



VISTA de la MONTAÑA

ECHOES

Pastor's Pen

One of the most enjoyable projects I have undertaken off and on during my ministry is the creation of devotionals for the Advent and Lenten seasons. No, I don't write the whole devotional myself, maybe one or two of the devotions, but I have the members of the Congregation share with me and the entire congregation stories that are fascinating and inspiring. I have been deeply touched and inspired by the stories shared not only with me but the entire congregation. It has helped us

deepen and strengthen our relationship with each other and with God.

I have two devotionals in mind. The one for Advent I would like to hear stories of love and home at Christmas. What is the best gift you have ever given? What is the best gift you have ever received? Have you been blessed with a special homecoming or goodbye during the Advent/Christmas season? My older brother David was married on Dec. 7th because shortly thereafter his bride, who was a captain in the Air Force, flew her plane off to war. Her plane was the first in. It was a harrowing time for my brother, but God saw him through. One year an older member of the congregation shared with the youth that the best gift he had ever received at Christmas was an orange. The youth were fascinated by his gratitude for such a simple gift as they dreamed of all sorts of electronic devices that soon would be obsolete and forgotten.

The format I would like to receive these in is: 1. The story, 2. A relevant scripture. If you can't think of one I will. I hope to gather these stories by November 1 so we can have an Advent devotional ready for the church on the First Sunday of Advent November 27th. I can't stress how much this has blessed congregations and individual members in the past. It is a great way of sharing the love of God that has come into your life with others.

For the Lenten Season I am looking for stories of Heaven, healing, passing over and the Holy Spirit working in your life. Recently, several people have shared with me stories of death and near death experiences, healings and other powerful workings of God. Again I would like you to write these down and get them to me for a publication of a devotional for Lent. You can pick a scripture to go with them, or I can pick one. Some of the stories I have read so far have deeply inspired me. Stories may be edited for length, grammar, spelling etc. Once received it is assumed permission for publication is granted.

Continued on Page 2

Continued from Page1 **PASTOR PEN**

You can email me your stories at vistaspastorfred@aol.com or simply send them to the office or hand them off to me on Sunday morning. And if you like to help get publications together (ie. Edit) I could use your help on this project. Just let me know.

In Christ's love

Pastor Fred

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry is a program of Vista's congregation that equips lay persons to provide distinctively Christian one-to-one care to individuals who are experiencing all kinds of life needs and circumstances, both in our congregation and surrounding communities. The Ministers are commissioned after 50 hours of training and then participate in monthly peer supervision and continuing education programs. It does not replace other care ministries at Vista such as the prayer chain or the Intercessory Prayer Team nor does it replace our pastor's on-going pastoral care. Stephen Ministry provides Christian care to more people than the pastor can reach by himself. Stephen Ministers provide confidential care to persons based on their needs for extended periods of time.

Since 1975, more than 600,000 Christian men and women from all walks of life have trained and served as Stephen Ministers. Most became a Stephen Minister as a way to help others who were hurting—but they quickly discovered that God blesses them in amazing ways in return.

Here are several testimonies of the impact of serving as a Stephen Minister:

“With God's blessing, a Stephen Minister is called to encourage and to help others. Training in a unique One-to-One ministry, provided by Lay Stephen Ministers and Pastors, has allowed me an opportunity to reach out in love, to listen, and to walk along to help bear another's burden. Jesus said. ‘As I have loved you, so you must love one another.’ John 13:3b

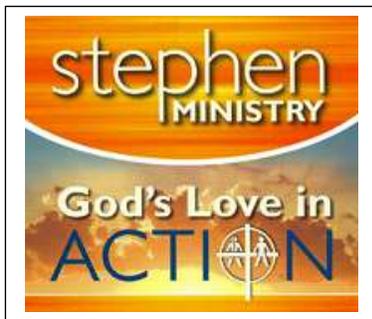
This ministry of compassion is why I find such great joy knowing that Jesus is the ‘CUREGIVER’ that leads to the best possible care for my care receiver.”

--Sharon, Vista Stephen Minister

“Being a Stephen Minister has meant my being more aware of the “human condition” and how interconnected we really are; it's meant I continue to gain a better understanding of God's love for us, and of how He works in our lives each and every day; it's meant trying to better reflect God's love to others and to more clearly see that love reflected from others to me.”

--Louise, Vista Stephen Minister

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From StephenMinistry.org:

“Being a Stephen Minister has been a blessing in so many ways. It’s drawn me closer to God. It’s allowed me to be Christ’s presence to another person—an amazing feeling. And it’s made me part of a loving, caring family of Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders who support each other in their ministry.”

--Frank, Stephen Minister (U.S. Navy (Retired) Ballwin, Missouri)

Vista de la Montaña UMC is currently recruiting for Stephen Ministers for our congregation. Training will begin in January 2017. Please consider this dynamic ministry and the opportunity to serve others as they walk through their challenges and trials in life. You will be BLESSED and forever changed! Speak to Stephen Leaders: Karen Rice (520) 370-6408 or Bernie Kenney (586) 381-4303 or to any of our Stephen Ministers.

PLEASE HELP US!

It is our privileged and joy to pray for you every Wednesday morning and during the week on our own time. We have a practice of keeping names on the list for 30 days and if cancer is involved it will be 90 days. If we here about the situation we will update it. But we are a growing church and may not be in contact with you. You can help us by bringing us up to date. You can contact the following by e -mail or phone.

Dorothy Conner
Mary Lou Young
Linda Whitlach

Thank you for your help.



JOE BOURNE OPENS VISTA FINE ARTS SEASON

Tucson favorite, Joe Bourne, will open the 2016-2017 season of Vista Fine Arts with “Remembering Mr. Cole,” a tribute to Nat King Cole. Joe, with his smooth vocal quality so reminiscent of Nat's, will be joined by a trio of Sly Slypetsky/Piano, Matt Mitchell/Guitar and Scott Black/Bass. Please join us on Sunday afternoon, October 9, at 3:00 p.m. at Vista.

Nat King Cole was a major force in popular music for three decades. His rich voice, warmth, intimacy, and good humor allowed him to succeed with both ballads and novelties, such that he scored over 100 pop chart singles and more than two dozen albums over a period of 20 years, enough to rank him behind only Sinatra as the most successful pop singer of his generation.

Joe Bourne was greatly inspired by Nat King Cole and Joe's own singing style is likewise smooth, mellow, warm and rich. He performs extensively throughout Southern Arizona, featuring a broad repertoire ranging from Popular, Jazz, Gospel and R & B music to a fusion of classical themes with easy listening arrangements. His career has taken him all over the United States and Europe, making radio and TV commercials, performing with artists such as The Stylistics, Natalie Cole, The Manhattans, The Pointer Sisters, and Dionne Warwick, and releasing numerous CDs. His engagements have included venues and corporate events in such places as Scandinavia, Australia, Aruba, Indonesia, Great Britain, Spain, Germany, Italy and Switzerland. Numerous television shows culminated in a Christmas TV special with the renowned Ray Charles, filmed in Germany and televised in various markets throughout the world.

Joe's mission statement is: "To lift the spirits of those who I have the privilege of entertaining and to have an abundance of fun while doing so." Those who have heard Joe, know this is what happens at his performances – spirits lifted and lots of fun. Join us on October 9, sit back and experience a “King Cole” moment. We promise you it will be “Unforgettable”! The concert is free. A suggested donation of \$10 is appreciated. All are welcome. See you there!

WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT!

Vista Fine Arts is self-supporting -- our programs receive no monetary support from the church and are made possible only through your generous donations. When you contribute to Vista Fine Arts, you are enabling us to bring high-quality programs to the northwest Tucson community. We appreciate your support – both by your attendance and by your gifts. We want to continue offering our events without charge, and are therefore suggesting that each attendee consider a donation of \$10. These donations are tax deductible, with any checks made out to Vista UMC and specifically marked for Vista Fine Arts.

The Worship Support Committee is looking for two members to be responsible volunteers for the Altar Guild position. For further details, please contact



Loni Degen, Chair of Worship Support Tel: 520/ 268 9972 or

E-mail : lonisden@yahoo.com

Mission Outreach Ministry

Senior Activity Center – a Project of Mission Outreach

BIRTHDAY OF THE MONTH CELEBRATION!

One of the newer projects Vista has initiated is a monthly Birthday Celebration for those eating lunch at the Senior Activity Center in Catalina. Eligible seniors gather at the Center three times a week for a hot meal. On the fourth Thursday of the month, each person who has a birthday during that month receives special recognition from Vista volunteers. Attendees then participate in a simple activity planned by Vista members. Last month, Beto, one of Vista's interns from Juarez, Mexico, played his guitar for those gathered. One older Hispanic gentleman heartily joined in the singing and even strummed a few chords to others' delight.

The Missions team welcomes additional volunteers for this outreach endeavor. We would like to have four to six Vista members at each birthday celebration. Your role would be to engage participants in conversation, assist in serving cake, and help others complete the planned craft or activity. Our goal is to provide a stimulating atmosphere that encourages positive interactions and caring relationships among attendees. **Please contact Benith MacPherson (825-5891, Benithmac@aol.com) for more information.**

PS: Please remember that the 1st Sunday of every month is The food Bank Sunday for Impact. The food cart will be in the breezeway for your food contributions, or you may use the envelopes in the registration Redbooks to place your checks in. Please write "food bank" in the Memo line. Thank you so much for your continued support!

Mission Outreach Ministry

Fall is here and we are headed for our big fall event, “**The Celebration of Learning Festival**” with our sister Church, **Fuente de Vida in Agua Prieta Mexico** on October 29th.

On Sept. 19th we had a packing day and we had a good number of folks who came to help us assemble the Mother’s bags and pack and get ready to deliver the supplies. Thank you so much to all of you who came to help. We cannot do the Ministry that we do at Vista without the good work you all, so willingly supply. Yesterday the 23rd, Jan Hopke- Almer, Dan Boring, Glenna Snider and I, drove to Benson Az. and delivered to Pastor Gela, Associate Pastor Armando, Youth Director Sara Paloma, Children’s Ministry Director Martha and Missionary Peggy Thornhill, (**see photos next page**) two car loads of all the goods you have donated for this grand event. We met at the Horseshoe Café and Bakery, had a great lunch, a productive business meeting, and then an exchange in the parking lot, of suitcases full of prizes for the games and supplies and plastic crates full of the bags made up for the mothers of the students that will be receiving Certificated of Achievement for their B+ or better grades received thru their good work this last school year. We honor the Mothers for keeping their children in school and encouraging them to get an education. When we get to Agua Prieta, on Saturday the 29th, the ladies of the Co-op will have all these things set up and ready to go in the prize room and we can go right into our program and start our day of celebration. Pastor Gela tells me that these kids look forward to this special day all year long, and so do we. I have been doing sign ups for the bus, for the last 2 Sundays and already have 32 seats filled of the 48 that are available, so if you want to join us please let me know very soon, as we have invited the folks from Sun Lakes and St Marks to join us, but we took names from Vista first. Remember that you must have a current US Passport to go with us. You can obtain a passport by mail with forms off the Internet in about 3 weeks. See me for more information if you wish to go on the trip. It would mean a great deal to your sponsored a child to meet you, and to you too. To meet a stranger from another country who cares enough to reach out to a child who is unknown to them and gives that child a hand up is not done in most places. I am often asked why we do this. We may not think that “\$25.00 is no big deal” But dear folks it is!!!

We have been contacted by **Operation Barnabas**, an organization that helps Military Families. We have been assisting with the Sierra family, a family of 7. He was injured in Afghanistan and is receiving medical treatment at the VA in Tucson. We have provided the family with a Jr bed for the 2 yr. old but we still need a baby crib for the 9 mo. old that is sleeping in a play pen and a baby gate and we need some lamps for the rooms of the house that the VA has provided for the family. Jan Bohe and her team of Creative Hands have provided some lovely children’s clothes for the children, who range from 9 months to 7 years. We can use some diaper size 5, if you want to pick up a package, next time you are at the grocery store and drop them in the Mission baskets in the Narthex that would be a great help. Folks this is hands on Mission work. This young father is retraining to a new career at Pima College, as he will not be able to return to his former work. His wife is working part time and is helping as much as she can. Please pray for this family as this is a big readjustment to a new life for them.

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A great lunch, a productive business meeting an exchange of supplies!

Getting ready for

“The Celebration of Learning Festival”

OCTOBER 29TH

These are great times in the life of Vista Church and we invite you to join us at our next Mission Outreach Meeting that will take Place on Wed. Oct. 5th at 1:00 PM. Our meetings are open to everyone and you will be welcomed. Remember that our goal is for everyone at Vista to be in Mission!!

Yours in Mission Service:

***Dee Berman Director 520-825-7115
deerick1968@gmail.com***

CYFM KICKS OFF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR WITH A BANG!

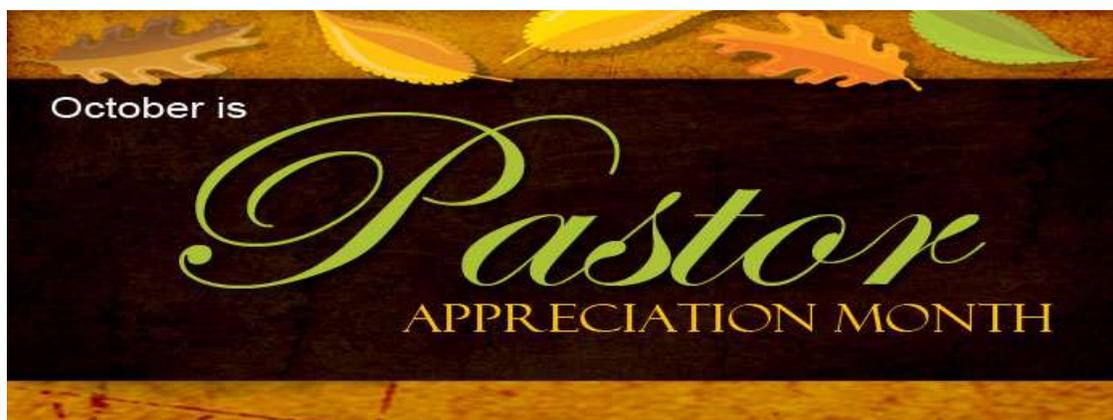
It's certainly been a busy Fall so far for all the kids and staff at Children's Youth and Family Ministry! Now that the kids are back in school, with all the excitement of the new school year – some with new schools, new friends, new teachers, and all the new activities – we are getting into gear again for many new projects.

First of all, it was a pleasure to welcome our new *Pastoral Assistant, Valerie Hammons*. A special thank you goes out to *Jean Rupe, Loni Degen, Gerry Alberts and Shirley Miller* for going in and cleaning out the old CYFM Office so that Valerie could have a bright new one for all her many jobs she has taken on. Valerie comes to us with a lot of experience with children and Youth, and we are truly grateful for her. She has sat in on and participated in the classes for both the younger students and the Youth, and she has some great ideas that she has already shared. First of all, she is helping to coordinate a joint camp-out for several of our kids and the group at Desert Skies on Mt. Lemmon the night of Oct. 1st. Valerie has also shared information on an upcoming lock-in and music concert in Phoenix in November, and she is finding many interested young people here at Vista.

Both Sunday School classes are preparing a different kind of Children's Moment – one which they will present to the congregation. In addition, the Youth Group has volunteered to take over the coffee sales after church. Watch for some very colorful signs and enthusiastic sales people! They are also looking forward to coordinating many social activities in the future. As always, we bless you all for your continuing support!

Blessings,

Barbara Johnson



VISTA'S CELEBRATIONS AND HAPPENINGS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

AYERS, Billy Wayne	10/05
PENUELAS, Karime	10/07
BELYEA, Dana	10/08
DOSSETT, Gwendolyn	10/09
KELLEY, Ed	10/09
BERMAN, Rick	10/10
RICHARDS, Bill	10/11
PEATE, Maxx	10/13
NEWMAN, Wayne	10/18
COLLINGE, Ellen	10/20
TONGA, Michelle	10/21
POHNERT, Patricia	10/22
HEDRICK, Susanne	10/24
HOAGLUND, Coralyn	10/25
LEONARD, Jon	10/25
PHILLIPS, Barbara	10/26
TONGA, Nanisi	10/27
ORAM, Joy	10/29
LINDAHL, Carol	10/30
HERNANDEZ, Lauren	10/31

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

PERAKIS, Alex & Jenny	10/02
HATHAWAY, Jim & Elsie	10/04
BODE, Jerry & Jan	10/09
SCANLAN, Sharon & Steve	10/26
TRACY, Keith and Carole	10/26

RUMMAGE SALE

OCTOBER 7, 8, and 9TH

FOR MORE INFO

CALL HOWARD YOUNG

JIM BLEESSE

OR CHURCH OFFICE

WALK TO BETHLEM

DECEMBER 7TH 8TH AND 9TH

CALL PAM HOLDER

OR

ROBIN CONNER

OR CHURCH OFFICE

CHURCH PICNIC AT CATALINA STATE PARK

BRING YOUR OWN EVERYTHING! PLUS A DISH TO SHARE!

OUTDOOR GAMES AND A GUIDED HIKE

AND GREAT FELLOWSHIP

NOVEMBER 6TH 1 PM

CALL BARBARA SHERMAN FOR MORE INFO

CHURCH CHARGE CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 23, 2 PM

UMW SOUP BONAZA

OCTOBER 28TH

TICKETS ON SALE

AFTER SERVICES



SNAK PAKS

In September Vista began its sixth year of participation in the Snak Pak program. During 36 weeks of the school year Vista and Santa Catalina Catholic Church provide Snak Paks for 60 children at Coronado K-8 School who have been judged to be nutritionally at risk, particularly over the weekend.. Volunteers from Vista pick up the food in bulk at the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona and deliver it to Vista, where volunteers from Vista and Santa Catalina Catholic Church assemble it into Snak Paks, which are delivered to the school on Thursday afternoon and distributed to the 60 students at the end of the school day. The cost to Vista is \$4000 a school year and to Santa Catalina \$5,500.

The Snak Paks alternate each week between two different menus

Menu #1

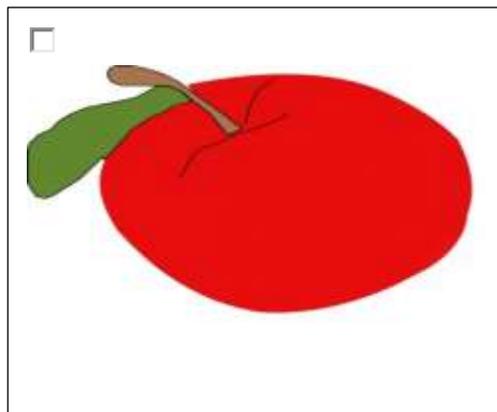
Cheerios cereal bowl
Sunflower seeds
Oatmeal packet
Fruit and grain breakfast bar
Carton of 1% shelf –stable milk
Potato
Orange cup
Apple
Campbell’s chicken noodle soup
Macaroni and cheese
Pretzels

Menu #2

Rice Chex cereal bowl
Applesauce cup (blueberry)
FiberOne Chocolate bar
Carton of 1% shelf-stable milk
Yam
Fruit cup
Apple
Campbell’s vegetable soup
Sun butter
Tuna packet
Whole wheat crackers

Vista members and friends have been incredibly generous with their gifts of time and money to this program, and the children thank you. It does make a difference in their lives and the teachers say it makes a big difference in their readiness to learn.

Kathy Campbell



VISTA de la MONTAÑA UMC
3001 EAST MIRAVISTA LANE
TUCSON, AZ 85739

OFFICE HOURS
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
8:30 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

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E-mail: vistaumc@aol.com

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK:
Vista (space) UMC

AND AT OUR WEBSITE:
www.Vistaumc.org



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U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

TUCSON, AZ

PERMIT #648



Through the first eight months of 2016, Vista de la Montana UMC is ahead of our 2016 income budget and expenses are on budget.

	Aug. 2016 YTD	Aug. YTD Budget	Difference
Total Income	\$317,741	\$307,100	\$10,641
Total Expense	301,208	300,592	825
General Fund Income	\$17,741	\$5,829	\$10,025



The mortgage has been reduced to \$85,264 and will be paid off by July 2017.

The Finance Team