



*Pastor Mary Dotson
3001 E Miravista Lane
Tucson, AZ 85739*

Vista United Methodist Church Welcomes Pastor Mary Dotson!

Vista de la Montana United Methodist Church is looking forward to welcoming our new Pastor, Rev. Mary Dotson. For the past four years, Pastor Dotson has been assigned to the Green Valley United Methodist Church in Henderson, Nevada and prior to that, she served the First United Methodist Church, in Safford, Arizona. Pastor Mary was raised in a family of pastors, with her father, grandfather, great-grandfather and several uncles all serving in the Mennonite, Church of the Brethren. Although she believed that she was being called to the ministry, that denomination that did not permit women to serve as pastors, so after graduating from college, she taught English as a second language in Tokyo, Japan.

Pastor Mary has said that it wasn't until her two children were in high school, that she again was called to ordained ministry and attended the American Baptist Seminary in Philadelphia. While completing a yearlong internship with a large Methodist Church she became a member of the United Methodist Church and began the process of completing her ordination.

Mary's husband, Ash Dotson had a career working with the U. S. Air Force as a guidance systems analyst and later worked as a test engineer on rocket and satellite motors before he was called to the ministry. He was then licensed and appointed as an associate pastor while completing seminary and later served four different appointments in the east. Most recently, he has been serving the Page Community United Methodist Church near Las, Vegas, Nevada and has now been appointed to serve the Methodist Church in Eloy, Arizona.

Desert Southwest Conference District Superintendent Matt Ashley has described Pastor Mary as "a gifted pastoral leader, preacher, and administrator" and a caring listener who will build strong relationships with people throughout the congregation". Clearly, we are all pleased to have Pastor Mary appointed to serve at Vista de la Montana and welcome all in our community to join us as she leads us in our walk with Christ.

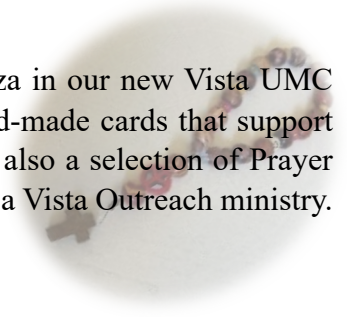
Gift to be Simple

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where I ought to be;
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gained,
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed;
to turn, turn, will be my delight.
Till by turning, turning we come round right.

Joseph Brackett



Greeting Cards and Prayer Beads are now available on the credenza in our new Vista UMC Library any hours the office is open! Stop in and find a wonderful selection of hand-made cards that support Fuente de Vida Economic Development. There is a box for your payment. There is also a selection of Prayer Beads that are available to you, your family and friends at no charge. Prayer Beads are a Vista Outreach ministry. The beads are also available on the table in the Narthex.



Who has been behind Vista's chancel piano this summer?

Devin Gardner has 35 years' experience within the field of music, beginning piano studies at age 6, and adding oboe several years later. In 1997, Devin was

awarded a fellowship with the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington DC, allowing him to gain further experience while working closely with principal players within the NSO, as well as visiting guest artists. Along with principal spots in the American Youth Philharmonic, Devin studied and performed chamber music at the Levine School of Music, where he had the opportunity to work alongside guest artists such as Itzhak Perlman and Leon Fleisher. Attending Cincinnati Conservatory of Music on scholarship, Mr. Gardner went on to further obtain degrees with full tuition scholarships from George Mason University and the University of Arizona. Devin currently maintains a private piano and oboe studio and serves as an accompanist for the woodwind department at the UofA. He is especially fond of modern French flute repertoire, with Dutilleux, Bozza, and Jolivet being some of his favorite composers. In addition, Mr. Gardner performs throughout Arizona and Texas with the Arizona Opera, Sierra Vista Symphony, El Paso Symphony, and St. Philips in the Hills. Living in the scenic Foothills with his two beautiful dogs Venkman and Zeddemore--named after two of his favorite Ghostbusters--he is also an avid participant in bowling, pool, and darts, and enjoys walking with his dogs all over Oro Valley and Marana.

Thank you, Devon, for playing beautiful music and enhancing our Worship services! We're glad you're here!

*Stephen Ministers are sometimes referred to as
“The After People”*

STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE THERE

- ... after the phone call in the middle of the night that changes life forever
- ... after the funeral, when everyone has left and his emotions held at bay come crashing in
- ... after the email announcing a new round of layoffs suddenly appears in her inbox
- ... after the doctor says, “I’m sorry, but there’s nothing else we can do.”
- ... after the youngest child pulls out of the hug and heads into the dorm— followed by a long drive back to an empty house
- ... after the retirement community director says, “Welcome to your new home.”
- ... after the divorce papers are served and she wonders if she’ll ever trust anyone again.
- ... after the gavel goes down, the handcuffs go on, and his loved one is led away
- ... after the fire, when rebuilding a home feels impossible
- ... after family and friends have heard his story one too many times, but he still needs to talk it out.
- ... after the baby comes home, demanding more of her than she ever imagined possible

Stephen Ministers are trained lay caregivers who provide emotional and spiritual support to people going through difficult times in life, providing hope and healing in the midst of their pain. Please call the church office if you would like to learn more about Stephen Ministry.

Important Information from Finance

The week of July 21-26 all the finance people who write checks will be out of town. Please put your yellow sheets with receipts in Sharon’s box.

Signs and Labels in Public Areas and on Church Equipment

We have worked very hard to clean-up our beautiful facilities in the last six months and we want to maintain a very professional appearance. It is Church policy that there will be **no hand-written signs or labels** in the meeting rooms, classrooms, Narthex, and Sanctuary of the church campus. A label-maker is available in the Church Office. Signs can be printed on a computer. If you have hand-written labels or signs on any of your equipment, please replace them.

Sharon Scanlan

Academy for Spiritual Formation

There will be more information as we get closer to registration deadline. If you have questions please contact Gail Parson.

SAVE THE DATE!



"SINGING THE EARTH'S SONG: LAMENT, PRAISE, PRAYER"

A Three-day Academy for
Spiritual Formation

April 22-25, 2025

at Redemptorist Renewal Center, Tucson

Sponsored by the
Desert Southwest Conference
Spiritual Formation Committee
and the Conference Earth Care Task Force.

Registration begins June 20, 2024 at:
<https://dscumc.org/event/3-day-academy-for-spiritual-formation/>

For more information, contact:
Jerry Haas (jndhaas@gmail.com);
Susan Morgan (sravenmorgan@gmail.com);
or Gail Parson (gailma@comcast.net)



Christian Education

Please join us July 10, 17, 24, 31 for the remainder of the First Persons stories presented by Jim and Linda Galka. Wednesday 10 a.m. in Elizabeth room.

A little humor 😊

1. What is a physics teacher's favorite Bible verse? [Romans 8:39](#): "Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."
3. How do we know God likes coffee? Because the Bible says, He brews.
4. Why wasn't Boaz a nice man before he got married? He was Ruth-less.
5. Aside from Adam & Eve, who in the Bible had no parents? Joshua, son of Nun ("none").
6. A man gets on an airplane and sees a nun praying fervently beside him. "Are you afraid of flying?" he asks. "Flying, no. Crashing, yes."
7. "A priest, a rabbi, and a minister walk into a bar. The bartender says, 'What is this, a joke?'"
8. How do you make holy water? Put water in a pot and boil the hell out of it.
9. What did Moses say when he came down the mountain and saw the Israelites worshipping a golden calf? Holy cow!
10. Who was the world's first comedian? Samson. He brought the house down.
11. Need a boat? I Noah guy.

12. The Pharisees believe in the resurrection of the dead, but the [Sadducees](#) don't. That's why they're sad, you see.



July 2024

Anniversaries

MACPHERSON, Craig & Benith	07/02
HILLMANN, Bill & Mary Jane	07/11
HERD, Bob & Eileen	07/21
GROTH, William & Anne	07/24
ROCHE, AJ & Eryn	07/26
BERMAN-TOMPKINS, Dee	07/31
TOMPKINS, Gifford	07/31

Birthdays

CROWSON, Betty	07/02
GURECK, William	07/02
EXTRACT, Laurie	07/03
HUNT, Sharon	07/04
BOHE, Janice	07/06
RADKE, Dan	07/07
SALCEDO, Jose	07/07
ELSON, Polly	07/08
OELRICH, Shawn	07/08
MACPHERSON, Craig	07/11
PERAKIS, Alex	07/11
GRAGG, Kay	07/12
MARQUARDT, Carla	07/13
SPRINGER, Jan	07/14
UPDEGROVE, Virginia	07/15
GROTH, William	07/16
LECORNU, Yvonne	07/19
MARKS, Peggy	07/22
POOLE, Sharon	07/22
LEONARD, Carolyn	07/25
WYLAND, Sharon	07/25
ROBINSON, Joan	07/26
YOUNG, Joe	07/26
EXTRACT, Steven	07/27
ODELL, Carol	07/27
MARQUARDT, John	07/28
NEVINS, Dick	07/28

August 2024

Anniversaries

CROWN, John & Jan	08/09
YOUNG, Howard & Mary Lou	08/09
BAUM, Deede & Fred	08/15
SPENCER, Phyllis & Dan	08/16
EXTRACT, Clif & Laurie	08/17
ROBERSON, Walt & Mary Louise	08/19
LARMOUR, Paul & Margaret	08/22
MEHLHORN, Mary-Ann & Peter	08/23
BELLAH, Bill & Mary	08/26
WILSON, Syd & Carol	08/27

Birthdays

FLOYD, Linda	08/04
TONGA, Sela	08/05
HIGGINS, Peggy	08/06
PODLASEK, Ken	08/08
JACKSON, Ginny	08/09
MOYER, JennaRae	08/12
OELRICH, Paul	08/12
TEWART, Caitlin Gail	08/12
HARWICK, Kailyn	08/13
HOTCHKISS, Michelle	08/13
RICHARDSON, Lisa	08/13
SNIDER, Glenna	08/13
INGLE, Sharon	08/14
ALLIGOOD, Edna	08/15
HOLDEN, Jackie	08/15
RADTKE, Gene	08/17
BORING, Daniel	08/19
KRAVITZ, Pam	08/19
OLSON, Ron	08/20
ISAAC, Kathleen	08/21
KELLEY, Lynn	08/21
ROBERSON, Mary Louise	08/22
WHITE, Natassja	08/23
YOUNG, Howard	08/23
DUCKETT, Florence	08/25
ALBERTS, Gerry	08/27
VALDER, Linda	08/27
ERIKSSON, Lars	08/29
PROKOP, Frank	08/29
RUPE, Jean	08/31