated as national treasures

Tucson Chamber Artists (TCA), entering its second decade as Tucson's professional chamber choir, opens the 2014-15 Vista Fine Arts season on Sunday, October 12, 3:00pm, right here at Vista. A pre-concert talk will be given by conductor **Eric Holtan** at 2:15 p.m.

In one of TCA's most diverse programs yet, the concert, titled ***America the Beautiful***, includes music from America's rich folk and spiritual music traditions. A special segment of the concert will trace the evolution of America's national anthem, which celebrates its 200th anniversary this autumn. Other works considered as treasured anthems include *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, *Amazing Grace*, and *Danny Boy*. TCA steps outside of the box with **Bob Dylan's *Blowin' in the Wind***, which is widely considered to be the most influential folk anthem of the second half of the last century. Beloved pieces by the "father of American music" Stephen Foster will be featured, along with excerpts from Leonard Bernstein's *Candide*.

Tickets for the October 12 concert at Vista are available now! Advance general admission tickets are just \$20 (\$25 at the door), and are available from Donna Langwig at Vista (297-3042), or by calling TCA (401-2651). Please mention special \$20 price for Vista Fine Arts audience. All students are admitted for \$5 with ID.

In appreciation, all veterans will be admitted free!

Tucson Chamber Artists is a versatile ensemble of vocal and instrumental musicians dedicated to enriching lives through the transformational power of classical music. TCA's singers represent the first rank of choral artists in Arizona and from around the country, and along with its instrumentalists, have trained in some of the finest music schools in the world. Having just celebrated its 10th anniversary season, TCA has experienced explosive growth since its inception in 2004, due to its unique programming, exceptional artistic quality and commitment to neighborhood performance venues.

Please join us for this outstanding program and all of our upcoming Vista Fine Arts events. All are welcome! For more information, visit www.vistaumc.org. or call the church at 825-1985.

Tucson Hospitality Inn

In early September THI'S second HVAC system (6 tons) went out and could not be repaired. (The first system went out and was replaced last December.) 90 degrees out and no air conditioning for the guests staying there! It was replaced to the tune of \$7500. Half of that expense has been covered by a donation, but the other half of \$3750 is still needed. If you can find it in your budget to contribute anything, it would be greatly appreciated. THI is 501 (3) (c) charitable non-profit. It is also a charity to which individuals can donate up to \$200 a year and couples can donate up to \$400 a year and will receive Arizona Tax Credit if you a permanent resident of Arizona. If you are not a permanent resident of Arizona, your donation is still tax deductible as a charitable donation. You can mail your donation to Tucson Hospitality Inn, Lou Tompkins, 2539 E. Edison Street, Tucson, AZ 85716. Write the check to Tucson Hospitality Inn and indicate in the memo HVAC. You will receive a letter thanking you for your donation. If you choose to donate through the church, please write your check to Vista UMC and indicate in the memo THI-HVAC.

The Inn is full and in high demand. Staying in September were: a family of 5 from Flagstaff, the mother Betty had surgery for cancer. Also the wife of Andrew from Prescott, who has throat cancer; and a family from Detroit whose daughter had surgery.

The Inn can always use Campbell's Chunky and Progresso chicken noodle and vegetable soups to have on hand when guests need a quick meal. Can you spare one can of soup? Please put your donation in the THI basket in the narthex.

Thank you so much for your generosity and support of this mission!

Kay Gragg, THI Team Leader

MANY THANKS FROM CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY!!!

All of us here in CYFM want to extend our deepest thanks to the entire Vista congregation for your most generous contributions to the Youth Mission Project – the Mason Family Fund. As you know, a friend of Kourtney Hotchkiss had a tremendous family tragedy in late July. While en route to a Youth Ministry Meeting, the father was killed and the eldest daughter very seriously injured in an automobile accident. As a result, the family was faced not only with their terrible loss, but huge medical costs as well. The Hotchkiss girls – Kourtney and Emily – headed up a project to collect money to help out this family. We were all astounded at how much the congregation opened up their hearts in giving - \$1,830 was collected in the space of 4 weeks!! We are all so truly blessed to have such a loving and caring Vista family – we certainly can't thank you enough!

Now that the school year has started and we have continued with our Sunday School classes, we are continuing to find ways to care for God's creation and share His love with others. The children in Shirley Miller's K-3 class are continuing in their study of the Bible, while the older children and Youth are learning about the creation and how we can take care of God's earth and carry on His work with others. Some of the projects in the works include visiting Children's wards in hospitals and reading to the children, as well as visiting Nursing and Assisted Living Homes and interacting with the residents.

As always, we couldn't make all of this possible without the tremendous support we receive from you, the congregation. We truly thank you and bless you

Blessings, Barbara Johnson, Vista CYFM Team

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthdays

<i>BELYEA, Dana</i>	<i>10/08</i>
<i>DOSSETT, Gwendolyn</i>	<i>10/09</i>
<i>KELLEY, Ed</i>	<i>10/09</i>
<i>SPRINGER, Clayton</i>	<i>10/09</i>
<i>BERMAN, Rick</i>	<i>10/10</i>
<i>RICHARDS, Bill</i>	<i>10/11</i>
<i>PEATE, Maxx</i>	<i>10/13</i>
<i>GAGNON, Rick</i>	<i>10/14</i>
<i>CORT, Walt</i>	<i>10/18</i>
<i>NEWMAN, Wayne</i>	<i>10/18</i>
<i>COLLINGE, Ellen</i>	<i>10/20</i>
<i>HEDRICK, Susanne</i>	<i>10/24</i>
<i>HOAGLUND, Coralyn</i>	<i>10/25</i>
<i>LEONARD, Jon</i>	<i>10/25</i>
<i>WARREN, Robert</i>	<i>10/28</i>
<i>ORAM, Joy</i>	<i>10/29</i>
<i>LINDAHL, Carol</i>	<i>10/30</i>

Thank you

We would like to thank our church family for the prayers, the cards, and all the well wishes that have been sent our way. We are blessed to be part of this Church family.

Sincerely, Linda and Dillis Ward

Happy Anniversaries

<i>HATHAWAY, Jim & Elsie</i>	<i>10/04</i>
<i>BODE, Jerry & Jan</i>	<i>10/09</i>
<i>WILSON, Dean & Jan</i>	<i>10/11</i>
<i>TRACY, Keith & Carole</i>	<i>10/26</i>



Don't forget to welcome and introduce yourselves to our new members!

**Don & Linda Whittington
Dan & Donna Boring and
Cathy & Dean Eggebraten**



Mission Outreach Ministry Report for the Oct. 2014 Echoes

This is the month we prepare for our annual Celebration of Learning trip to our sister church, Fuente de Vida, in Agua Prieta Mexico. Each year we continue to see the improvement of these children's education. We have seen more and more children in the program, as we impress upon the adults as well as their children, how important an education is, not only for themselves and their families, but for their nation. Mexico suffers from so many in their population that do not have an education that would allow their citizens to rise above the grinding poverty that is the daily life for far too many. It is thrilling to see so many little ones, year after year, receive their Certificate of Achievement for the past school year as they strive for a better life in the future. We applaud the parents who encourage the educational progress of their children. It is because of this, that we also honor the mothers, who instead of using their children to help support the family income they support the children with their education. We are counting on you to help us celebrate this effort. Jan Hopke-Almer has enclosed a list of some of the items that we need for this festival. You can place your items in the Mission Baskets in the Narthex. We thank you in advance for your help and hope that if you have sponsored a child with their school supplies or are interested in our Ministry in Agua Prieta, you will sign up to go with us on our comfortable touring bus on November 1st. I will be taking signups on Sunday Oct.5th in the breezeway. Come and see me. We have space for 48 passengers and we hope to fill the bus!

I once again give you the list of the numerous Mission Outreach Programs we are supporting at Vista and the name of the team leaders you may contact for further information.

Fuente de Vida Church in Agua Prieta Mexico

1-	Economic Advancement Program.....	Dee Berman.....	520-825-7115
2-	Coffee Sales.....	Glenna Snider.....	520-825-8251
3-	Educational Program.....	Jan Hopke Almer.....	520-818-2504
4-	College Scholarships/Adult Education.....	Dee Berman.....	520-825-7115
	Creative Hands.....	Jan Bohe.....	520-825-9725
	Catalina Community Services/Impact.....	Benith MacPherson.....	520-825-5891
	Family First/Pregnancy Center.....	Jan Hopke-Almer.....	520-818-2504
	Tucson Hospitality Inn.....	Kay Gragg.....	520-544-2545
	Snak Pak Food Program.....	Kathy Campbell.....	520-825-3984
	Memorial Day Fund/ Davis Monthan AFB.....	Dee Berman.....	520-825-7115
	International Mission of the UMC.....	Jim & Judy Nibblink.....	520-818-6766

As you can see by this list there are many ways for you to get involved in Mission at Vista. Each of these programs has an opportunity for you to serve others and that is what we are about. Our goal at Vista is for every one of us to be in Mission. Get involved it, will bless your heart and that of those we serve!! We thank God for you and all you do for so many. Remember that Jesus said "what so ever you do unto the least of these you have done it unto me".

Our next Mission Outreach meeting will be on Wed. Oct 1st. at 1:00 PM. We need your help to get ready for our trip to Agua Prieta, so we hope you will join us.

Yours in Mission service:
Dee Berman Chairman
deerick1968@gmail.com

**Vista de la Montaña
United Methodist Church**

3001 E. Miravista Lane
Tucson, Arizona

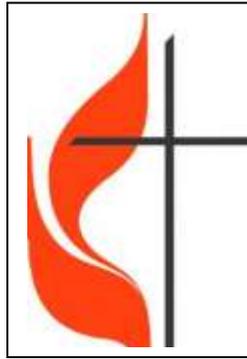
Office Hours
Monday through Friday
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 520-825-1985

Fax: 520-825-2997

E-Mail: VistaUMC@aol.com

Visit Us at Our website:
<http://www.Vistaumc.org>



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*Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors
The People of the United Methodist Church*



**October
Happenings**

The text 'October Happenings' is rendered in a large, bold, orange font with a black outline and a slight shadow. The word 'October' is on the top line and 'Happenings' is on the bottom line. The text is surrounded by decorative elements: two pumpkins of different sizes are positioned behind the text, and several autumn leaves in shades of orange, yellow, and red are scattered around them.



Henrietta Emmanuel, Malaria Coordinator of the Sierra Leone Annual Conference explains the excruciating effects of the disease in the family: *"Malaria brings poverty and sadness in the home; it takes away peace and threatens survival. If your husband who was a hard working farmer ... his strength goes away and would no longer be able to do work. Care in the home becomes the reverse. He would need your help and support to survive."*

September 5, 2014

Vista De La Montana UMC
3001 E Mira Vista Ln
Tucson, AZ 85739-9335

Dear Vista De La Montana UMC,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,800.00 to Imagine No Malaria, a life-saving ministry that aims to eliminate death and suffering caused by malaria in Africa by 2015.

Your generous gift will continue to fund Imagine No Malaria's four-pronged approach to eradicating malaria by 2015: prevention, education, communication, and treatment. Imagine No Malaria accomplishments to date include training more than 11,000 volunteer health care workers, dispensing medicine and medical care through more than 300 United Methodist hospitals and clinics, distributing more than 2 million bed nets through the United Methodist Committee on Relief, and creating and training 13 health boards serving 16 African countries to monitor, evaluate and facilitate Imagine No Malaria program effectiveness.

Your gift will contribute to sustaining these efforts to save lives and improve the health and livelihood of entire villages and communities for generations to come.

I celebrate your support and ask you to share the work of Imagine No Malaria to encourage others to help us reach our life-saving goal of \$75 million to eliminate death and suffering from malaria in Africa.

Please pray for the success of this ministry and for those suffering from malaria.

Gratefully yours,

Bishop Thomas Bickerton
Imagine No Malaria Chairperson

E.I.N. No. 31-0839059

Your contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law. No goods or services were provided in exchange for this donation. You will receive a year-end letter summarizing your total gifts and/or pledge payments for tax-reporting purposes.

