

SIERRA VISITOR

Dear Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church Family and Friends.

September is here and that means Wednesday Adult Bible study will be starting back up starting September 11th. We will be meeting in person and by zoom at 6:15 pm weekly. We would love for you to join us! No experience required!

Our one and only Gabe a youth member participated in the special olympics which took place in Phoenix, Arizona in August.

He became second in the whole world among all those who participated in his class of heavy lifting.

We praise God with him, his family and friends! Way to go Gabe!

I have had some very good visits with members and friends in the month.

To note a few, I was a guest in a home, invited by a 5 year old. The whole family including grandpa and grandma rallied behind this child to make his dream come true of having a visit from his friend the pastor. At the dinner table they planned such that I would sit next to him and he had many good stories including what he wants to be when he grows up. Such hospitality, prayers and fellowship is breathtaking.

Another visit is when a couple asked me to go to their house for prayers and praise.

These visits are time well spent as well as when we share in home communion and hospital pastoral visits.

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Some August highlights include:

- * The youth have been meeting, including having a pool party.
- * Scouts resumed meeting for this school year.
- * We had a church salad potluck.
- * The Laguna Mountain Annual Family Camp.
- * There was a big event, which was a day of training at the presbytery. It went well both in person and on zoom. Those who attended know how wonderful it was to learn about Urban Ministry in Global Context, Talking to Gen Z, Spiritual but Not Religious, and other classes which were offered in person only.
- * Two couples from our church were recognized by the Grand Canyon Presbytery for their service to the church and the community.

I had the honor of presenting them with their Senior Award certificates at a Sunday Service.

If you would like to become more involved in the church community, the Caring Ministries is one of the ministries you can be involved in among others. You can be part of the Care Portal Response Team or be involved by praying, or making donations or by doing some or all the mentioned. Thank you to those who are already serving in this ministry and others!

At Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church, we are cheerful givers of self and resources!

Our worship services continue to reach many people in person and online.

In online we are available on facebook live and YouTube.

When we get enough YouTube subscribers we will be able to have our services on YouTube live.

Please subscribe on:

<https://www.youtube.com/@SierraVistaPresbyterianChurch>

if you have not done so already, also invite your family members and friends to do so.

The views in 2024 are sometimes 4 times more than in 2023.

Our online members, families and friends appreciate this service.

I have been able to visit on the phone or otherwise with some who moved to other parts of the state or part of the country.

In their own words they said that they can't wait to worship with us online every Sunday.

We praise the Lord for the opportunity to worship virtually and in person!

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;



September BIRTHDAYS



October BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER		SCOUTS SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	SCOUTS OCTOBER	
2	Cortney Scott	7	Abigail Niewiek	2	James Powell
9	Sandy Schlehr	7	Haley Fugate	6	Darren Hawkins
12	Myrle Marlatt	10	Kaleb Hatley	10	Cody Hill
16	Shelley Burge	11	Zachery Holtry	11	Elsie Caley
19	Wayne Williams	15	Hailey Wooldridge	28	Sandy Willen
26	Barb Moss	16	Leah Glass	29	Paul Schlehr
29	Karen Marlatt	16	Lucas Jimenez		
		17	Jolie Irlanda		
		24	Max Schofield		

September ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Tom & Judy Rushin
- 8 Darren and Shelley Hawkins
- 12 Harold & Sam Maxwell

MISSION COMMITTEE NEWS

UNDIE SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 8 & 15, 2024

Please bring new children's
underwear to be
given to children in need at:

CROSSROADS MISSION

Size 4 Toddlers and Up
Size 14-16 boys and girls underwear

SHARE YOUR KINDNESS



CLERCK'S REPORT

The August Session Meeting was convened with a presentation by representatives from our Girl Scout Troop 8054. The Troop presented an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) device to the church. The AED will be mounted in Don Francis Hall as a safety feature for quick response to emergencies. The Girl Scouts are planning on a training session for all interested parties during Fellowship Time on Sunday, September 22.

THANK YOU GIRL SCOUTS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

The second item on the docket was discussion of two proposed events to bring people onto the Sierra Vista campus to encourage them to participate in our outreach. The events would be for the entire Yuma community. One event would be to host a series of "Movie Nights" to feature movies that were filmed in Yuma. The Movie Night would have free admission and refreshments would be available. The second event suggested would be an "Automobile Show" in the Sierra Vista parking lot. This event would provide a venue for local car clubs and individuals to display their vehicles. Admission to the event would be free for the public. Other activities for the entire family would be available at nominal fees. 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.

The next item on the docket was a continuation of the focus on preparations for the identification and eventual call for a permanent pastor along with normal business of recording activities and receiving committee reports. The process for a permanent pastor search is a detailed and formal process. The first stages of the process are the creation of a "Mission Statement" that defines who we are, and a "Mission Study" that is an introspection of who we are and what we want to be.

The Mission Statement was approved in July and is currently presented on every Blue Sheet as a reminder of who we are. The Mission Study has been completed. It was shared with the congregation for review and comment. Comments were reviewed and incorporated as appropriate. The completed Mission Study will be forwarded to the Presbytery of Grand Canyon Committee on Ministry (COM) for review and approval.

Once the COM has approved the document, a Special Congregational Meeting will be called to elect a Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). This group will use the developed Mission Study to formulate a Ministry Information Form (MIF) which will be used to match SVPC data with any available pastors who might be interested. If any members of the congregation are interested in being nominated to serve on the PNC, please let the Clerk of Session, Glen Moss, know of your interest.

Remaining business for the Session included recording communion services including home communion to members Glenda Newcomer, Esther Howe, Mary Ellen Cutlip, Mona Nelson and Mary Schaal. Other business included an update on trustee's activities, a report from the preschool about starting the new school year, and a report from the Mission Committee about Undie Sunday donations and schedules.

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 JULY 30 FINANCIALS

	JULY	YTD
INCOME	\$19,630.40	\$137,047.70
EXPENSES	\$21,754.52	\$191,950.09

Yes – those figures are correct. We overspent our income by \$ 54,902.39

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

The Sierra Vista Scouting program has kicked off and groups are meeting. We continue to see new families interested in the program.

After one week, our numbers are sitting as follows:

GIRLS

DAISY: 7
 BROWNIES: 11
 JUNIORS: 8
 CADETTES: 11
 SENIORS/AMBASSADORS: 6

CUBS

LIONS/TIGERS: 5
 WOLFS: 3
 BEARS: 5
 WEBELO 1: 3
 AOL: 7

Our goal is to cap group size at 12 scouts, but some leaders have added additional youth. This year, we are again offering a combination Lions/ Tigers den. Lions are kindergarten aged and Tigers are first graders. We are still recruiting for Cub Scouts at most levels until we reach the cap of 12. Our Boy Scout Troop is sitting at 16 boys.

We have at least 8 Cub Scouts who have visited and expressed an interest in joining but have not yet formally registered. We continue to see Girl Scouts registering and adding to our numbers.

OUR SCHEDULE FOR THE COMING WEEK IS:

- AUGUST 28, SEPTEMBER 4, SEPTEMBER 11 & SEPTEMBER 18:
Regular meeting for all groups
- SEPTEMBER 25:
Rain Gutter Regatta Event for Cub Scouts
Regular meetings for Girl Scouts and the Scouts BSA Troop
- OCTOBER 2:
Regular meetings.

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

If you know of youth who might be interested in getting involved in scouts, please have them contact Mr. Moss at 928-580-7005 or leave a message on the church answering machine at 928-726-6680.

This year, we again held the traditional Labor Day weekend Family Camp. We were able to make reservations but they were early in the season and were for August 16 through 18. Approximately 25 persons made the journey to the cool environs of the Horse Heaven Campground. The daytime high for the weekend was about 75 degrees.

We plan to make reservations for next year and will try to get closer to Labor Day weekend.

SEPTEMBER 2024

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

1

2

Labor Day
Office
Closed

3

4

5

6

7

8

Communion
Sunday
Undie Donation

9

10

11

Bible Class
6:00 pm

12

13

14

15

Undie Donation

16

17

18

Bible Class
6:00 pm

19

20

21

International
day of Peace

22

23

24

25

Bible Class
6:00 pm

26

27

Native
American Day

28

29

30

OCTOBER 2024

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

1

2

3

4

5

6

Communion
Sunday

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

Scouts 6pm

17

18

19

Joann Livingston
Memorial Service
10:00 am

20

21

22

23

Scouts 6pm

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

Scouts 6pm

31