

Echoes

December 2010

Vista de la Montana United Methodist Church
Reaching our community with Open hearts, Open minds, Open Doors



Reverend Monte J. Baker
Senior Pastor

It was Christmas Eve 1223 at Greco, Italy, not far from Francis' hometown of Assisi. Clattering feet rang on the stony path up the mountainside and voices hummed excitedly. Then the footsteps and voices stopped abruptly. Torches and candles lit up the entrance to a cave in the mountain. Within the flickering shadows of the cave the watchers could make out the gently breathing forms of an ox and a donkey, standing patiently beside the carved wooden figure of a baby in a crib.

As the villagers watched, St. Francis began to tell the story of the first Christmas, taking the part of each character in turn. For too long the incarnation had been a subject to be studied by learned people. Francis was determined that ordinary men, women, and children should understand what it meant for Jesus to be born in a stable in Bethlehem.

Vista is reviving its most celebrated Christmas tradition this year. The Walk to Bethlehem will be our opportunity to go in body and in spirit to the place of our savior's birth; to invite him into our hearts



and homes. I invite you to "come to Bethlehem and see" and to invite your friends and neighbors, too.

I also invite your family to center its Christmas decorating with a nativity set. If you have young children or grandchildren, provide a set that can be handled and explored in play. Even if baby Jesus or the 3rd Wise Man gets lost under the sofa.

The Advent invitation is to "come to the manger"! What joy!

Merry Christmas....Merry New Year!

As we approach Christmas and the New Year, Marion, Asheley and Bailey, and I want to wish you a "Merry Christmas...Merry New Year." The word "merry" is an Old English term meaning "blessed," as in "merry old England." When we wish each other "Merry Christmas," we aren't talking about just having a good time. We are actually trying to grasp and express something of the deeper meaning of Christmas – which is itself a contraction of the phrase "Christ's mass," a service of worship honoring the Christ child. Whatever else you are experiencing, we pray you are experiencing Emmanuel, God With Us.

In this season of sharing, we rejoice in the gift of the Christ, the gift of one another, the gift of community, the blessing of hope, and the hope of peace...

December 9 & 10, 2010

The Walk to Bethlehem

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Walks depart every 15 minutes

Places to sit along the way.

December 18, 2010

Scrooge: A Christmas Carol

7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Services

6:00 p.m. Family Festival

A wonderful experience for children of all ages.

8:00 p.m. Traditional Service

Candles & Carols

Featuring the Chancel Choir

11:45 p.m. Meditative

Midnight Service

Holy Communion, candles and special music

January 5, 2010

12th Night

6 p.m. Gather around the fire for Bible stories and fellowship.

Annual All-Church Conference

Everyone is invited to attend Vista's annual all-church conference on **Monday, December 6 at 7:00 p.m.** This important meeting, convened by District Superintendent, Rev. Michael Pearson, is designed to review and evaluate the total mission and ministry of the church, receive reports, and adopt objectives and goals recommended by the church council. It will also elect officers and leaders for the upcoming year. Please come and lend your presence and your voice to our fellowship.

Table of Contents

Rev. Monte J Baker	1
Rev. Matt's Moments	8
Officer Contacts	3
Celebration of Learning	4
Vista Education	5
Mission Outreach	6-7-10
Sixties Plus	9
UMW Dec. Schedule	11
Children's Ministry	11
The Twelfth Night	12
December Calendar	Insert
December Birthdays	Insert
December Anniversaries	Insert

A Christmas Carol

"Marley was dead: to begin with. There was no doubt whatever about that... Old Marley was dead as a door-nail."

Thus begins one of the most beloved of Christmas tales. On **Saturday, December 18 at 7:00 pm** you have the opportunity to be part of a unique presentation, "Scrooge: A Christmas Carol." This will feature a new script by Matt Colby and specially arranged music by Bill Bellah. It will feature actors and musicians of Vista in an original radio program format.

This promises to be one of the most unique and original renditions of the classic Christmas 'Ghost Story' that you are ever likely to see. All the actors and musicians are working hard to ensure a quality product for your enjoyment.

Please mark your calendars to attend. Experience an evening of rebirth as old Scrooge is transformed from sinner to saint.

There will be only one performance. Invite your friends and neighbors!

Cooperating Together so that we may become:

People of God

- Who proclaim the Kingdom of God as the starting place of ministry
- Who commit our lives to Jesus Christ as author of our salvation
- Who are called to help others to know what Christ has taught us
- Who intentionally look to the future expecting to do great things by the power of the Holy Spirit at work within us
- Who expect the best and highest of ourselves and our ministries as a response to God's grace

People of the Bible

- Who, through the words of Scripture, experience the God of the Bible who leads us to wholeness, justice and freedom
- For whom Holy Scripture is normative and central, our fundamental and decisive authority for faith and practice
- Who intentionally study Holy Scripture, listening with the ear of faith to the word of God

People called a Family

- Who believe that family takes many forms and includes all people of every age and station and race
- Who welcome the least, the lost, and the lonely
- Who nurture one another by teaching and example to the fullness of humanity that we see in Jesus Christ

People called United Methodist

- Who strive for unity in essentials, liberty in nonessentials, charity in all things
- Who practice open hearts, open minds, open doors



Same Kind of Different as Me

There will be no meeting in December. For the January 17 meeting we are reading Same Kind of Different as Me by Ron Hall and Denver Moore with Lynn Vincent. It is on the UMW reading list this year.

From the Amazon website: “A dangerous, homeless drifter who grew up picking cotton in virtual slavery.

An upscale art dealer accustomed to the world of Armani and Chanel.

A gutsy woman with a stubborn dream.

A story so incredible no novelist would dare dream it.

It begins outside a burning plantation hut in Louisiana . . . and an East Texas honky-tonk . . . and, without a doubt, in the heart of God. It unfolds in a Hollywood hacienda . . . an upscale New York gallery . . . a downtown dumpster . . . a Texas ranch.

Gritty with pain and betrayal and brutality, this true story also shines with an unexpected, life-changing love.”

We meet at 5:30 p.m. in the Education Building. All Adults are welcome. For questions or to RSVP, please contact Kay Gragg at 544-2545.

Contributors:

- Rev. Monte J Baker
- Rev. Matt Colby
- Gerry Alberts
- Dee Berman
- Jim Bless
- Kay Gragg
- Elsie Hathaway
- Evonne Springer
- Glenna Snider
- David Thomas
- Marilyn Waldo
- Margaret Yohe

Editors

- Debbi Maloid
- Leana Glende
- Carol Lindahl

Layout

- Margaret Yohe

Photographers

- Peter Rice
- Bob Snider, cover page
- Margaret Yohe

Publishing

- Margaret Yohe
- Evonne Springer

Prep & Mailing

- Marlin Bolar
- Mary Cary
- Florence Duckett
- Joanne Harrington
- Betty Jacob
- Debbi Maloid
- Debbie Phelps
- Ann Renshaw
- Sandy Schwartz
- Carl Terry
- Howard Young
- Mary Lou Young

Office	Name	Phone	E-mail
Chair of Council	Elsie Hathaway		elphathaway@gmail.com
Senior Pastor	Reverend Monte Baker		MonteJBaker@aol.com
Associate Pastor	Reverend Matt Colby		doplrfx238@msn.com
Lay Leader	Margaret Synhorst		msynhorst@comcast.net
Trustee Chair	David Thomas		dathomas.az@gmail.com
Staff-Parish Chair	Dillis Ward		dillisward@gmail.com
Finance Chair	Craig Holder		sobaldy@pcholder.net
Stewardship Chair	Bob Langwig		rlangwig@aol.com
Secretary	Larry Moore		l1rm@comcast.net
Treasurer	John Synhorst		john.synhorst@comcast.net
Mission Coordinator	Dee Berman		deerick1968@comcast.net
Witness Coordinator	Margaret Yohe		myohe@yoheconsulting.com
UMW President	Marilyn Waldo		waldo@wbhsi.net
UMM President	Jim Bless		jamesbleess@hotmail.com

CELEBRATION OF LEARNING at Fuente de Vida in Agua Prieta, Mexico



Elsie Hathaway addresses crowd

children to attend school. After a delicious lunch served by the women's co-op from our sister church, the Vista team provided a fun filled afternoon of crafts, games and prizes for 120+ children at the event. The joy and happiness seen on the faces of the children was truly priceless!

We learned that school is not free for these children living in extreme poverty conditions. Public elementary students are not admitted unless they provide their own school supplies and uniform. Secondary students must



Children who received certificates

provide uniforms, school supplies and pay tuition to attend public junior and senior high schools. The Sun Lakes UMC has been providing high school student tuition scholarships. Vista members have generously contributed school supplies and scholarships for junior high school students. We are also providing 10 scholarships for an on-line Methodist seminary program from Monterey, Mexico. These families need our help! If you do not wish to shop for school supplies, sponsors may wish to write a check to Vista UMC (memo AP school fund). Twenty-five dollars buys sale-priced school supplies including a backpack. Academic All-Star Students (B+ or above) may be sponsored for \$45,



Pastor Gela with her daughter Nahara

which will provide school supplies, a gift certificate and an award. Donations from Vista members give these children the educational opportunity to rise out of poverty. This mission program is God working through us to do His miracles every day of the school year. Any support of this program is greatly appreciated. This is a vital part of our economic advancement program for Fuente de Vida Methodist Church. The amazing generosity of support from Vista church is reaping the rewards of seeing these children succeed.

Jan Hopke-Almer, Education Leader

Marilyn Waldo awards a certificate



Birthdays and Anniversaries



December Birthdays

Bill Daniels	12/1
Shirley Miller	12/1
Jerry Koelling	12/5
Marilyn Waldo	12/8
Stuart Watkins	12/9
Marlin Bolar	12/10
Shirley Newman	12/10
Jan Wilson	12/11
Leigh Beaty	12/13
Mary Raynor	12/16
Kim Roberts	12/16
Joanne Harrington	12/17
Paul Miller	12/17
Carol Curtis	12/18
Phyllis Calavan	12/19
Marvin Rutkowski	12/19
Carl Terry	12/20
Dillon Mohr	12/21
Taylor Peate	12/21
Charlotte De Windt	12/22
Joanne Gilmour	12/23
Linda Griffin	12/23
Von Ceil Bless	12/24
Don August	12/25
Marge Fridrich	12/25
Barb Kuhn	12/27
Kayla Lauger	12/29
Betty Little	12/30
Spud Ensing	12/31

December Anniversaries

Jay & Louise O'Donald	12/1
Monty & Debbie Derting	12/1
Jack & Barb Kuhn	12/4
Dick & Ilene Nevins	12/8
Phillip & Anne Gruensfelder	12/17
Nicholas & Peggy Marks	12/17
Art & Shirley Peterson	12/19
John & Margaret Synhorst	12/21
Jerry & Bobbie Reeves	12/23
Dave & Maureen Anderson	12/29
Bud & Pat Stoddard	12/30

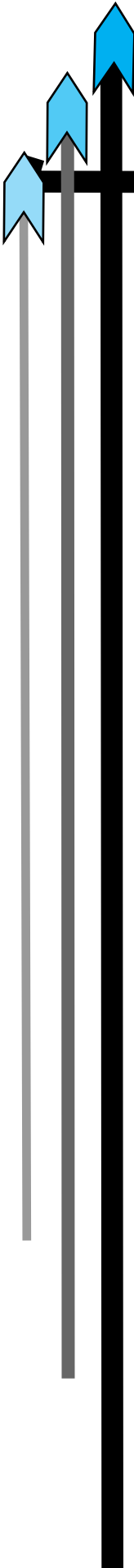


January Birthdays

Jeanette Watkins	1/1
Ken Stevenson	1/2
Linda Freel	1/5
Dennis Higgins	1/7
Jim Jose	1/7
Ursula E.J. Price	1/8
Carole Whitney	1/9
Larry Farnum	1/10
Pat Stoddard	1/11
Barbara Johnson	1/13
Dolores Nistler	1/14
Janice Evans	1/15
Belinda Essenpreis	1/16
Joyce Holm	1/17
Joyce Holman	1/17
Mary Cary	1/18
Charlene Dedrick	1/18
Howard Kaste	1/19
Lori Campbell	1/20
Karen Diana Gurian	1/20
Pat Reykdal	1/20
Duane Waldo	1/22
Sharon Kaste	1/23
Nancy Yob	1/23
Bailey Baker	1/25
Keith Tracy	1/25
Ken Wolfe	1/25
Jim Tayburn	1/30

January Anniversaries

John & Carolyn Edris	1/1
Don Smith & Pat Reykal	1/1
Marlin & Sally Bolar	1/5
Craig & Pam Holder	1/6
Tom & LaVerne Tucker	1/9
Larry & Jeanne Farnum	1/12
Jim & Judi Nibbelink	1/19
Tom & Susan Tjossem	1/20
Greg & Carol Lindahl	1/20
Rev. Matt & Cathy Colby	1/28
Tex & Carole Whitney	1/31



Mission Outreach Ministry

Christmas is my favorite season because we have the blessing of celebrating God's greatest gift to us all, the Birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is also a time to thank God for each and every one of you, for your immeasurable love shown through your gifts, time and resources to the Mission Outreach Ministry at Vista. You have been such a great blessing to so many people in so many places. May God grant you all, a very Blessed Advent Season. Here is our report on our various Mission Ministries and how you can be part of the Mission Program at Vista.

Fuente de Vida Methodist Church Agua Prieta, Mexico

On Nov, 6th, twenty-three of us were privileged to participate in the Celebration of Learning Festival in the Colonia La Empacadora. What fun we had celebrating the achievement of the children this past school year, along with the recognition of the parents who supported them. Thank you everyone for all your donations for the prize room, crafts and games. I also want to thank all the great volunteers who helped us get ready on packing day.



We also want to thank you for your support of the Café Colonia sales this past month. We are glad to have Bob and Glenna Snider back and they report that coffee sales for October and November totaled \$476.00. The yearly report will be presented at our annual church conference on December 6. Please stop at the coffee table and pick up your pound and one for a Christmas gift too!! You may reach Glenna at 825-8251 for special orders.

I am so very happy to announce that Jan Hopke-Almer has accepted the position as the Leader for the Fuente de Vida Education Program. She will be a very capable and dedicated leader and we know she will do a great job. Welcome Jan!!!! You may reach her at 818-2504 for further information.

Please see the full page devoted to Jan's report.

Catalina Community Services

Lots of exciting things are happening at CCS including our new leader Becki Daniels. I want to thank Carole Tracy for her many years of dedicated service to the Food bank collection. She made it possible for us to help many people in our community. We at Vista thank you for your faithful service.

Thanks to Kari Nicoletto for her Vista volunteerism with Catalina Community Services (CCS) and the Food Bank. We will miss her. I am happy to be your new link with CCS and bring you opportunities available to Vista members that improve our community. The beautiful new CCS building was dedicated a couple of weeks ago and 12 Vista members were in attendance for the ribbon cutting. Reverend Monte gave the invocation to the 200 + attendees. Today, Jillian Needham from CCS told me about a new program they are starting and we hope Vista will participate! (More to come in our next newsletter).

This month the Food Bank especially needs ***cereals, canned fruit and canned vegetables***. Thank you for your past generosity and remember to pick up your bag or envelope (look for an apron and chef's hat on someone) on the last Sunday each month. Please bring your monetary donation or food supplies the first Sunday each month.

Also, there are a variety of volunteers needed and you can get involved in the following ways: Literacy tutoring, Teachers for ESL, GED, and Citizenship, Transportation to doctor/clinic appointments, and meal delivery.

Becki Daniels



Catalina Mountain School

This month we celebrated an early Thanksgiving with our Cottage. We held an outdoor hot dog Bar-B-Q, followed by cupcakes and ice cream. Our theme was Thankfulness. All the Vista team and the boys filled out a 3 x 5 card "anonymously." We then shared the things we were thankful for. Some of the responses were quite touching such as "I am thankful for freedom even though I do not have my freedom." Another expressed his "gratitude for our visits each month and for spending time with them." Following our share time we gave them a selection of Thank You cards and asked them to send it to one person in their life for whom they were thankful. We then shared with them that God loved them and only wanted the best for their lives. In closing we made a circle and gave thanks to God for each one of their lives. A special blessing was said for three who were leaving in December. . . that their lives might be changed to a better pathway than the one that got them into CMS.

I am so grateful for the dedicated team from Vista who so faithfully give of their time each month to bring God's love and care to these young men. You are all indeed very special to this Ministry.

This month we are collecting the money we need to give the boys an early Christmas on December 8. John and Carol Witt assumed responsibility to purchase, with your donations, the exact items that they may receive from the restricted gift list. Thanks to all of you who have made this possible and even more, thank you for your prayers as we continue to minister God's love to them. We need new volunteers to join the team at CMS. Please call team leaders John & Carol Witt at 825-7017 for further information.

Tucson Hospitality Inn

We are decorating the Inn for Christmas on Saturday, December 4 starting at 1:00 p.m. We need volunteers to help put up an artificial tree, decorate the mantle, set up the Nativity Scene and decorate the outside of the Inn. Please call me if you can help.

Kudos to Sandy Kaper and her friends who prepared the lovely Thanksgiving dinner, delivered it and visited with the guests. I know how much the guests and Lou Tompkins appreciated all the work that went into the meal and the delicious food.

There is an ongoing need for donations of money and gift cards which are used for purchasing the supplies that are needed at the Inn. Cards can be from Target, Walmart, Fry's, Albertson's, Safeway, Costco, and Sam's Club. Any amount is helpful. Please send them directly to the Tucson Hospitality Inn c/o Lou Tompkins, 2539 E. Edison Street, Tucson, AZ 85716 or if you see me at church, I will take them and deliver them myself.

Susanna Wesley Circle is collecting paper goods (paper towels, toilet tissue, and facial tissues), dish and dishwasher detergents and unscented laundry soap for the Inn. Please feel free to supply some of these goods through the Susanna Wesley Circle members.

For questions or more information, please call Kay Gragg at 544-2545.

Creative Hands

What a great group of Vista ladies make up the Creative Hands team!!! You will get a more detailed list in the Annual Report on December 6, but I can't resist bragging about these great creative and loving hands. From November, 2009 through November 2010 they have created 563 articles of clothing for the needy children in our community. They meet every Friday morning from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Vista to work their magic. Right now you could help this ministry by providing 3 yards of corduroy fabric in any color to help make some warmer winter clothes for the children. What a blessing for a little child to go to the clothing bank and be able to pick out a brand new outfit, thanks to these ladies. You would have a great time in their company and no experience is needed. Please call team Leader Jan Bohe at 825-9725 for further information.



Matt's Moments

Reverend Matt Colby

The Jesus Gift

Many times we see that much of what we do and how we celebrate Christmas has very little to do with Jesus' birth and proclaiming him as Lord of our lives. As Christians, let us recommit our lives to telling the wonderful story of God coming to live in our neighborhood. As we celebrate the birthday of Christ, we tell this story even in the way we give gifts. What gift can we give this Christmas that will truly honor Jesus and his birth? How do we show a gift of love for the tremendous love and grace that we have been given?

Perhaps one way we do this is to give a gift that takes seriously the building of God's Kingdom here on earth that He revealed to us. It is a world that cares for the hurting, the lost, the poor, the overlooked, and those who don't deserve love. During this Advent, I want to challenge all of us in our church family to consider a "Jesus Gift" this Christmas. Spend our preparation time, these four Sundays of Advent, praying

about what gift can I give? Who is it that I shall be called to love and in what way? Will it be a card that describes a commitment, or opening your heart to let God work in an area of your life? Will it be a note or a prayer to have God enable you to do an outreach? Will it be a financial gift toward a charity for which you are passionate? Will it be a material gift of food for the poor, blankets for the homeless, school supplies for a child in need or a care card to someone in the military or in prison? These are just a few of the ideas that you can pray over, hopefully discuss together, and discern where God is touching your hearts. Our celebration will grow to the culmination of "The Jesus Gift" Sunday, December 26, 2010 at both 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. services. One of the highlights of our worship will be a special offering to gather around the manger and to surround it with those presents of cards and gifts, dedicating them with our prayers. You are invited on this journey to explore a meaningful and touching way we can celebrate the joy of our Savior's birth.

Walk To Bethlehem Invitation

It will not be long before we will once again experience the wonderful journey of "Walk To Bethlehem," on Thursday, December 9 and Friday December 10. In thirty minutes you can experience what it might have been like the night Christ was born. Complete with live animals, the set design and costumed actors thrust visitors back in time centuries' past. Walk among village shops, meet and mingle with town residents as they go about daily life and encounter Roman soldiers.

Experience it Yourself - You are encouraged to pick up a free ticket with a specific time so that you can help spread out the crowds that form. The times will be every 15 minutes from 6:45 – 8:00 p.m. for our church. Tickets are available after the worship services at the Walk To Bethlehem table.

Invite a Friend – This is a gift from our church to the community to remind us what a great celebration Christmas is as God reveals His love story to us. Over 250 visitors came to the 2007 Walk to Bethlehem. Invitations are available for you to share with others. Contact Rev. Matt Colby if you need more information.

Taking Care of the Church Body

Praying for each other is such an important part of how we care for each other in the church. Last month we talked about our Prayer Chain whose main ministry focus is to pray for those within our church family who are facing

illness, crisis, surgery, or perhaps some kind of emergency.

Intercessory Prayer is a much broader prayer ministry for anyone you know who has a joy or concern: whether they are in our church body, part of your extended family, a neighbor, a co-worker or schoolmate. This prayer team ministry meets together each Wednesday morning and pray individually throughout the week.

There are two ways to have someone included on the Intercessory Prayer list. First there are prayer cards available in the chapel. Please complete the card and put it in the designated box. The second way is to contact one of the follow members: Rev Matt Colby, Dorothy Conner, Mary Lou Young, Arlene Lehto or Linda Whitlatch.

Snak Pak Food Program at Coronado K thru 8 School in Catalina

The children, who have been selected by the school authorities to receive this weekend food paks are considered to be at risk and in need of this additional food support. Nedra Thomason is the team Leader for this Ministry. She reported the following:

Changes since last year:

- The number of students we can supply has been frozen to last year's count which is 45
- There are more items per week
- Cost is \$4.00 per weekend per student versus last years \$3.00
- Either an apple or an orange is included each week
- Double paks are provided on the week before a school holiday.

Cost Breakdown				
Per Child per week	Weeks/semester	Total per child	Children in program	Total Program
\$4.00	17	\$68.00	45	\$3,060.00
Assembly of God Portion				\$ 765.00
Vista's Portion due December 15, 2010				\$2,295.00

Habitat for Humanity in Tucson

Pastor Monte and I have been talking about an opportunity for Vista to participate in a Habitat for Humanity Project. I have arranged for the Director of Habitat for Humanity in Tucson, Michel Macdonald, to be our guest at the Mission Ministry Meeting on Wednesday January 5, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. Mark this date on your calendar. Come join us for a very interesting and inspirational presentation. We want to have a good turn-out for this special occasion.

To our Vista Family, I want to thank you again for all the great work that you have made possible, through your support. Our Christmas Mission Team meeting will be December 1, 2010 .at 1:00 p.m. We welcome everyone to join us for these great reports. Your hearts will be touched.

God Bless you one and all. Merry Christmas!!!

Yours in Mission Service:
Dee Berman, Chairman
520-825-7115
deerick1968@comcast.net.

The Echoes Needs You!

Vista needs someone to come forward to put together the monthly newsletter. Margaret Yohe has been doing this during 2010. Beginning with the January 2011 issue (prepared in December) Margaret will not be available to put the Echoes together.

Vista has a team of people to edit the articles and review the completed Echoes for corrections. You do not have to write any articles, just place them on the pages and prepare a completed document for Evonne to copy. Vista has another team of people to fold, label and mail the Echoes. Please call Evonne at 825-1985 to volunteer. Call Margaret 825-4288 if you have questions about how it works.

CAFE LA COLONIA

Holiday time is here, and it is time to stock up on Cafe la Colonia coffee. The delicious Mexican coffee from Agua Prieta, is roasted, ground, and packaged by our friends at our sister church of Iglesia Fuente de Vida, and sold to us and many other church groups in Arizona, to help support the important ministry of their church. Their congregation are mostly very poor people, and their church budget cannot cover the programs, family aid, and other responsibilities. Over a year ago, the pastors conceived of a coffee business to supplement the funding of their rapidly growing church.

As many of you know, Pastor Diego was tragically killed in an automobile accident shortly after the business opened. His wife, Pastora Gela has taken over the ministry of the church, as well as the coffee business.

Vista de la Montana UMC is in a sister church relationship with Fuente de Vida, and we have worked closely with them for more than seven years. Your mission team has been supporting the coffee enterprise since it's beginning last year. Our "shop" on the patio is open for sales on the first and third Sunday. Our congregation has been faithful in this mission effort, and to date you have purchased over \$5,000.00 in coffee. Pastora Gela is deeply grateful for our support, and they always keep the members of Vista in their prayers.

The next sales date is December 5, when we will have a new shipment available for Christmas gifts for family, friends, entertaining, and perhaps for those who have been helpful to you throughout the year, such as hairdressers, landscapers, news carriers, and others.

Call or e mail me if you have any special requests or larger orders, so I can be sure to have it on hand.

Glenna Snider, Coffee Chair

SIXTIES PLUS MAKES PLANS

December 2010

The Tucson Symphony Holiday Spectacular Concert is December 19th at 2:00 pm. Coralyn Hoaglund has made arrangements for after-concert dining at the "Metropolitan Grill" for our group. Everyone must make their own ticket purchases. More details will be in an e-mail or call 825-6801.

January 2011

In January, 2011 a tour of the **Tucson Museum of Art** will be lead by Shirley Richards.

February 2011

February will find us heading for the **Arizona Opry** at Apache Junction again, and a possible trip to the **Musical Instrument Museum** in Phoenix.

March 2011

For March 13th Marge Allen has arranged for a limited number of tickets to the **Gaslight Theatre** to see *Gunsmokin'* at 7:00 pm. We will go to dinner before the play. Give her a call at 825-3095 as soon as possible to get your name on the list.

April 2011

In April, when there is a full moon, we'll take a moonlight ride up into **Sabino Canyon**. John and Jan Crown will let us know the details later.

If you are interested and eligible for the *Sixties Plus* and you would like to join us, please call Mary Jane Hillmann at 818-1267 to get your name on our e-mail list.

**Education at
Vista de la
Montana
United
Methodist**

Sign up now for
Fall and Winter classes.

Call Evonne Springer

825-1985



<u>Class Code</u>	<u>Class Section</u>	<u>Examples of some of the classes</u>
SS	Adult Sunday School	Faith Links TBA
CC	Core Curriculum & New Members	Bible 101 Meet the Methodist Biblical Religion UM Social Principles
E	Electives	First Light Christian History Living the Questions Saving Jesus
SD	Seasonal Devotional	The Shack A Love Worth Giving Fearless
Bible	Bible Study	Disciples Bible Study - Old Testament Disciples Bible Study - New Testament
LE	Life Events/Outreach	Health Directives Wills and Trusts Charitable Giving

Class Code	Class	Leader	Date	Day	Time	Cost
SD	Advent Study	Rev. Matt	Dec 1 - 31	Wednesday	4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	
Bible	Women's Bible Study	Joy Oram	On-going	Monday	9:00 - 10:30 a.m.	
LE	Stephen Ministry Training	Arlene Lehto	Nov 9 - TBA	Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	
E	Marcus Borg on being Christian	Jim Nibbelink Rev Monte	Jan 3 -Jan 31	Monday	4:00.- 5:30 p.m.	

Advent Class: A Savior is Born

Wednesdays, December 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2010
Education Building, Room 1, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

It's one of the most familiar stories in human history: the birth of Jesus in a lowly manager in Bethlehem. The Savior, Jesus Christ. How can we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of our Savior in our frantic, consumer-driven society? How do we make sure the Christmas holiday remains a Holy Day?

In each of these four sessions, you will experience cinematic short films that capture events surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ. Pete Briscoe will open up scripture to bring us back to the roots and heart of our faith in Christ. These sessions, lead by Rev. Matt Colby, can serve as an Advent for the Christmas season. The four sessions cover: Hope, Peace, Love and Joy.

Please call the office to sign up or come to the class.

Children's Christmas Eve Musical

The children will once again be presenting a portion of the 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service through the musical "Follow the Star." We would like all children four and older (including some of the Jr. High Youth) to participate. There are a number of speaking roles in addition to the songs that all will sing together. We will begin rehearsing to learn songs and to assign roles on Sunday November 28, 2010 following the 10:45 a.m. service (Lunch will be provided). Other rehearsals will be held on subsequent Sundays at noon, with final rehearsals during the week prior to the service. CD's are available to assist the children in learning both songs and lines. Please contact Cathy Colby at 825-7042 to let her know if your child (children) will participate, or for more information.

"Santa's Cookie Walk"

The Early Childhood Center, which is the Preschool program on the campus of St. Mark's Church (where both Christiana Colby and Lauryn Burrow attend) is holding their annual "Cookie Walk" on ***Saturday, December 18th, 2010 from 10:00am - 2:00pm.*** This event is one of several fundraisers held by the preschool to help support and continually improve the school program for the children who attend. As chairperson of this event, I invite you to participate in one of three ways:

1. I'm looking for people who love to bake Christmas cookies to donate some to our walk. Our goal is to collect 160 dozen cookies for the event.
2. Come and buy a variety of cookies for yourself, or as a gift for others. Cookies are sold by the dozen, are wrapped for you, and decorative plates are available for an additional \$1.00.
3. Tell others! This year's event is targeted more for the community at large rather than just the families of the preschool. We are trying to spread the word. Santa will be available from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for picture-taking with him. Bring your cameras! For more information, or to volunteer to bake cookies, please contact Cathy Colby at 825-7042.



United Methodist
Women

MARY MARTHA CIRCLE

Date: December 2,
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Hostess: Betty Layton
38244 S. Samaniego Dr
825-1819
Please call if attending
Program: Joy Oram

SUSANNA WESLEY CIRCLE

Date: December 21
Time: 9 a.m.
Location: Vista, Bldg A, Rm 1
Program: Sandy Schwarz
Golden Goose Girl

Christmas Coffee for Women of all Faiths

When: Tuesday
December 7, 2010

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Where: St. Paul UMC
Brummet Hall
8051 E Broadway
Tucson, AZ

Anyone interested call Marilyn
Waldo or Joyce Jose for car
pool information

Vista De La Montaña
United Methodist Church
3001 E. Miravista Lane
Tucson, AZ 85739

Office hours

Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 520 825-1985

Fax: 520 825-2997

E-mail: VistaUMC@aol.com



Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
The people of the
United Methodist Church

<http://www.vistaumc.com>

We invite you to visit our website.

NON PROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TUCSON, AZ
Permit #648

Return Service Requested



January 5, 2010 The Twelfth Night 6:00 p.m.

For our culture, the celebration of Christmas begins with *Black Friday*, the day after Thanksgiving when merchants expect the single most profitable sales day of the year as people begin holiday shopping. For four weeks the stores are filled with decorations and products that reflect the season. Television and radio stations schedule special holiday programming . . . “and on every street corner you hear . . .” the sounds of Christmas music. The climax of the season is Christmas Eve when great numbers go to church and almost everyone celebrates with family and friends. Christmas day has become almost an anticlimax; a time for NFL football, NBA basketball, and the biggest single box office day for movie theaters. The movie industry actually schedules what they hope will be blockbuster movies for release on Christmas Day.

But for the faithful, Christmas is not a single day, but a festival of *twelve* days. Not just one night of gift-giving and fellowship with kin and kith, but

almost two weeks of joyously celebrating the love of God-with-us through the gracious gift of the child of Bethlehem. Twelfth Night is the holiday in concluding the Twelve Days of Christmas and marking the coming of the Epiphany. It is a day of Christmas festivities and observed as a time of merrymaking.

At Vista, we will celebrate the *Twelfth Night* of Christmas on January 5 at 6 o'clock in the evening. As the sun goes down, we will gather at the fire pit and one last time hear the Biblical story of the longing for the coming of the Messiah and the wondrous events surrounding the very first Christmas. And we will sing those familiar carols that have warmed our hearts for generations. Afterwards, we will gather for a feast of homemade chili, homemade bread, wassail, and a special cake made just for this occasion.

Whatever your tradition, come and join in this great celebration of the Twelfth Night of Christmas!