

PASTOR'S PEN

Lent and Holy Week are past us and we are now in the Season of Easter where in Scripture and preaching we remember the events immediately following the Resurrection. We remember our commissioning to **“Make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world”**. And we remember Jesus' Ascension, the giving of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost and our mothers and our Heritage as Methodists on Heritage Sunday. The excitement of being a Methodist Christian at Vista Church is not over, but is building!

In fact, our Building Committee is hard at work garnering ideas from our “Dream Sunday” work to guide their course. They are also in the midst of selecting an architectural firm to work with us and make our dreams go from ephemeral dreams to concrete. Any leftover funds from the Miracle Sunday offering will go **towards the Building Committee's work.**

The **“Miracle Sunday” offering was indeed a miracle. Over \$50,000 was raised. The parking lot is in** and the Live Streaming of our services is getting better and better every week. The trustees have upgraded the lighting in the Sanctuary for the new video system and if you are stuck at home or away you can follow our worship service live through our website. Go to www.vistaumc.org and click on the Live Stream button. Already, our members and friends who are shut in and away from Tucson have been able to join us in worship on Sundays. They have been very appreciative of having this available. The system is not up to full strength and ability yet, but that is coming. I know that many will appreciate this when we have memorial services and family members who cannot come to Tucson will be able to watch from their homes far away.

This summer on July 9th we will have a BBQ and a BBQ of the church mortgage! Yes it is fully paid off through reserve funds and by July the reserve funds will be paid back so that the property will be free and clear. In the United Methodist tradition church sanctuaries are consecrated after they are debt free. We might also do that on that day.

Many exciting things have been going on at Vista from the Confirmation of 8 youth (the first Confirmation class since 2009) to looking forward to future building and in the meantime God has been adding to our fellowship day by day. *Jim Bleess, Bob Sherman and Don August* have made 77 walking sticks in the past two years that have been given away to our new members! Glory be to God!!

Keep being the loving people that God has created you to be!

In Jesus' love

Pastor Fred

Acts 2:47b “And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.”

SNAK PAK

As the school semester at Coronado K-8 comes to an end and Snak Pak is making its last delivery on May 18, I would like to extend my thanks to all the volunteers from Vista who have helped this year.

Edna Alligood

Dennis Higgins

Alice August

Peggy Higgins

Nancy Brackett

Dan Jones

Shirley Byrd

Sandy Kaper

Alan Campbell

Allen Phillips

Anne Coffman

Art Piper

Betty Frieberg

Marvin Rupe

Lew Hartz

Bob Sherman

Marsha Hartz

Elizabeth Vaughan

Sandy Harrison

Dillis Ward

It has been a true pleasure working with all these dedicated people.

Most of all, I would like to thank the members and friends of Vista de la Montana UMC and Santa Catalina Catholic Church whose assistance and generous financial contributions have made the program possible.

Kathy Campbell



Endowment Legacy

What kind of legacy would you like to grow ?

What are those ministries, people, and places that matter most to you?
What will they need to thrive when you are no longer around to help care for them?

While only you can answer the first question, people from Vista's endowment committee and Desert Southwest United Methodist Foundation can help you answer the second.

You don't have to be rich to grow a caring legacy.

For help and to obtain more information on endowment gifts or on other planned giving opportunities, please contact a member of the Vista UMC Endowment Committee:

*Jay O'Donald, Dick Lozier, Dave Brackett, Jon Leonard,
John Witt, Boyd Carpenter*





UMW BOX SUPPER PICNIC

\$10.00 per person

Including the popular Grab Bag sales!

Friendship Day, May 5, 2017 ~ 5:00 pm

Prepared for all by Vista's UM Women

Your choice of Chicken or Ham

on a Sandwich Roll,

Coleslaw and Baked Beans,

Dessert ~ Brownies or Choc-Chip Cookies

AZ Iced Tea or Coffe

Plus Entertainment by our very own VISTA QUARTET

HOSPITALITY

I am asking you to help to continue to make Vista an outstanding group of caring folks. You can do this by:

Sign-up for goodies: It is fun to sign-up with someone new or with friends to provide goodies after a church service and then put things away. You can do this as often throughout the year.

Hospitality Partner: Basically, there is no difference in signing up to bring goodies but this time you do not bring goodies but help the folks who have signed up.

Memorial goodies and assistance: to provide goodies and/or to assist with plating goodies, serving and then cleaning up after these services. It is an important time to show what it means to be part of a church family.

Pledging is also a giving of your time to serve others. Church is made up of people serving in many ways.

If you feel in your heart to volunteer to all or one of the items mentioned above, please do one of the following:

See Delores on any Sunday after church

Call Delores Brindle at 520 907 5706

E-mail: deloresjb@gmail.com to discuss the dates that are open.

Cake being used for the Sunday Goodies: If you are planning on bringing a cake for a special event after the church service please contact Delores Brindle so she can discuss with you how to handle the serving of the cake that day. Cakes are great but they are a little harder to serve and I will work with you to make it easy on you to serve it.

Kitchen Paper Products and other Supplies found in the large kitchen: These supplies that are found in the kitchen are purchased by different groups to be used for their events. The different groups have taken out of their budget to buy the supplies you see in the kitchen storage areas. If your group is planning on doing an event and needs paper products and/or other supplies, you **must** provide them or call Delores to discuss how to handle it.

Memorial Services Refreshments served at the church: Hospitality can assist you with planning the refreshments, gathering together the goodies for the service, serving them and putting things away. We can help make this easy on you when it seems like the whole world around you has fallen apart. Let us help you so you can concentrate on other things.

Thank you again to all those wonderful volunteers who make Vista church stand out from other churches.

Delores Brindle, Hospitality Co-chairperson



Please Consider Donating to IMPACT of Southern Arizona

Vista collections to the Food Bank, taken the first Sunday of each month, have recently decreased. We would like to bolster our giving efforts for this worthy cause. **The following statistics, taken from IMPACT's website,** illustrate the extent to which IMPACT is meeting the very basic nutritional needs of area residents.

IMPACT of Southern Arizona operates two Food Banks - one in Catalina and another in Vail. An average of 600 different families are served each month (400 in Catalina and 200 in Vail). Interestingly, it is not the same group every time. People come only when they need help: perhaps between jobs, during a financial crisis or medical emergency, or if employed in a minimum wage job that regularly reduces the number of hours offered in a week. In a one-year period, IMPACT helped reduce hunger through food assistance to more than 1,425 different families providing canned goods, meat, produce, fruit, dairy, breads, and more.

IMPACT stretches your financial contributions through bulk purchases. If you would rather give food items, those in high demand include peanut butter, dry cereal, one pound boxes or bags of pasta and rice, and canned fruit. Toiletries are also needed (since these items cannot be purchased with Food Stamps).

Thank you for considering a monthly donation to IMPACT's Food Bank. The need is ongoing.

Benith MacPherson, Mission Outreach IMPACT liaison

TRUSTEE BOARD PROJECTS

Your Trustee Board, Boyd Carpenter, Becki Daniels, Paul Larmour, Bob Sherman, Howard Young

Bill Ayers, Fred Bull, Curt Hotchkiss and Jon Dossett, has been very busy thus far in 2017.

Some of the projects completed are: the new South parking lot, Re-coating of the main parking lot, Removal of debris pile on the west side of the parking lot, a new Kitchen garbage disposer, new bicycle control signage, Organ repairs and rodent elimination programs, new Kitchen knives and cutting boards and eight (8) new lightweight tables for Ed's Building.

Projects approved and in the process of completion: New LED lighting for the Sanctuary, fluorescent bulb replacement and new LED spot lights also in the Sanctuary, an update of the Building Use Policy, LED lighting of the Cross (early in May), completion of the "streaming" project with re-lighting the Chancel Area with LED units, re-painting of all the blue colored fencing and gates, new aluminum mini blinds for all the windows and doors of the Patio Room, and re-painting of the entire Columbarium wall.

Special thanks to Howard Young and the Landscaping crew for maintaining and improving our beautiful campus.

Jon Dossett, Chair

Mission Outreach Ministry

Mission opportunities are all around us. We just have to look around and we will see the need. We like to think of grand projects of Mission work, like going to Africa on a Mission Trip, building a house for Habitat for Humanity as an example, but there are many acts of kindness that are Mission giving, too. These past months as Rick and I have been recovering from surgery, hospital stays and chemotherapy, we have seen the heart of Mission at Vista. Dozens of loving Get Well cards, help putting a new detachable shower head in the bathroom. **Rides to doctor's offices, rides to church, clean up of our yard, etc etc. Folks, this is the Mission heart of Vista** at work for the needs of others and it is such a blessing to be on the receiving end of such loving kindness. Mission is giving to others, in even the small things, as well as the grand. And speaking of GRAND, your Easter offering has now reached \$4,873.00 as of Easter Sunday. Thank you so much for your loving Mission hearts.

I am happy to report that your Easter offering will pay for the expenses for one of our summer interns. We are still looking for lodging for some of the weeks that they are here with us in June and July. You will receive a weekly stipend for their food expense. If you can help host for part of that time, please call the church office at 520-825-1985.

Your Easter offering also supplied the resources to provide, thru **Vista's United Methodist Men's** group, furnishings for the *Rojas family home in Agua Prieta, Mexico*. As many of you may recall a few years ago Graciela, a single mother of 8 children, was caught in a drug cartel shoot out in Cananea on her way home from work and lost her life. Our sister Church Fuente de Vida adopted the care of these youngsters and has done a wonderful job and now with the help of other Methodist churches they will have the first home of their own. Some of the kids have grown into adulthood and the youngest Israel and Levi will be living with one of their older brother Manuel and his wife and family in the new home in the Colonia. Vista is helping furnish their little house. We still need bunk beds for the boys, dressers and a kitchen gas stove. If you can provide these items please call me and we will make arrangements to pick them up.

Each year on Memorial Day we at Vista remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms by supporting the families of our deployed troops from *Davis Monthan Air Force Base* in Tucson. The **"Hearts Apart"** program, part of the Family Services Department at DM, plans programs for these children and brightens their lives by an outing, especially planned for them each month. We are happy to sponsor one of these outings each year as Mom or Dad, or perhaps both, are deployed to dangerous places around the world. We will be collecting your contributions starting the 2nd **Sunday of May in the breezeway. Let's show our gratitude** for their service and sacrifice by supporting these military families in this very special way.

This month we will begin the School Supply program for our sister Church in Agua Prieta, Mexico. Last school year you made it possible for over 140 young people to have the school supplies they needed to go to school and get an education. We are most grateful to you and look forward to your participation again this year. Jan Hopke-Almer is the director and team leader for this program and can be reached at 520-818-2504.

I want to thank all the Mission Team Leaders as they lead the various Mission projects at Vista. Their commitment to our Mission work is just terrific and allows our Mission Ministry to carry on. The Mission Outreach team meets the first Wed. of every month in the Patio Room and we will meet again on May 3rd at 1:00 PM. All our Mission meetings are open to everyone at Vista and we invite you to join us as we continue to carry out the work the Lord has put before us.

Yours in Mission service:

Dee Berman Chairman

520-825-7115

deerick1968@gmail.com



This past year, once again, we invited the *Iskashitaa Refugee Program* to harvest our 3 Texas red grapefruit trees in our backyard. We had folks harvesting from many parts of the world Syria, Burundi, Somalia and the Sudan who are refugees from some very dangerous parts of the world now living in Tucson, as they have fled for their lives in their homelands. I know that many of you have citrus trees and fruit trees on your properties, and that harvest can be given to help these folks, not only for their family food needs, but for farmers markets that support their economic needs. *Please call Iskashitaa at 520-440-0100* for further information.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

HIGGINS, Dennis & Peggy 05/08
 BLEESS, Jim & Von Ceil 05/11
 TRYON, Denny & Karen 05/12
 BULL, Fred & Kim 05/25
 AUGUST, Don & Alice 05/27
 CURTIS, Gene & Carol 05/27
 ZEBAL, Ken & Liz 05/27
 DANIELS, Bill & Becki 05/28
 AUTHUR, Bob & Janelle 05/31
 PODLASEK, Ken & Diane 05/31



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

HERD, Eileen 05/05
 MEISE, Pat 05/05
 TONGA, Sela 05/05
 O'DONALD, Jay 05/06
 SMITH, Don 05/06
 HUBBARD, Jo Ann 05/08
 PHILLIPS, Allen 05/10
 FARNUM, Jeanne 05/11
 HERNANDEZ, Kiana 05/13
 MAWHINNEY, Susan 05/15
 TRYON, Denny 05/16
 YOUNG, Mary Lou 05/16
 BROWNING, Jerry 05/17
 HURLEY, Harold 05/18
 MILLER, Robert 05/21
 FUJITA-HERNANDEZ, Ami 05/23
 RUTKOWSKI, Marilyn 05/23
 CAMPBELL, Kathy 05/24



Dee and Vista Missions Committee,

Thank you very much for supporting the MS Scavenger Hunt this past weekend. We had 30 MS youth (4 from Vista), who used a bible to do a scavenger hunt at the Reid Park Zoo! We were then treated to lunch at Chik Filet, and then our final project... We talked about children in the hospital, their challenges, and their needs. Each of us were given a \$5 Target gift card and told to purchase something that a child in the hospital might want. I cannot tell you how proud I was of our group. They really put thought into it and our group pooled our funds and bought 2 fun hand held games that have different challenging levels and can be played alone or with friends. (do you know the game SIMON? that was one of their purchases) It was wonderful to be able to listen to their conversations and to watch their thought process and compassion grow!

Thank you to Missions and Vista UMC for their love and support!!!

Happy Birthday Also To:

ATWOOD, Jan 05/26
 BULL, Kim 05/26
 GOETZ, John 05/26
 HOLLOWAY, Dick 05/26
 LOZIER, Cork 05/26
 CURTIS, Gene 05/27
 GUPTILL, June 05/29
 AGUIRRE, Jasmine 05/31
 COFFMAN, Anne 05/31

Compassion Connection

<i>Date</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Visitors</i>	<i>Notes</i>
1/3	Ellen Collinge	Sonoran Splendido #720	Calls Encouraged	878-2709
4/12	Carl Terry	At home and doing well		
4/16	Don Smith	Home (good test outcome!)	No	Cards welcomed.

Home Healing

Rick Berman Rosetta Schemenauer **Angie Becker (Pat's sister)** Tricia Pohnert Lou Tompkins

Home Bound

Anyce Albers-moved to asst. living	Mildred Bellah	Jo Anne Besch
Thelma Bradfield - HOSPICE	Milt & Janet Bukes	Phyllis Calavan
Esther Dethman	Marge Leedom	Grant Robinson
Mary Raynor	Ruth Raita	



Financial Results

March income was \$7,433 below budget and expenses were \$2,162 under budget, resulting in Net Income that was \$5,271 under budget. Year-to-date, Vista UMC is \$1,755 ahead of budgeted Net Income, but we are still building back our reserve, since we paid off our mortgage 6 months early in January. We should be able to build back the operating reserve by June.

On-line Giving

Do you pay your bills automatically on-line? You can do the same with your gifts to Vista UMC. These gifts will be recorded against your pledges and it's an easy and efficient way for you to give to our wonderful Church.

Automatic Clearing House (ACH)

You can sign up for a monthly designated withdrawal from your checking account. There is no fee charged to you or the church. Many of our members use this easy method to give to the Church. If you are interested, please contact Dennis Kimmel, Financial Secretary.

Credit or Debit Card Giving

You can now give to the Church using a debit or credit card. Go to our website, vistaumc.org and on the bottom of our page is a Donate box. Click on this and it will take you to our Donate site with Vanco, a firm we use that is recommended by the Desert Southwest Conference and used by many churches nationwide. It is safe and secure, and the site will easily walk you through the set up. You can do a One Time, Weekly or Monthly gift. There is a processing fee charged to the Church of 2.75%, which you can cover, if you choose, in your payment. Contact Valerie Hammons, Pastoral Assistant or Sharon Scanlan, Finance Chair if you have any questions.



A very busy spring At Vista!

Pastor fred and the trustees, help dedicate the new addition to our parking lot. Left and below. Which was funded by Miracle Sunday!



'BAGS OF LOVE' FOR OUR CONFIRMATION KIDS:

Kiana Hernandez, Emily and Courtney Hotchkiss, Karime Penulas, Mia and Nisi tonga and Jose Salcedo, below



Left, Easter Sunrise Service led by pastor fred!

Above, Choir going in to sanctuary!



CALENDAR

VISTA de la MONTAÑA UMC
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TUCSON, AZ 85739



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VISIT US ON FACEBOOK

AND AT OUR WEBSITE:

www.Vistaumc.org



VISTA de la MONTAÑA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ECHOES

MAY 2017

**Live streaming of Vista's worship service now
available at www.vistaumc.org!**

