

## Dear Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church Family and Friends,

Grace and peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ during this Lenten Season!

Lent is a 40-day period of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving in preparation for Easter. It's a time of reflection and asking for forgiveness.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as the first step in our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. During Lent the people of God reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection.

The sign of ashes on Ash Wednesday suggests our human mortality, imperfection and weakness. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning, in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.

I invite and encourage you to make an effort to reflect on our Lord Jesus Christ in some special ways during this time. I suggest the five christian disciplines and more as a start.

1. Prayer
2. Fasting
3. Special/extra giving,
4. Reading & practicing the scriptures
5. Forgiving someone & also accepting your forgiveness.

Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church has been doing an eight week God and Country series for Scouts.

We have been blessed to have scouts, their families and friends attend the Sunday services and the program. They have made our services better by their attendance!

We are a warm and welcoming congregation.

I also want to recognize that one of our own youth achieved Eagle Scout status, the highest achievement in the Scouts BSA program. To achieve this, the youth in Scout Spirit, completed a service project, earned a specific number of merit badges, and demonstrated leadership and service. Congratulations!

Another youth appeared in a local agency's monthly magazine as he presented donations as part of his Eagle scouts project. He will receive his award early in April 2025

Some highlights from March include:

- \* Ash Wednesday service.
- \* Making sandwiches for Crossroads Mission.
- \* Ordination of an elder and installation of elders.
- \* Receiving two new members to the church.
- \* A visit and message by PC(USA) Young Adult Volunteers (YAVs).
- \* Preaching at Jesus Pan de Vida Church, San Luis, Mexico. during their 22nd anniversary.
- \* A visit and message from Pastor Caesar of Jesus Pan de Vida Church, San Luis, Mexico.
- \* A fun and tasty baked potato bash fundraiser with proceeds going to Jesus Pan de Vida.
- \* Synod meeting at Abulquecue New Mexico.
- \* Presbytery meeting at Chandler Presbyterian church.
- \* Pastoral visits with church family members and friends in their homes, care facilities, Hospitals, restaurants and places of work in times of Joy, pain or otherwise - If you need a visit please contact me or the office to schedule.
- \* Adult Sunday school led by Brian Claar continues to meet on Sundays after fellowship.
- \* Wednesday adult Bible study continues in person and on zoom at 6:15pm weekly, led by me, Pastor Dan the man with a plan.
- \* Men's breakfast continues every Thursday at 8am
- \* Youth group continues to meet 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 6pm
- \* Prayer team continues to meet weekly on Mondays at 10am.
- \* Prayer chain continues 24/7

Upcoming plans include:

- \* Eagle Scouts award April 03rd
- \* Receiving new member April 06th
- \* Presentation of a Senior Award Certificate April 06th
- \* Presentation of badges and certificates of completion of God and Country program. April 13th
- \* Palm Sunday service on April 13th
- \* Maundy Thursday service on April 17th
- \* Easter service/celebration on April 20th
- \* Easter egg hunt April 20th
- \* Easter Potluck brunch April 20th

Most of the upcoming events are posted on our website. Please visit there as often as you can.

Thanks to all who volunteer in all different ways to serve our Lord here at SVPC . I also want to appreciate our staff for their dedication. Together we are making a difference for and with our Lord Jesus Christ! It is always a joy to serve Him with you all!

May God bless you.  
Pastor Dan

# PRAYER LIST

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

## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

*April*  
BIRTHDAYS

### APRIL

4 Judy Apple  
5 John Plate  
21 Harold Maxwell

### SCOUTS

#### APRIL

7 Hendrix Morales  
8 Julietta Carrasco  
9 Deanna Allen  
22 Ruby Regalado  
22 Rylan Poor

*May*  
BIRTHDAYS

### MAY

3 Bob Anderton  
9 Glenda Newcomer  
14 Shelley Hawkins

### SCOUTS

#### MAY

4 CJ Allen  
5 Gabriel Delgado  
6 Madoxx Rabun  
6 Kalizza Peynado  
7 Silver Dillard  
12 LillyAnne Hatley  
21 Elijah Rivera  
23 Isabella Castro  
29 Mikayla Williams

## ANNIVERSARIES

21 Myrle & Karen Marlatt  
31 Bob & Marty Anderton

# PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The search for the next installed pastor is a deliberate process that may seem excessively long and tedious. We are actively searching for the person God is calling for our next pastor. We have received several Personal Discernment Profiles (PDPs) from the denominational Church Leadership Connection (CLC) system for consideration. So far, all received PDPs have been reviewed and noted as one of the following categories:

- Interested/ Invite to Apply, or
- No interest/ No Longer Interested

For those noted as “Invite to Apply”, the CLC sends out a message to the potential candidate to inform them of a possible interest and inquires of the candidate’s interest in being considered.

The Pastor Nominating Committee has received about 15 candidate profiles from the CLC. After review of the information, the committee determined there was no further interest in some of the candidates. Several were deemed to be of potential interest to the committee and the CLC was notified. Out of those, five have responded as not interested or have withdrawn from consideration.

We have requested additional matches from the system and still assessing interest in others.

Out of respect for candidates, their families, and the churches they may presently serve, we are intentionally confidential about what we can share publicly.

We trust that the Holy Spirit is guiding this process and ask that you continue to pray with us continually. As a reminder, the opening is publically posted and we welcome you to send the opportunity to anyone you may know that might have an interest in living in Arizona and serving at Sierra Vista. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church and are excited about who God is preparing to come as our next pastor.

# MISSION COMMITTEE NEWS

Thank you to everyone who brought sandwich fixings and helped make sandwiches for Crossroads Mission on March 2nd.

Thank you to Myrle and Karen Marlatt for transporting the sandwiches to Crossroads Mission.

The Mission was very happy to receive the sandwiches!

Pastor Cesar Vasquez of Jesus Pan De Vida in San Luis, MX was here to worship with us and preach on March 23. After the service we had the annual Baked Potato Bash.

Thank you those that helped prepare the meal and to those who donated cash to help support the projects of Jesus Pan De Vida.

We raised \$1099 plus a previous \$1000 donation that was designated for this project for a total of \$2099!

## EASTER POTLUCK

### SUNDAY

### APRIL 20th

in Don Francis Hall  
from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in DFH.

Please write down the dish you will be bringing for the potluck and the number of guests attending.

If you are interested in attending please contact:  
Karen Marlatt & Lynette Hamilton



# CLERK'S REPORT

The March Session Meeting was to handle routine business. The Consent Agenda included the recording of the ordination of Sharon Brainard on March 2 and the recording of communion being served on the same day. The Consent Agenda was unanimously passed.

Two new members were noted. John and Gwenda Fletcher were accepted as new members at a Special Session Meeting held on March 9.

Remaining business for the Session included the Pastor's Report, correspondence from the clerk, and receipt and approval of the February financial report. The Trustees presented and were granted approval for several building use requests. Other Trustee reported activities included the repair of the chain link fence at the southeast corner of the grassy area, the reconfiguration of the former library area, the completion of the backflow inspection, and the replacement of all exterior faucets with more secure items.

Committee reports included:

**Care Portal** – Care Portal cases continue to come in and we support and fulfill needs as we can. Over 1000 children in Yuma County have been served since the inception of the Care Portal in 2018.

**Christian Education** – God and Country Study for the High School age group is underway. The required meeting with Pastor Dan is scheduled for April 6 and the recognition of the God and Country Awards will be done during the Worship Service on April 13. Plans for Easter celebrations were discussed. These plans include an Easter Egg Hunt on April 20 and a scavenger hunt for sixth grade and up youth during the Fellowship Hour.

**Mission Activities** – The Baked Potato Bash was held in Sunday, March 23 during Fellowship Hour. The event raised \$ 1,099 which will be sent to the Jesus Pan De Vida Church in San Luis Rio Colorado.

**Worship** – Plans for the upcoming services for Palm Sunday – April 13, Maundy Thursday – April 17, and Easter Sunday on April 27 were noted.

The Session asks for prayers for the Pastor Nominating process and the continuing work of the Session.

# TREASURER'S REPORT

## For the Month of February 2025 ANALYSIS OF FEBRUARY REPORTS

Profit and Loss Report

### **INCOME**

Total income received for February was \$ 16,400.88. This includes all income for the month and consists of donations in the offering plate, and on-line donations through Vanco Services (\$3,818.33). If there are any donations to Special Funds (such as Care Portal and Crossroads Mission), they are included in income amounts but are transferred to the Restricted Account as per the designation. Contributions to Special Funds totaled \$ 570.10 including donations to CarePortal, Souper Bowl, and the Tour de Fields bike ride.

### **EXPENSES**

Total expenses for February totaled \$22,811.56 including \$ 520.10 Designated Monies Expenses (to the Crossroads Mission for funds from the Souper Bowl and the Tour de Fields events. There were no extraordinary expenses in February but the Annual Domain Reservation fee for the web site in the amount of \$ 1,200.00 came due in February.

### **Bank Accounts**

#### **Current balances at the end of February were:**

Restricted Account (Designated Funds)	\$ 20,799.36
Wells Fargo checking account	\$ 71.90

### **SUMMARY**

Through 2025, we have spent \$ 14,717.68 more than we have brought in. We are fortunate that we have the Investment Account. As of March 18, 2025 we have a bank balance of uncommitted funds of <\$ 2,257.11>. This balance recognizes the April 1 payment for the second quarter of the Liability Insurance (\$ 2,744.75) and the March Board of Pensions payment which was due on March 25 but it does not include costs for the March 31 payroll. Our Treasurer will continue to monitor the bank account and will tap the Investment if necessary.

As our Winter family returns home, we need to thank them for their support and wish them a safe journey until they return to Yuma.

# SCOUTS

## OVERALL PROGRAM

All portions of the Sierra Vista Scout Program will be taking a break starting March 27 and will resume meeting on April 8.

## GIRL SCOUTS

The Girl Scouts have completed selling the delicious Girl Scout cookies. Our Troop 8054 girls sold over 20,000 boxes. Funds raised from cookie sales go toward the support of our Troop 8054 program.

## CUB SCOUTS

The Cub Scout Pack is continuing with achieving the various rank requirements. A Pack Meeting where achievements were recognized was held on March 26th. We are planning on a family camping adventure the weekend of April 25-27. This camp will be at the Scouting America Balboa Park Campground in San Diego. More information will be forthcoming. The deadline for registrations is April 14. Fees for the camp are \$ 8.00 per camper, \$10.00 per person for the optional meal plan, and \$ 5.00 for range fees for youth participating in archery and bb gun shooting.

## BOY SCOUT TROOP

The Troop 8054 boys continue to work on merit badges and rank advancements. Campouts and Courts of Honor are scheduled during April. On March 19, an Eagle Court of Honor was held for Daniel Troxel and Cody Hill's Eagle Court of Honor is scheduled for April 3.



# APRIL 2025

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

1

2

3

4

5

6

5th Sunday  
in Lent

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

Palm Sunday

14

Monday of  
Holy Week

15

Tuesday of  
Holy Week

16

Wednesday of  
Holy Week

17

Maundy  
Thursday

18

Good Friday

19

Great Vigil  
of Easter

20

Resurrection  
of the Lord  
Easter Day

Egg Hunt  
Easter Potluck

21

22

Earth Day

23

24

25

26

27

Pastor Esteban  
Escobar

2nd Sunday  
of Easter

28

29

30

# MAY 2025

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

1

2

3

4

Communion  
Sunday

3rd Sunday  
of Easter

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Mother's  
Day

4th Sunday  
of Easter

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

5th Sunday  
of Easter

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

6th Sunday  
of Easter

26

Memorial  
Day  
Office Closed

27

28

29

Ascension  
of the Lord

30

31