

SIERRA VISITOR

Greetings Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church Family and Friends,

The month of May brings celebrations, transitions, and remembrances.

We celebrated mothers during Mother's Day by honoring the ladies who were worshipping with us in person that day with a gift of a flower. Different persons are celebrating graduations at all levels in different ways. All the students are excited to get time off to summer break from school as some prepare to join different schools next school year.

We had a great day with Scouts on May 22nd doing a Water Fun Day. There was a potluck and hotdogs and lemonade. Many people brought other delicacies and desserts. A big thank you to all who helped make it a success!

During Memorial Day we also remembered and mourned the U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces .

During the month of May, I was able to connect with various churches and pastors that we have a relationship with.

On May 05th 2024 I was blessed to visit with Pastor Cesar and his family in St Luis, Mexico. Pastor Cesar also gave me a tour of his church which is our mission church Jesus Pan de Vida (Iglesia Nacional Presbiteriana De Mexico).

On May 13th 2024, I had a good visit with pastor Esteban and pastor Yaya, the pastors at Cocopah Assembly Of God church. They gave me a tour of their church campus. They are doing a great work for our Lord Jesus Christ!

In addition I was able to visit a few times with the pastors and ministers of the Apostolic Church that uses our facilities.

All of these were great visits and a time of blessings.

Fellowship continues with members and friends during Sunday brunch which happens after the christian Ed and we have been getting a huge attendance!

Men's breakfast is going well. One day the restaurant even had to add a table for us!

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I have also had the opportunity to break bread, enjoy fellowship, and pray at members' homes on invitation. I am always available if you invite me!

The biweekly youth meetings have been very rewarding! The youth have great plans of inviting new members to the church and to the youth group. They are also doing great in their schools and community. Two of them had great awards recently, Noah getting the Mustang award for Leadership and Gabe being in our daily papers for performing great in the heavy lifting championship.

The young kids at our preschool are awesome. Some have even invited me to their homes and asked their parents to make it happen

The session members and their spouses had a luncheon and fellowship on May 18th which one of the couples at the church hosted in their home. We appreciate the hospitality!

The interim process is going well and we will keep you posted.

We also had a memorial service for one of our members and it was very well attended.

Our prayers and condolences are with the family and friends of Leonard for their loss.

We will be taking a few weeks off of Wednesday night Bible study. It will resume by Zoom only on Wednesdays at 6:00pm on June 26th through July 31. On August 7th and onward we will resume both in person and on zoom at 6:15pm.

Sunday Adult Bible study is taking a break and will not be meeting until August 4, 2024. Enjoy summer break!

Brunch will continue every Sunday after fellowship.

Many families take the opportunity to travel during the summer. Please remember if you are unable to make it to church in person on a given Sunday that services are available on Facebook and YouTube! Thanks to our tech team that makes this possible!

***May the Lord bless you,
Pastor Dan***

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS



Crystal Echols; Mary Ellen Cultip; Mary and Bob Schaal;
 Missionaries around the World, Betty Hammann;
 Makyla Ruttle; Cindy Michels; Natalie Rivera;
 The Unrest in our Country; Police and Law enforcers;
 Total Recovery Ministry; leaders of our country; the unsaved;
 our military and their families; all those affected by COVID-19;
 Border Patrol;



June BIRTHDAYS

JUNE

- 3 Esther Howe
- 7 Harriet Brown
- 12 Colleen Foland
- 21 Mary Ellen Cutlip
- 24 Jordan Hill

SCOUTS JUNE

- 9 Angel Delgado
- 11 Lincoln Worley
- 12 Matthew Chavez
- 13 Lance Westmoreland
- 16 Daniel Gomez
- 16 Jaiden Acosta
- 23 Erin Little
- 27 Kenna Riley



July BIRTHDAYS

JULY

- 10 Cindy Michels
- 13 Crystal Green
- 19 Sam Maxwell
- 24 Rita Brown

SCOUTS JULY

- 8 Owen Piatt

June ANNIVERSARIES

- 8 Glenn & Barb Moss
- 8 Bill & Sandii Leeper

July ANNIVERSARIES

- 31 Brian & Paula Claar

SESSION NEWS

Your Session meets regularly each month at 6:30 pm on the third Tuesday of each month. Regular business such as approval of minutes, recording events (baptisms, deaths, changes in membership) and receiving committee reports is addressed.

In this time of an Interim Pastor, the Session is responsible for specific tasks associated with a pastoral change. According to Presbytery guidance, the Session is responsible for generating a Mission Statement (a brief description of how we see ourselves in our work and outreach) and a Mission Study – a more in-depth discussion of who we are, where we have been, demographics of the community at large and surrounding area in general, what we foresee as the potential of the church, along with potential actions that we might take to enhance growth. This Mission Study will become the guidance for the elected Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

Task number one – the creation of a Mission Statement was completed at the Session Meeting of May 21. Your new Mission Statement to define what we are about is:

"Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church is a close-knit community of believers. Applying Biblical principles, we strive to CARE for our neighbors, to LEAD others to salvation in Christ, to BEAR the fruit of the Holy Spirit, and to FEED believers with Biblical teachings."

The Session is now embarking on task two – the Mission Study. Much of the information for the Mission Study should be easy to build. We know who we are – we just have to articulate it. We have a chronological history that begins with the birth of Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church on December 5, 1956 all the way through the engagement of Pastor Dan Albertson to serve as the Interim Pastor on December 16, 2023. Financial history can be obtained from past Annual Reports and from our QuickBooks financial system. Other materials will have to be generated and incorporated into the Study. Our Mission Study will eventually be submitted to the Presbytery of Grand Canyon Committee on Ministry for approval and then posted into the national database to invite interested parties to respond. From past experiences, this is not an easy task, but with God's guidance and answer to prayers for patience His plan will succeed.

The Session asks for your prayers and support as we continue this process. The elected PNC (whomever they might be) also requests your prayerful support. If there are those of you who would be interested in serving on the congregational elected PNC, please let the Clerk of Session (Glen Moss) know and he will forward the interest as appropriate.

SCOUTS

ANOTHER YEAR IS IN THE BOOKS!!

The 2023-24 Scouting program ended May 22 when we celebrated the year with a Picnic in the Park/ Water Fun Day bash. It was a joyous event and was well attended. The church furnished 224 hotdogs and buns and 7 gallons of lemonade. At the end of the evening, we had some hotdogs and buns which were donated to the Crossroads Mission. Families were asked to bring side dishes to share and we had lots of variety with chips, salads, and desserts. The water slide was ready to go about 5:30 and shortly after we got the food lines started. It was a wild scene with kids of all ages from infants to seasoned seniors engaging in celebrating our successes. The attendees stayed until around 7:30 when the rental company came to retrieve their equipment.

We have begun the registration process for all returning scouts for the Fall program. We already have many Girl Scouts registered for the Fall program. The Scouting America (formerly Boy Scouts of America) program has a new approach to registration this year. In the past, we accepted registration fees and forwarded them to the Grand Canyon Council along with the documents to "recharter" the unit. This year, a renewal of the charter will be executed between Sierra Vista and Scouting America, but renewal of individual registrations will be the responsibility of the family. We are working on a formal calendar for the Fall program and will share that via email later.

Several of our Girl Scouts have registered for summer adventures at various Girl Scout camps. A few members of our Boy Scout Troop will be attending summer camp at Camp Geronimo the first full week of June. Others will work on individual merit badges at their own pace.

The Laguna Mountain Family Camp WILL BE held this fall. The Horse Heaven Campsite is reserved for the weekend of August 16 – 18. This is the latest we could make reservations. The campsite will be available on a first come – first serve starting at noon on the 16th. Families will be responsible for their own meals this year as no meal plan is being offered. We look forward to seeing all of you in the August/ September timeframe as we kick off the 2024-25 program.

JUNE 2024

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

2nd Sunday
after Pentecost

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

3rd-Sunday
after Pentecost

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

Father's
Day

4th Sunday
after Pentecost

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

5th Sunday
after
Pentecost

30

6th Sunday
after
Pentecost

Bible Class
6:00 pm

JULY 2024

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

1

2

3

4

5

6

INDEPENDENCE
DAY

Bible Class
6:00 pm

7

Communion
Sunday

7th Sunday after
Pentecost

8

9

10

Bible Class
6:00 pm

11

12

13

14

8th Sunday after
Pentecost

15

16

17

Bible Class
6:00 pm

18

19

20

21

9th Sunday after
Pentecost

22

23

24

Bible Class
6:00 pm

25

26

27

28

10th Sunday after
Pentecost

29

30

31