



# VISTA de la MONTAÑA

## ECHOES

February, 2017

### PASTOR'S PEN

Exciting seasons and times are on us. It seems like just yesterday it was Christmas especially since my neighbor hasn't taken down his plastic icicle lights. But we are into the 5th Sunday after Epiphany in the month of February and its still 11 months to Christmas. So in the meantime we can prepare our hearts and lives through the Lenten season for the Joy of Easter! Lent starts with Ash Wednesday on March 1st, so we have a month to get ready.

During Lent we are going to have a series on "Bread for the Journey" a high-carb multisensory Lenten Worship Series. We are going to explore some of the important stories involving bread in the Bible like: Abraham and Sarah and the angels, the mana in the wilderness, the feeding of the 5000, the last supper, and to top it all off with butter and jam, Jesus as the Bread of Life on Easter. I am excited about this series because part of it involves bakers in our congregation baking a different type of bread every Sunday that will be cut up and shared with the congregation as part of our Children/Youth time. We still need a few more bread bakers so please call Valerie at the church office to sign up (825-1985).

On Sunday March 26th the message is on "The Miracle of the Feeding of the 5000" it will also be our "Miracle Sunday" where we will raise all the funds in one "Miracle Offering" to put in a new piece of paved Parking Lot and install cameras in the Sanctuary for Sunday Morning and Live Streaming purposes. You will hear a lot more about this really soon.

Soon we will be appointing a Building Committee to begin the work of expanding our physical facilities to accommodate our growth and meet future needs. Watch the Echo's and Sunday's bulletin for those who are appointed. Interested? Contact Pastor Fred ASAP!

February has a lot of opportunities for fellowship, eating and inviting a friend. February 5th we will precede the Super Bowl with a "Back Home Potluck" after worship. The 19th we have a membership luncheon, and the 26th a Rodeo Sunday luncheon put on by our Confirmation Youth. Keep these 8 young people in your prayers.

Exciting times and events here at Vista Church, when and where we can invite People of Peace to come alongside us as we live out our Christian Faith, each day trying to be more like Jesus.

*In Christ's love*

*Pastor Fred*

## VISTA FINE ARTS

Presents

### *DOLCE MUSICA WOODWIND QUINTET*



You are cordially invited to join us for an afternoon of music by the Dolce Musica Woodwind Quintet. This event is Sunday, February 19 at 3:00 p.m. at Vista de la Montaña United Methodist Church in Catalina.

Dolce Musica Woodwind Quintet was formed in 2001 with five members of the Arizona Symphonic Winds. Musicians are: Fran Moskovitz, flute; Sherry Jameson, oboe; Christie Blute, clarinet; Barbara Bayless, bassoon; and David Eckert, horn.

The theme for this concert is “E Pluribus Unum,” and will consist of both classical and popular pieces, including familiar tunes and works written specifically for woodwind quintet. You will hear music from Ibert, Grainger and Beethoven to Henri Mancini and Scott Joplin. It promises to be a delightful program.

In addition to the Arizona Symphonic Winds, members of Dolce Musica also perform with the Southern Arizona Symphony Orchestra, the Civic Orchestra of Tucson, Sierra Vista Symphony Orchestra, Foothills Chamber Ensemble and other musical organizations in Tucson and throughout Southern Arizona.

Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to join you for this program. Admission is free – suggested donation \$10. For more information, visit [www.vistaumc.org](http://www.vistaumc.org) or call 825-1985. We look forward to seeing you on February 19!



On Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup> James Black, violinist and Patricia Kaltenberger keyboardist will perform the “Spring Concerto” from the “Four Seasons” by Vivaldi , complete with barking dogs, and flying leaves. A delightful masterpiece by Dvorak will be a highlight as well as the ‘infamous finale from Beethoven Kreutzer Sonata. More info in the March issue of ECHOES.

## **Food Delivery Drivers Needed!**

IMPACT of Southern Arizona provides fresh and frozen meals to homebound seniors. IMPACT currently needs more Senior Meal Delivery Volunteer Drivers. Deliveries are made on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays starting at 11:00 am. The time commitment is approximately one-and-a-half hours total. Volunteers must commit to one permanent route, one day a week, or be a backup driver when needed. If interested, please contact IMPACT by calling (520) 825-0009 and asking for Dawn, Volunteer Coordinator.

Thanks for considering this Volunteer Request by one of Vista's sponsored charities!

***Benith MacPherson, Missions Liaison for IMPACT***



## **SNAK PAK**

As the Snak Pak program begins the spring semester, I would like to thank all of you who have supported the program with your offerings and your labor.

The food for each Snak Pak this year costs \$4.40. At 60 children x 36 weeks the cost of food for the year is \$9500, \$4000 contributed by Vista and \$5500 by Santa Catalina Catholic Church. The Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona pays for most of the food through grants. However, the actual cost of each Snak Pak is \$7.80 when all the administrative costs to the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona are figured in.

Some of the community partners do not pay for the food. They simply pick up, pack and deliver the food. The Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona greatly appreciates the fact that our two churches actually contribute money as well as volunteer efforts.

***Kathy Campbell Team Leader***

## **Altar and Chancel Volunteers Needed!**

Vista's Worship Support needs a second team for alternative duties at the Altar and Chancel area. If you and your partner are able and willing to help dress that area for upcoming services, please contact the office or call Loni Degen at 520-268-9972. For more details about the duties, please contact Loni Degen, Chair of Worship Support.

## JUMPING UP AND DOWN

Life has its rocky stretches. This is bad enough, but what is worse is some of these stretches are repetitive. Heck, it seems as though we actually go out of our way to leave the straight and narrow and head for the bumps and ruts in life. Naturally all these detours are to be blamed on a fall guy, usually God Almighty. It's kind of a narrow view, but more commonly held than others might suspect.

When the main actor ( Two legs, two arms etc.) takes a wrong turn, even though the rutted, pot-holed curve is well marked, and the consequences established, why is it anyone's fault except Mr. Two arms? The human capacity for personally making a mess and then denial is stuff of legend. Who but a descendant of Adam could take a given situation where a few soft words and good intentions might turn a day around and crash the whole kaboodle into an emotional quagmire?

Everyone screws up here and there. It is the nature of things and life on earth. If we as humankind wanted a "no bother life", we should have stayed in Eden. Boredom and lust for free choice drove us from there, assisted by snakey and enforced by an Angel of the Lord. The walk out of the Eden's gate must have been a hand wringing affair. Throw in a lip-biting grimace as well. Probably just the feeling Isaac Levitan had in mind when he painted Vladimirka Road.

So we traded the cake walk for the rocky road. Don't complain about the bumps and potholes. Here in Church life it isn't whether your feathers get ruffled. 300 people in a small space, that is bound to happen. What matters is how well and how soon you comb out and straighten up and of course head on down the road, wiser and hopefully willing to try harder at the next curve.

***Jim Bless***

*BTW, see my article about the UMM retreat in St David posted on the VistaUMC website, click on Church Groups tab, bottom of the page. Want to participate next time ?*

*See any of us or call Jim Bless or Howard Young for the very simple details.*

# got donuts??



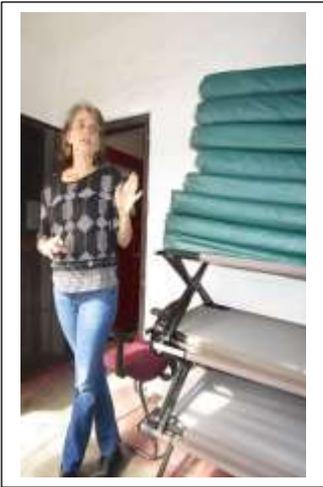
Hats off to our amazing crew of landscapers! Every Thursday they gather here at Vista for a morning of mowing, raking, digging, cutting, and comraderie! And most of all they enjoy their time together at Bashas afterward, drinking coffee and devouring donuts!



Disclaimer—these photos do not depict ALL of the many dedicated men and women who take care of our landscape. Thank you, ALL OF YOU!

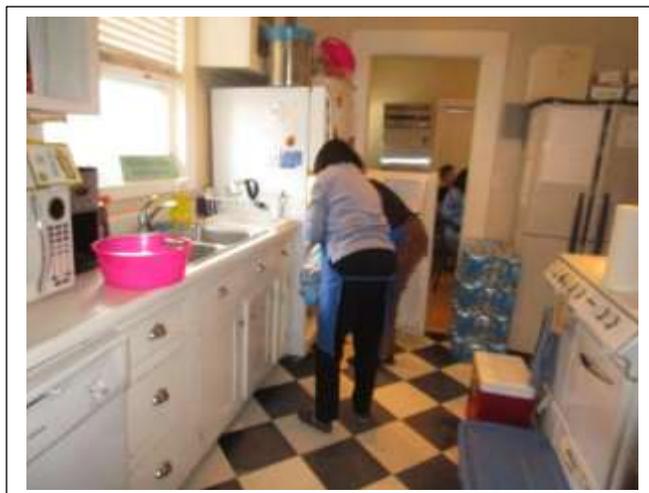
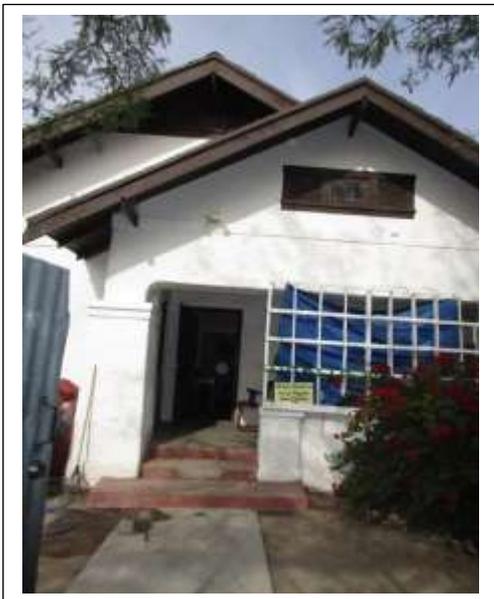


***Sister Jose Women's Center is dedicated to assisting homeless and at-risk women of Tucson. They provide Daytime Services of food, clothing, shelter, education, hot showers, and personal laundry care. At their present location they provide Winter Shelter of 8-10 women per night.***



***The entire month of February we will be collecting travel and full-size personal care items for the women. In addition to New shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, tooth paste & tooth brushes, body wash, lotion, hand soap, disposable razors, tampons & pads: Depends Disposable Diapers are needed. Please place the donations in the blue bin in the Narthex. Susan Mawhinney from the Missions Committee, is the Vista Liason.***

***Please contact Susan at 520-825-5341 for more information, or to volunteer.***



## MISSION

As we continue in our winter months I want to thank you for your generosity to our **Warm Winter Program** for the collection of warm clothing and bedding for the needy in our community. Our collection box in the Narthex was filled up again and again during the months of December and January. Many thanks go to Benith MacPherson, who did her usual great job of collecting, sorting and delivering the multiple items to Impact each week. These Items, that might not be needed any longer in your household, but make a big difference in the lives of the people and the families who receive them and make a Warm Winter for them. We want to thank each and every one of you who made this Mission Ministry possible to our community.

I have been asked, what are the Mission Ministries that we participating in our surrounding community? So I want to share a brief list of the programs that Vista is actively participating in.

**Family First in Oracle ( Multiple activities, \$ support, baby shower etc.) ,The Golden Goose( Volunteers and goods), IMPACT, The Food Bank at Impact ( 1st Sunday every month \$ collection & food goods.), The Clothing Bank at Impact (Volunteers & Warm Winter Program every Dec. & Jan.), The Senior Center at Impact (4th Thursday every month Birthday Celebrations), Youth Day at Coronado School (March 4th-17) , Snak Pak Food Program 60 children (every Friday during school year) ,Creative hands ( Meet every Friday at Vista to make clothing for children of donated to several community programs), Amphi School District ((Thanksgiving collection of \$ for needy families).**

During the year various needs are met as they are presented. Each of these activities has a team leader who can give you more detail about each of these activities. I hope this brief outline will give an overview of our work in our community. It is our goal to be active in the community where God has placed us as well as beyond.

We were pleased to Visit our newest Mission Program **Sister Jose Women's Center** this last month and were impressed with the amazing work being done for homeless women in the little 750 square foot house. The good news is that a new 9000 square foot facility is under construction and some great thing will be able to take place to serve those in need. Please look for Susan's report. (**on oppoisit page**) I want to thank Susan Mawhinney for volunteering to be our new team leader for this Mission project. She comes with experience working with the homeless and we sure do welcome her aboard. I also want to thank the UMM for their generous \$1000.00 for the purchase of cots for the Women's Center!

### **THANK YOU GENTLEMEN!!!**

We will be selling Valentine Cards and some All Occasion cards the 5th & 12 of Feb. to support our Sister Church in Agua Prieta, Mexico so remember they are only 50 cents and I have them sorted and they are really pretty so plan to send a pretty card to those you love and support our Mission program.

We will NOT be meeting in Feb. but will resume on March 1st at 1:00 PM and look forward to your presence with us to hear our Mission reports and attend to our mission business. Please plan to join us and remember that our meetings are open to everyone at Vista as this is your Mission Program. Our Goal is for everyone at Vista to be in Mission.

Yours in Mission Service: Dee Berman: Chairman, 520-825-7115 [deerick1968@gmail.com](mailto:deerick1968@gmail.com)

## FATHER'S LOVE LETTER

### **An intimate message from God to you.**

**My Child,** You may not know me, but I know everything about you. Psalm 139:1 I know when you sit down and when you rise up. Psalm 139:2 I am familiar with all your ways. Psalm 139:3 Even the very hairs on your head are numbered. Matthew 10:29-31 For you were made in my image. Genesis 1:27 In me you live and move and have your being. Acts 17:28 For you are my offspring. Acts 17:28 I knew you even before you were conceived. Jeremiah 1:4-5 I chose you when I planned creation. Ephesians 1:11-12 You were not a mistake, for all your days are written in my book. Psalm 139:15-16 I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live. Acts 17:26 You are fearfully and wonderfully made. Psalm 139:14 I knit you together in your mother's womb. Psalm 139:13 And brought you forth on the day you were born. Psalm 71:6 I have been misrepresented by those who don't know me. John 8:41-44 I am not distant and angry, but am the complete expression of love. 1 John 4:16 And it is my desire to lavish my love on you. 1 John 3:1 Simply because you are my child and I am your Father. 1 John 3:1 I offer you more than your earthly father ever could. Matthew 7:11 For I am the perfect father. Matthew 5:48 Every good gift that you receive comes from my hand. James 1:17 For I am your provider and I meet all your needs. Matthew 6:31-33 My plan for your future has always been filled with hope. Jeremiah 29:11 Because I love you with an everlasting love. Jeremiah 31:3 My thoughts toward you are countless as the sand on the seashore. Psalm 139:17-18 And I rejoice over you with singing. Zephaniah 3:17 I will never stop doing good to you. Jeremiah 32:40 For you are my treasured possession. Exodus 19:5 I desire to establish you with all my heart and all my soul. Jeremiah 32:41 And I want to show you great and marvelous things. Jeremiah 33:3 If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me. Deuteronomy 4:29 Delight in me and I will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4 For it is I who gave you those desires. Philippians 2:13 I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine. Ephesians 3:20 For I am your greatest encourager. 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 I am also the Father who comforts you in all your troubles. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 When you are brokenhearted, I am close to you. Psalm 34:18 As a shepherd carries a lamb, I have carried you close to my heart. Isaiah 40:11 One day I will wipe away every tear from your eyes. Revelation 21:3-4 And I'll take away all the pain you have suffered on this earth. Revelation 21:3-4 I am your Father, and I love you even as I love my son, Jesus. John 17:23 For in Jesus, my love for you is revealed. John 17:26 He is the exact representation of my being. Hebrews 1:3 He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you. Romans 8:31 And to tell you that I am not counting your sins. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 Jesus died so that you and I could be reconciled. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 His death was the ultimate expression of my love for you. 1 John 4:10 I gave up everything I loved that I might gain your love. Romans 8:31-32 If you receive the gift of my son Jesus, you receive me. 1 John 2:23 And nothing will ever separate you from my love again. Romans 8:38-39 Come home and I'll throw the biggest party heaven has ever seen. Luke 15:7

I have always been Father, and will always be Father. Ephesians 3:14-15

My question is... Will you be my child? John 1:12-13 I am waiting for you. Luke 15:11-32

**Love, Your Dad Almighty God**



# CELEBRATIONS for February



## Anniversaries

|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| JACKSON, Jim & Ginny      | 02/01 |
| JOHNSON, Robert & Barbara | 02/13 |
| HALL, Jay & Gale          | 02/18 |
| RUTKOWSKI, Marv & Marilyn | 02/25 |
| SIMON, Jim & Jimmie       | 02/28 |

## Birthdays

|                        |       |
|------------------------|-------|
| SCANLAN, Sharon        | 02/01 |
| SORENSEN, Barbara      | 02/01 |
| BAUM, Deede            | 02/02 |
| BELLAH, Mary           | 02/04 |
| CONKLIN, Jim           | 02/04 |
| SCHAEFER, Jackie       | 02/06 |
| CAMPBELL, Alan         | 02/07 |
| HALL, Gale             | 02/10 |
| OVERMAN, Anna Margaret | 02/10 |
| MEYN, Polly            | 02/13 |
| SANDERS, Teresa        | 02/13 |
| LANDRUM, Mattie        | 02/15 |
| BLEESS, Jim            | 02/16 |
| RADTKE, Paula          | 02/17 |
| LARMOUR, Margaret      | 02/19 |
| HOMAN, Lila            | 02/26 |
| WARD, Dillis           | 02/26 |
| ROBERTS, Candace       | 02/27 |
| BAUDER, Kathleen       | 02/28 |
| HOLDER, Craig          | 02/28 |

***Dear Vista Congregation,***  
*Thank you very much for the Love Gift. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. I truly am blessed.*

*Valeria*



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

First Saturday of each month **United Methodist Men's** Meeting 7 AM Breakfast at Sunnyside  
Up meeting at 8:00 AM Ed's Building.

First Thursday of each month **United Methodist Women** Mary Martha Circle 9:30 AM TBD

Third Tuesday of each month **United Methodist Women** Susanna Wesley Circle 9:00 AM in Ed's  
Building.

Mondays at 9:30 AM **Ladies Bible Study**.

Wednesday at 3:00 PM **Men's Bible Study**.

First Wednesday of each month **Missions Outreach** meeting 1:00 PM in Ed's Building.

Every Friday at 9:00 AM **Creative Hands** Ed's Building.

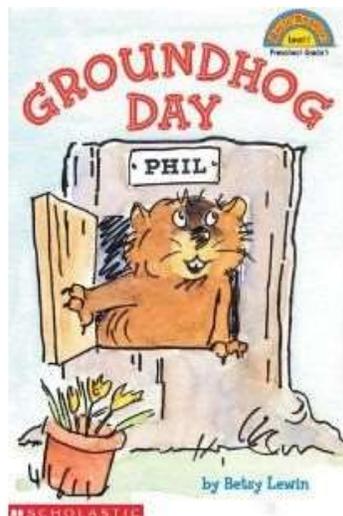
February 5<sup>th</sup> **'Back Home Potluck'** after Service.

February 19<sup>th</sup> **Vista Fine Arts** Dolce Musica Woodwind Quintet

March 5<sup>th</sup> **Vista Fine Arts**

February 26<sup>th</sup> Confirmation Youth sponsor **Rodeo Sunday**. Tickets on Sale starting in February.

March 5<sup>th</sup> Vista Youth hosting The Tucson Methodist Youth Groups 4-7 PM



VISTA de la MONTAÑA UMC  
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TUCSON, AZ 85739

OFFICE HOURS  
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E-mail: Vista UMC@aol.com

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK  
AND AT OUR WEBSITE:  
[www.Vistaumc.org](http://www.Vistaumc.org)



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Through December, year-to-date Income is slightly ahead of budget. Expenses are on budget, resulting in a YTD General Fund positive of \$4,422 which is \$5,758 more than the budget. Thank you Vista donors for meeting your pledges and thanks to our committees and staff for their expertise in managing their expenses to their budget.

In December the Church Council approved a 2017 budget that was recommended by the Finance Committee. We are budgeting a small increase in income and expense, resulting in a balanced budget for 2017.

***Your Finance Team***