

SIERRA VISTA

THANK YOU

Thank you Pastor Dan Albertson for your faithful service as Interim Pastor for Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church. Little did any of us know or expect that you would serve for two and one-half years as an Interim Pastor. There have been several accomplishments during this time frame and we rejoice in them. Some of these items are:

- A net growth of 5 members – over the two and one-half years we gained 10 additions and lost five members to death
- Three baptisms – one child and two adults
- Completing an effort to aid Jesus Pan de Vida congregation in getting some building improvements funded from various sources including the Presbytery of Grand Canyon and the Presbytery of Sonora Mexico and the local congregations. This should conclude a project that was launched over 20 years ago.
- Continuing support of the adult Wednesday night Bible class
- Ongoing sermons and pulpit support

We expressed our appreciation for all of Pastor Dan's efforts and wished him the best in his new called (installed) position in Phoenix at a special Fellowship time on Sunday, June 28.

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Your elected Pastor Nominating Committee has been working to locate our next Installed Pastor. They have received many (over 60) resumes from the Church Leadership Connection data base from the PCUSA national offices. Just because the resume was included in a distribution from the National Office does not mean that the individual is interested or even know where Yuma Arizona is. The resumes are retrieved from the database by a match of our priorities from our Mission Study Report that was developed by the Session.

After reviewing the resumes, the Committee determined whether they had any interest and if so invited the potential candidate to apply. Many of the potential candidates responded with a "No Interest" or "Please withdraw My Name" response. A few responded with a "Let's talk further" type response. The Committee has conducted interviews with a few potential candidates but as of the end of June the committee does not have a viable and interested candidate.

Please pray for the Pastor Nominating Committee and their work and that God will provide His identified individual (s) who will serve Sierra Vista for the future.

WHILE WE AWAIT GOD'S PLANS

While we are without an ordained pastor to serve at Sierra Vista, we will be supported by visiting pastors identified by the Presbytery of Grand Canyon and others who will preach and lead worship services. We have arranged to have Tyler Claar preach for the first three Sundays in July and are diligently working on a list of others. If you have a potential candidate, please let either Glen Moss or Brian Smith know and we will speak with the individual to see when they are available. You can also leave a voice mail at 928-726-6680.

OFFICE HOURS AND SUPPORT

Effective July 15, the church office will be staffed on an intermittent basis. While we are in transition, it was determined that the office would not have set hours. Should you need support or assistance from the office, please plan ahead and make arrangements for visiting. You can leave a request for an office visit by calling the church office and leaving a message at least 24 hours in advance. The phone system is available 24 hours per day and will be checked daily Monday through Thursday for messages. Sarahi Shriver, our Administrative Assistant will be working from home on a limited basis to provide the necessary support for Sunday services, blue sheet preparation and other processes, but will normally only be in the office one day a week to run off needed material. If there is an emergency that needs attention, please call Glen Moss, Clerk of Session at 928-580-7005 and leave a message if he does not immediately pick up. All requests and messages will be responded to as soon as practical.



SCOUTS

CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR FOR SCOUTING!!

The 2026-27 Scouting program will start back in August. We have several recruiting events in preparation for the kick off. On Thursday, July 23 we will have a presence at the Marine Corps Air Station Back To School event. There will be an information display at the Gowan Science Academy Open House events on Thursday July 23 from 5 to 7 pm and Friday July 24 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. On Friday, July 31, we will be at the Palmcroft Elementary School "Meet and Greet" event from 11 am through 1 pm to provide information to parents and youth.

There will also be recruiting on-site registration events held at the Yuma Main Library on Thursday August 13 from 6 to 7 pm and Saturday August 15 at the library from 1:30 to 3:30 pm. All of these events except for the Palmcroft event will focus on the Cub Scout Pack potential members but each location will also have information about all of the Scouting America programs.

We have begun the registration process for all returning scouts for the Fall program. We already have many Girl Scouts registered for the Fall. The official charters for the Scouting America Pack and Troop have been renewed between Sierra Vista and Scouting America. 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.

The first meeting for the Cub Scout program will be a "Back To Pack" event on August 19. This event is for returning Cub Scouts as well as anyone interested in gathering information about the Cub Scout program. This "Back To Pack" event will be kicked off with a hot dog meal followed by a presentation for the parents and youth.

The Girl Scout Troop and the Boy Scout Troop will return on August 19 at 6 pm

The Laguna Mountain Family Camp WILL BE held this fall. The Horse Heaven Campsite is reserved for the Labor Day weekend from September 4 through 7. We are fortunate that we could secure the Labor Day weekend. For those who have pre-registered and prepaid, the campsite will be available on a first come – first serve starting at noon on the 4th. Families will have the option to do their own cooking or a meal plan is being offered. Cost for the entire weekend is \$ 10 per camper and \$20.00 per person for those joining the group meals.

To ensure that your family gets a space at the camp (limited to 100 attendees), contact Glen Moss at 928-580-7005 to reserve your space and we will make arrangements to collect the necessary fees. All fees, must be prepaid so we can ensure that we don't exceed the 100 person limit and that we have adequate materials for meals and activities. We look forward to seeing all of you in the August/ September timeframe as we kick off the 2026-27 program and welcome new families.



CHRISTMAS *in July*

We are currently half way through 2026. Sierra Vista Presbyterian Church has been blessed this last six months through generous donations to specific projects. So far we have accomplished or have scheduled the following items:

- Raising funds to support the Jesus Pan de Vida church in San Luis Rio Colorado and weaning that congregation off monthly mission support for pastoral care
- Scheduled the painting of the exterior of all campus buildings in late July/ early August.
This project has been made possible through a grant from a local non-profit organization that wishes to remain anonymous
- Painting and replacement of flooring for the bathrooms in the sanctuary building through a generous donation from an anonymous donor
- Painting and decorating of the bathrooms in the Community Building by a dedicated donor
- Stripping and waxing of all tile floors throughout the campus
- Certification of our fire alarm system in the Christian Education/ Preschool building
- Preventative maintenance for all nine air conditioners on the campus
- Replacement of lighting in the sanctuary to brighten up the atmosphere

Over the past few years, there have been many maintenance items that we have deferred due to higher priority items. Unfortunately, some of these items are catching up with us. Although the above list of projects is quite extensive, there is one more “major” item that needs to be addressed, and that is the leaking roof on the Community Building. One of the classrooms has obvious water stains on the ceiling and ceiling tiles need to be replaced – but not until the source of the stains is addressed.

Much of what we have accomplished has been funded through donations and grants. It is still quite a while until Christmas when generosity is more widely expressed. It has been mentioned that we should offer an opportunity for a small (around \$ 9,000) capital improvement campaign to have the roof repaired and sealed. The Community Building and Don Francis Hall are the original buildings erected when Sierra Vista opened its doors almost 70 years ago. Our newest building, the Christian Education building will celebrate its 40th birthday during 2026.

We are suggesting that you consider making a Christmas gift in July or an early birthday gift to the church to help with the roof repairs. Any such gifts or donations should be above the regular giving rather than a deflection of funds as we continually struggle to meet our monthly obligations. We are a generous congregation when we provide Mission Support to outside organizations – maybe we should consider gifts to ourselves for this need.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT