

# SIERRA VISITOR

## Greetings Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church Family and Friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Fall is officially here, at least in name, even if we may have been hoping for cooler weather by now. Still, that means a hub of activities are going on at the church!

Wednesday evening bible study, led by me (Pastor Dan the Man with a Plan) started back up and continues each week in person and on zoom at 6:15 pm

We typically cover the reading/s which we will be covering at service the upcoming Sunday.

We would love to have you join us! Here is the link:  
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/78157116453?pwd=EBQVzjgV35Kt34TEWclpHzYbmlTh4d.1>

Adult Sunday School led by our one and only Brian Claar started back up as well. The class is doing a 30 Weeks Study Of Belief by Randy Frazee. It will be broken into three 10-week sections asking:

- 1) What do we believe?
- 2) How do we act because of what we believe?
- 3) What are we becoming because of how we act because of what we believe?

This is a great way to examine our faith and apply it to our lives. You won't want to miss it!

Children Sunday School (K-5th Grade) and Childcare are also provided during the Service.

One of my seminary professors said, “..when you are invited anywhere as a pastor, take Jesus there..” I have continued to take Jesus to homes, hospitals, restaurants, places of work and other places. Thank you to those who have invited me and to those who have accompanied me at times to some of these places.

Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church continues to change lives by being home to Hand in Hand Christian Preschool, Apostolic Church Of Faith In Jesus Christ, and by partnering in Ministries with Girl, Cub and Boy Scouts, Crossroads Mission, Jesus Pan de Vida (Our Mission Church in San Luis, Sonora, Mexico), Africa Inland Mission in South Sudan, Cocopah Assembly of God Church, Arizona Baptist Children's Services, Care Portal, KCFY Christian Radio and Total Recovery.

In the month of September, we were able to sponsor four out of six men from Cocopah Assembly of God Church for a men's retreat. Thank you to those who gave and for your continued financial support in general.

Youth Group continue to meet every other Sunday evening with an overwhelming attendance sometimes up to 150% - I thank our youth members for inviting their friends.

These friends end up going to worship with us on Sundays!

Men's breakfast continues every Thursday at 8:00 am. Those who have tried it once find it as something they want to do every week.

Good food, prayer and fellowship is a thing we enjoy!

Brunch has continued every Sunday after Adult Sunday School. Please go to enjoy food and fellowship in different restaurants in the City of Yuma.

Prayer team continues to meet every Monday at 10:00 am and the prayer chain has continued through emails 24/7. Many prayers have been answered because we believe in the power of prayer. Please call or send your prayer needs to the office.

We now have a new AEDs device to help in case there is a cardiac emergency!  
We thank the Girls Scouts for donating it and for coming to church to train the congregation on how to use it.

I believe you know that I am your interim pastor, leading the congregation through the interim season which is a time to prepare the way for a called pastor. The called pastor will lead the congregation into the future. The session has completed the Mission Plan which has been approved by the Grand Canyon Presbytery. The next step is electing a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC).

There will be a Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday October 13th 2024 following the Worship for church members to elect this Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) using pre printed ballots.

A few members have been nominated by our Congregation Nominating Committee (CNC) and some have agreed to serve in that capacity! There will be an opportunity to nominate from the floor. If you feel called to serve in the PNC, please let us know.

We will be looking for a PNC of 5 persons. If you are a member, please, plan to attend.

Road construction. The 28th street is under construction. We hope this gets completed soon.

In the meantime, if you find your way to Viginia Dr, you can always turn left to get to the church. It is always a joy to serve our Lord Jesus Christ with you all!

May the Lord bless you,  
Pastor Dan



# Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church

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150 West 28<sup>th</sup> Street  
Rev Dan Albertson, Pastor  
Brian Claar, Director of Music

Yuma Arizona, 85364  
(928) 726-6680

## Stewardship 2024

Dear Friend in Christ,

Greeting in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

In the coming weeks, our congregation will be involved in an exciting stewardship program entitled **Bearing Fruit for Jesus: His Grace and Power at Work within you.** Jesus said, *"I am the Vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit"* (John 15:5). When we abide in Jesus, it follows naturally that we bear fruit. Fruit characterizes the life of a Christian. Starting in late October and continuing into November, we will grow in our understanding of how we bear fruit for Jesus.

Under the banner of **Bearing Fruit for Jesus**, you are invited to join us in this program. Weekly messages and materials will remind us of the three themes:

Fruitful use of Time

Fruitful use of Talents

Fruitful use of Money

God prepares and equips us so we can use all of his gifts to his glory. God's deeds of fruit are seen in and through us as we use the gifts he has given us, giving reasons for other to praise the Father in Heaven (Matthew 5:16).

During this renewal and commitment time, it is our prayer that you will prayerfully consider how you, in your individual lives can show Christ's love and be encouraged to reach out to share the Good News with others. When you receive a commitment card during the campaign, we ask that you seek God's guidance in prayer. Let love guide you in your decision.

Serving and working together in Christ,

Your chosen Session for Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church.

# UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS



Crystal Echols; 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;



## October BIRTHDAYS



## November BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER		SCOUTS OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	SCOUTS NOVEMBER	
2	Sandii Leeper	2	James Powell	3	Capri Rippy
6	Darren Hawkins	10	Cody Hill	5	Leilani Ashwood
10	Cody Hill	11	Malachi Williams	7	Rose Morgan
11	Elsie Caley	12	Henry Sabo	10	Justin Jeffcoat
28	Sandy Willen	15	Sawyer Rabun	22	Evelyn Powell
29	Paul Schlehr	17	Winter Tate	24	Adrian Twist
				28	AJ Goodwill

# MISSION COMMITTEE NEWS

Thank you to everyone who donated new children's underwear to Crossroads Mission on Undie Sunday!

38 packages were delivered, and Gloria said the children were joyful as they helped unload the vehicle!

On Sept. 10th several of us attended the open house for AZ Baptist Children's Services (ABCS). They moved to Real Life Church on 16th St and Avenue C. They decided to move into a smaller space to cut their overhead expenses and to use the savings to help more women and children. We were happy to take a tour of the facility where they have storage for diapers, wipes, baby clothing, toys, etc. and have rooms for parenting classes and visitations for foster children and their parents. One lady in our group shared her story that she is so grateful for a place like ABCS. Because 36 years ago she needed help and went to a crisis pregnancy center thinking it was an abortion center, but they welcomed her with open arms and helped her through her pregnancy. Today she has a wonderful 35-year-old son and a granddaughter to love. And now she wants to volunteer at ABCS to help other women.

Thank you to those who donated to the Cocopah Church Men's Leadership Camp! With your donations and Mission account money we were able to give \$594 for 4 men to attend Leadership classes.

Please join us for Sandwich Making for Crossroads Mission on Sunday, October 20th after worship in Don Francis Hall. Please bring peanut butter and jelly, lunch meat, or cheese. Tuna, bread, and sandwich bags will be provided.

## SANDWICHES

### TIME

Join us to make sandwiches for Crossroads Mission after worship in Don Francis Hall.



Please bring: lunch meat, cheese, peanut butter & jelly.

TUNA & BREAD WILL BE PROVIDED

Sunday, Oct 20th 2024

# CLERCK'S REPORT

The September Session Meeting was convened with a discussion about the recently received approval with comments for our Mission Study. The Committee on Ministry approved the Mission Study with commendations for a job well done. They offered two comments regarding data in the Study. One comment was in regards to including a statement showing current membership and average attendance. That data was added into the Study. The second comment was in regards to one of our stated goal about growth. We had initially stated we would like to see a 50% growth in five years. It was restated to reflect a 10% growth over year for a five-year period.

The second item on the docket was a discussion about the next steps forward in the Permanent Pastor search process. It was determined that the Congregational Nominating Committee would review the membership rolls and seek candidates who might be interested in serving on a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). Once a list of potential candidates is available, the Session will set a date for a Special Congregational Meeting to elect a PNC. The Congregational Nominating Committee reported that they have a list of candidates and are ready to proceed. A Special Congregational Meeting is scheduled for October 13 immediately after the morning Worship service. If you are interest in being on the ballot for the election, please contact Clerk of Session, Glen Moss at 928-580-7005 and make your wishes known.

The next item of business was the installed 86" TV in Don Francis Hall (DFH) and establishing a policy for the use of the TV by persons and groups who use DFH. The proposed policy was adopted and provides specific guidance and responsibilities for users. A copy of the policy is available by request. Let Glen Moss know that you want a copy of the policy and apply for permission to use the audio visual equipment.

As noted in the August report, there have been two activities proposed for Sierra Vista exposure to the community. These events are a "Movie Night" and a Car Show in the church parking lot. Both of these events were presented as a means to make Sierra Vista's presence more well known in the community. Any further discussions on these events will require volunteers to step up. If you are interested in attending and/or assisting with either event, please let Glen Moss know.

Remaining business for the Session included recording communion services including home communion to members Esther Howe and Mona Nelson along with two guest at the Bee Hive Home where Esther and Mona reside. Other business included an update on trustee's activities, a report from the preschool about their Open House on September 26, and a report from the Mission Committee about Undie Sunday donations.

There will be a church sponsored "Trunk Or Treat" activity on Wednesday, October 30 for the scouts, the preschool attendees, and the surrounding neighborhood. If you would like to participate by providing candy or hosting a "Trunk", please let Haley Hill know.

Please pray for the process, the work of the Session, and the soon to be started Pastor Nominating Committee work.

# TREASURER'S REPORT

The income figures include all giving, whether toward a pledge to the Annual Stewardship Campaign, donations to a Mission Partnership, a Special Offering, or any other type of giving. The expenses include all expenses incurred including the distribution of monies donated toward special projects or Mission Partnerships.

## 2024 THROUGH AUGUST 31 FINANCIALS

	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>YTD</b>
INCOME	\$17,572.72	\$154,720.42
EXPENSES	\$19,820.76	\$211,770.85

*Yes – those figures are correct. We overspent our income by \$ 57,050.43*

Before you panic, the expense numbers include the \$ 27,300.00 that was required to purchase the replacement air conditioner system in Don Frances Hall. The unit was paid from an investment account. The funds for the unit is not shown as “income” since it was an internal transfer of existing funding.

We were blessed at the end of 2023 to receive extra donations. Some of these donations were in payment for the donor's 2024 pledges in response to the November Stewardship Campaign, while others were distributions from personal IRAs and other Qualified investment accounts. THANK YOU for all those donations.

As you plan for the remainder of 2024 and the future, if you need a tax deduction when you file your taxes, please keep Sierra Vista in mind. We are a non-profit organization and donations to Sierra Vista are deductible for those who file itemized returns. For those retirees who may have IRAs or other investments that require a Federally mandated Minimum Distribution, that distribution can be donated tax-free to a non-profit so remember your church when planning.

*God is Good and we are blessed.  
In all things God is faithful to us, let us be faithful to Him.  
These are the gifts of God from the people of God for the work of God.  
Let us be good stewards of His gifts.*

# SCOUTS

## OVERALL PROGRAM

A "Trunk or Treat" event will be held on Wednesday, October 30 in the Sierra Vista parking lot. If you wish to participate, please let Haley Hill or April Glass know. The entire unit is planning on marching in the Veteran's Day parade on Monday, November 11. Details will be forthcoming and will be announced at unit meetings.

## GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scouts held a Rededication and Investiture Ceremony on September 4. At this event, new girls in the Troop were awarded an Investiture Patch to recognize their first time in Girl Scouts. All girls in the Troop who have been a member of Girl Scouts in prior years received a Rededication Patch. Twenty members of the Girl Scout Troop attended a camp out near Julian, California September 13, 14 and 15. All had a great time in spite of the mosquitos.

## CUB SCOUTS

The Cub Scouts held the annual Rain Gutter Regatta on Wednesday, September 25. This event requires the boys propel the boats down the "gutters" by blowing on them. Results of the Regatta are:

LION	1st - Wiinter Tate		
TIGER	1st - Austin Pagan	2nd - Henry Sabo	3rd - Logan Plante
WOLF	1st - Levi Plante	2nd - Everett Gilmore	3rd - Reid anode
BEAR	1st - Hank Braudt	2nd - Sammy Yazzie	3rd - CJ Allen
WEBELO	1st - Oscar Kanode		
ARROW OF LIGHT	1st - Ted Braudt	2nd - Rylan Poor	3rd - Sean Deguina

Tag A Longs - Peter Sabo, Nicola Gilmore

PACK Championship  
 1st - Ted Braudt  
 2nd - Hank Braudt  
 3rd - Austin Pagan

Cub Scouts are again able to sell popcorn to help fund the program. Popcorn sales are being held at locations throughout town. Check with your Cub Scouts to purchase popcorn.

## BOY SCOUT TROOP

The Troop held its first Court of Honor in August where awards from summer activities were recognized.

Members of the Boy Scout Troop are taking orders for popcorn.

An Eagle Court of Honor is scheduled for October 2 for Timothy Tolman. The event will be in the sanctuary. We have three other Eagle scouts in the works and are looking forward to their completion and earning the highest award a Scout can earn. Those whose Eagle journeys are in progress are Daniel Kai Troxel, Zachery Holtry, and Cody Hill.

We are happy that the year is underway and hope that you will continue to support your 8054 scouting. If you haven't checked us out yet, please visit any Wednesday for a great time.



# OCTOBER 2024

**SUN**

**MON**

**TUE**

**WED**

**THU**

**FRI**

**SAT**

**1**

**2**

**3**

**4**

**5**

Scouts 6pm

Bible Study  
6:15pm

**6**

**7**

**8**

**9**

**10**

**11**

**12**

Communion  
Sunday

Scouts 6pm

Bible Study  
6:15pm

**13**

**14**

**15**

**16**

**17**

**18**

**19**

Scouts 6pm

Bible Study  
6:15pm

Joann Livingston  
Memorial Service  
10:00 am

**20**

**21**

**22**

**23**

**24**

**25**

**26**

Sandwich Making  
at DFH

Scouts 6pm

Bible Study  
6:15pm

Mary Ellen Culpit  
Memorial Service  
10:00 am

**27**

**28**

**29**

**30**

**31**

Scouts 6pm

Bible Study  
6:15pm

# NOVEMBER 2024

**SUN**

**MON**

**TUE**

**WED**

**THU**

**FRI**

**SAT**

**1**

**2**

All Saints  
Day

**3**

**4**

**5**

**6**

**7**

**8**

**9**

Communion  
Sunday

ELECTION  
DAY

Bible Class  
6:15 pm

**10**

**11**

**12**

**13**

**14**

**15**

**16**

Veterans Day

Bible Class  
6:15 pm

**17**

**18**

**19**

**20**

**21**

**22**

**23**

Bible Class  
6:15 pm

**24**

**25**

**26**

**27**

**28**

**29**

**30**

Bible Class  
6:15 pm

THANKSGIVING  
DAY