

VISTA de la Montaña

October 2015 ECHOES Pastor's Pen

One of John Wesley's sayings often goes through my head. He said, "Never be triflingly employed." In other words don't waste your time. Make the most out of the time that God has given you. When I was contemplating what my day would be like driving back and forth from Vista Church I knew I was going to be in my car a little under 2 hours a day. I live 30 miles from Vista Church in East Tucson and will be staying there as long as my parents are alive (mom 91 and dad 95), because I live only 10 minutes from the assisted living apartment they are in at Fellowship Square. Deede and I and our son Kevin run lots of errands for them and often on my day off I am taking one or the other to the bank or doctors. Anyway, as I contemplated the drive I realized I just couldn't listen to the radio all the time. Talk radio after a while irritates me and is repetitive and that is the same with most radio stations. They play the same music over and over again.

So, as I was thinking about this I got a catalog out of the blue called "The Great Courses". It is full of college lectures on CDs that I purchased to listen to while I drive. The first was on "Influence". The second was 24 lectures on The Story of the Bible and currently I am listening to another 24 lectures on the Old Testament. These have helped me not be 'triflingly employed' as I drive and I have really enjoyed the series. They had a sale so I bought about 72 more lectures.

As I was thinking about this article I realized that while in motion I do other things to work on my relationship with God. Most mornings I get up at 5:30am to take my dog on a short walk and then I take myself on a 50 minute walk and talk with God. I have about 50 family members and friends I pray for every morning. When I am not praying for people, I am thinking about sermons and church projects, and even daydreaming and enjoying the cool of the dawn. John Wesley must have done the same as he rode from church to church. This morning walk is my time to keep myself physically and spiritually in shape and the bonus is that every morning I take a long walk, I wind up at the Circle K for a cup of coffee.

Around Vista Church I have met other people who do things very similar to these during their daily life. We don't always have to be still to commune with God, though I had a friend once who used his time stuck at red lights to pray. Faith is a journey and I am glad I am on this journey with you. May you look for opportunities to connect with God.

My wife got a walking stick on Sunday as she joined the church and said I could use it as I walk the church grounds in case I meet a snake.

On this Journey with you!

Pastor Fred



WESTERN CHUCK WAGON

DINNER

Vista's United Methodist Women are planning a WESTERN CHUCK WAGON DINNER on Friday, November 13th at 5:00 PM.

**Tickets will be sold starting Sunday October 25th on the Patio.
Menu and other info to follow**

**Meanwhile (back at the ranch) So Dust Off Your Western Wear
And don't forget to join us for dinner and Western Theme Entertainment.**

ARIZONA ADVENTURES

Sponsored by Faith Quest Sunday School Class. Come tour historic Tubac on Saturday, October 24. We will meet at Vista Church at 9:00 am to make a caravan of shared rides to see shops and historic buildings. If you would like to explore a place you haven't been - come join the fun. Contact Dottie Lou Colby @ 825-8013 for more info.

Welcome to another exciting season of VISTA FINE ARTS



“From Classics to Jazz”

Vista Fine Arts invites you to a wonderful afternoon of music with artists Christine Vivona and Rob Boone – **Sunday, October 25th at 2:00 p.m.**

Christine and Rob perform a variety of standards on the harp, trombone and piano, featuring “Jazz Classics from the Great American Songbook.” They delight audiences with selections such as Ain’t Misbehavin’, Tenderly, Sweet Georgia Brown and many more! Christine will play some classical selections on the harp as well.

Come and listen to this entertaining couple and see why they are performing concerts all over the southwest. If you thought that harp was only for classical music you will be amazed at the versatility of this beautiful instrument. Christine is a Juilliard trained harpist with a Doctorate from the University of Arizona and Rob is an award winning trombonist, pianist, arranger and recording engineer. Rob plays in the Original Wildcat Jass Band and plays piano and trombone for Robert Shaw. Both have CDs of their own as well as having played on CDs of Linda Ronstadt, Nils Lofgren, and many local artists.

Please bring your friends to hear this amazing concert on Sunday afternoon, October 25 right here at Vista! Please note that the time for this event is 2:00 p.m. Admission is free. An offering will be taken. For more information, call 520-825-1985 or visit www.vistaumc.com.

VISTA de la MONTANA UMC FELLOWSHIP 2015 – 2016

October 18th

CHILI POTLUCK

Sign up after services or call *BARBARA SHERMAN* at 825-5426 to bring Red and White Meat or Veggie Chili or Corn Bread and Butter or dessert

November 11th WEDNESDAY

American Hotdog Roast Tailgate

Bring Your Own Everything Plus a dish to pass around.

December To Be Announced

January

State Potluck Dinner (Instead of Birthday PotLuck)

February

Bake Potato Bar and Ice Cream Bar

\$10 per person. Proceeds go to *No More Malaria*

March

Easter 27th Breakfast Potluck

April

Picnic at Catalina State Park after services

May 1st

Cinco de Mayo Taco Bar Potluck

GAME NIGHT EVERY 4TH TUESDAY AT 6 PM IN ED'S BUILDING

Mission Outreach Ministry

Fall is here and our desert is finally cooling down, but our Mission work is heating up and our **Fall Mission** activities are in full swing. The month of October will be full of activities in preparation for our October 31st trip to Agua Prieta, Mexico just across the border from Douglas, Arizona, November will be our selected food drive for the Tucson Hospitality Inn, and December and January will be our **Warm Winter Drive for Impact/CCS**. In November and December we will be selling lovely handmade Thanksgiving and Christmas cards along with the all occasion cards. As always once a month, we will have our Fair Traded coffee from the Colonia for you to enjoy and give as gifts. As you can see Vista is in the Mission business. Here is some information that will help you to get involved.

The **Celebration of Learning** festivities with our sister church **Fuente de Vida in Agua Prieta, Mexico** on Oct. 31st will honor 40 students for their scholastic achievements in the past school year. You are invited to join us for the day as we travel to Agua Prieta on a comfortable touring bus. At this writing we have signed up 35 Vista folks but still have 13 seats left. This would be a great time for you to get to meet your, school supply, sponsored child. Your presence would mean a great deal to them and you will get to know them in person and not just have a picture of them in your home. We hope you will join us for a fun day of celebration program, lunch, crafts and games. This is the highlight of the school year for these terrific kids. We leave Vista at 7:00 AM and plan to be back by 6:00PM the same evening. *Remember, you must have a current US Passport to go with us.* Please call me at 825-7115 for further information.

In November we will be selling Cards from the women's Co-op in Agua Prieta for Thanksgiving and Christmas as well as Colonia coffee. We will also be collecting selected food products for The Tucson Hospitality Inn, Please see Kay Gragg's report for details on page 10.

In December we begin our Warm Winter program for Impact. We collect both new and gently used clean bedding as well as winter coats and winter wear. So please save those items for us. There will be a collection box in the Narthex. Please call **Benith MacPherson at 520-825-5891** for further information.

Continued on next page

Missions continued

This past Sunday I represented Vista at a Southeast UMC district wide Mission meeting at Catalina UMC. We are looking at what Mission Outreach activities we might do together to reach out to the community in the greater Tucson area. One of the programs that we want to implement in all of the 13 Tucson Methodist churches is the Snak Pac program. I was pleased to report to the group that we have been doing the Snak Pak program for several years now at Coronado School as well as our other Mission Projects. Vista is making a difference in this world and I thank all of you for your continued support of the Mission work at Vista.

Our next Mission meeting will be on the 7th of October at 1:00 PM in Ed's building. We have a lot of work to do to get ready for our trip to Agua Prieta. Pastor Gela and her helpers will be picking up all the supplies, games, and prizes on Oct. 9th so we have to get it all ready. Please come and help us get ready for the trip. We truly can use your help even if you are not going on the trip. If you can't come that day, I ask for your prayers for us on the trip that God will give us a safe passage and let His face shine upon this Celebration of Learning Festival. Once again thank you Vista for all you do for others and for all the donations you have made to make this event be a great success. I shall have a report for you in the November Echoes.

Yours in Mission service:

Dee BermanChairman of Vista's Mission Outreach Ministry

520-825-7115 or deerick1968@gmail.com



HATHAWAY, Jim & Elsie

10/04

BODE, Jerry & Jan

10/09

TRACY, Keith & Carole

10/26

BELYEA, Dana	10/08
DOSSETT, Gwen	10/09
KELLEY, Ed	10/09
BERMAN, Rick	10/10
RICHARDS, Bill	10/11
NEWMAN, Wayne	10/18
COLLINGE, Ellen	10/20
POHNERT, Patricia	10/22
HEDRICK, Susanne	10/24
HOAGLUND, Coralyn	10/25
LEONARD, Jon	10/25
ORAM, Joy	10/29
LINDAHL, Carol	10/30

*happy
birthday !!*



BOB WARREN, 10/28

He will be 99 !

NEW MEMBERS

Here is a list of our newest members. Please give them a warm Vista de la Montana welcome! A picture of our newest members will be posted on the Bulletin Board soon.

Bob & Janelle Authur

Recently moved here and are transferring from Oakdale United Methodist in West Boylston, MA

Bill & Dixie Ayers

Are transferring from Asbury United Methodist, Birmingham, AL.

George & Kathleen Bauder

Have been singing in our choir for a number of years, will be transferring their membership from Wheat Ridge UMC in CO.

Dave & Nancy Brackett

Are former members who have returned after a number of years in TN.

Shirley DeVries

is transferring her membership from United Methodist in Washington State.

Myrna Holmes

Has transferred from Broad Street UMC in Portsmouth, VA.

Harold Hurley & Tinkerbelle

Has been attending regularly for a while and is now transferring his membership from Oracle Baptist Church.

Margaret Overman

Has been attending Vista almost a year and is transferring her membership from Dawson Baptist Church in North Carolina

Noel & Jan Rytter

Have visited here previously and have recently moved here. They are transferring their membership from First UMC in Peoria, IL

Deede Baum

Soon to be Grandmother to Sweet Pea! Also is Pastor Fred's wife!

Dave & Rocio Munton

They have visited here several times recently and have already volunteered for the Stewardship team, as well as Finance & Missions.

The have 2 children, girls:

Karime, age 12 is in the 7th grade

Sinai, age 6, is in Kindergarten

Both girls have been accepted as Preparatory Members

Say hello, get a cup of coffee for them or a snack! Make them feel welcome!!!



**GETTING READY FOR
CELEBRATION OF LEARNING**



TUCSON HOSPITALITY INN

FOOD DRIVE: I know it's only October but I want to give you a heads up about a food drive coming in **NOVEMBER. PLEASE HELP THI FILL ITS PANTRY!** Lou Tompkins, Manager of THI, stocks a pantry so guests can have breakfast and emergency food items. Imagine this: you check into the Inn having driven from the airport or a long distance from your home. You or your loved one is sick and due to be hospitalized, tested, operated on. You are tired and hungry and don't know the city and don't feel like hunting down a place to eat or finding a grocery store. But from the pantry, Lou offers you soup and other food items to get you by until you can get to the store. That's what many guests experience as they come to the Inn to stay.

Needed are these specific items: canned fruit, canned Franco American Spaghetti and Ravioli, Progresso canned Chicken Noodle and Vegetable Soups, and variety packages of individual servings of cereal. (Please no sugar cereals.) If everyone brought just one item listed, think how much we would have to give! So when you're out shopping this month, consider picking up some items for the Pantry Drive. Starting in November there will be a box labeled for Tucson Hospitality Inn in the Narthex for your donations.

When I talked with Lou the second week of September, the Inn was 2/3rd full. All of the guests will be long term: Nadia from Egypt is there having rhino surgery; Kate from Sierra Vista is there because her husband is having an amputation due to diabetes; the Lopez family from Yuma is there because the father has cancer. Please keep these guests and their loved ones in your prayers.

As to the physical plant, the roof on the storage shed and office had just been finished, and a new problem of rain leaking around the windows on the north side of the building had been discovered. The trim around the windows had to be replaced and the issue was addressed.

It is not too early to consider a tax deductible donation to the Inn before the end of 2015. All monetary donations are tax deductible as THI is 501 (c) (3) Organization. But it is also a Qualifying Charitable Non-Profit Organization and as such if you are resident of Arizona, you can get dollar for dollar tax credit on your Arizona taxes; the limits are up to \$200 for singles and up to \$400 for couples. If you wish to donate, please send your check to Tucson Hospitality Inn, 2539 East Edison Street, Tucson, AZ 85716 so you can receive a letter of thanks proving you have made this donation. All donations made directly to the Inn will be acknowledged with a letter.

Kay Gragg, THI Team Leader

Consecration Sunday is Coming

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's finance committee has selected the New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. New Consecration Sunday encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an Estimate of Giving Card does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

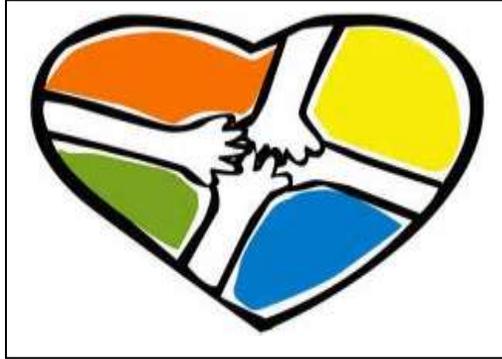
We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and Church Council members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Church Council Chairperson,

Pete Schwartz



Vista's Congregational Care Committee provides services to our members in need. - Food, rides, shopping, etc.

However, our original group of 13 has dwindled to 5 members.

We need You.

If you are willing to provide meals or rides occasionally please call **Sandy Schwartz at 818-9792.**

**VISTA de la MONTANA
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
3001 E. MIRAVIST LANE
TUCSON, AZ**

**OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
8:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.**

Phone: 520/825/1985

E-mail: Vista UMC @aol.com

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.Vistaumc.org**



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