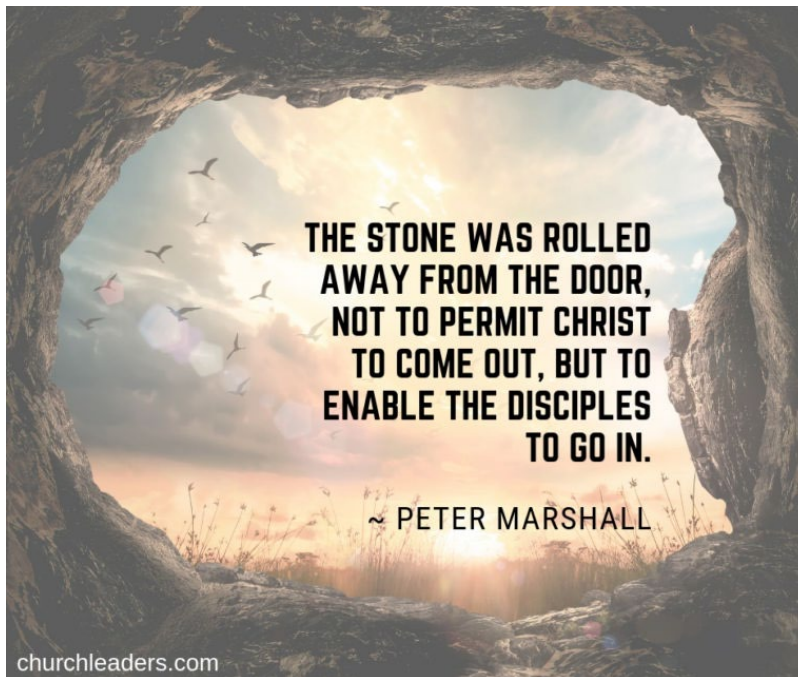




APRIL 2026

Our Mission at Vista de la Montaña United Methodist Church

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, and to reach out to others, help them, welcome them into our family of faith as we gather for worship, fellowship, education, and service.



ECHOES EMAIL CHANGE!!!

Please send all Echoes articles, events and photos to

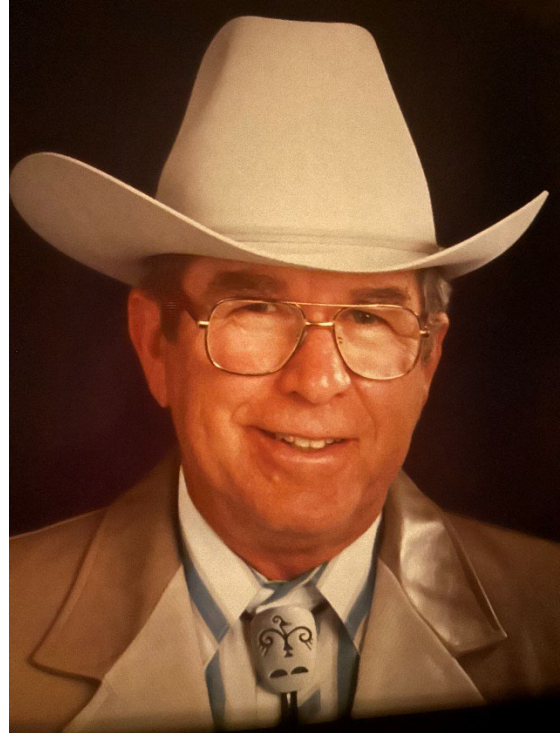
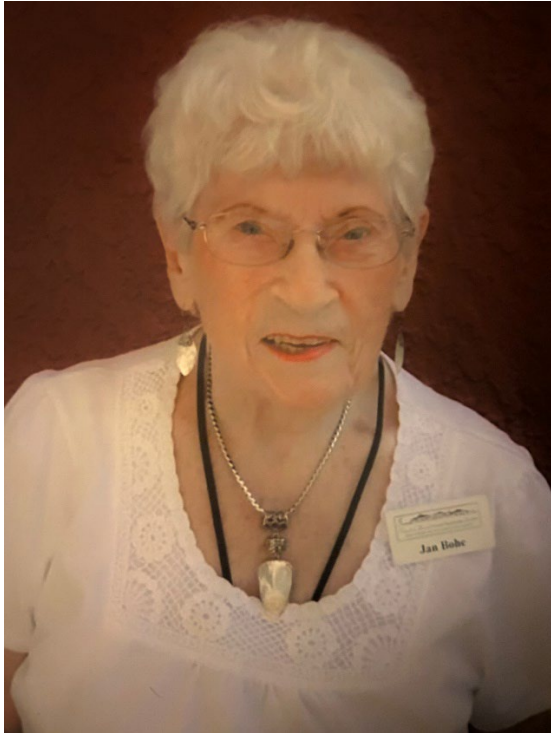
mamayob@gmail.com

Subject line: ECHOES

THANKS!!!

FELLOWSHIP FOCUS

JANICE ELAINE (HOWARD) BOHE



Jack Bohe



Jan Bohe was born on July 6th, 1933 in Maynard, Iowa to parents Darrell “Bud” and Mildred Howard. She was born in the same bed as her mother on her grandparents farm. It was during the Great Depression so no hospital stay, the doctor came to the farm for Jan’s birth. Both of Jan’s parents had graduated from college. Her mother worked as a teacher in a one room schoolhouse before marriage and the birth of their only child Jan. Jan’s father worked for the Standard Oil Company. Jan grew up riding horses and hunting pheasants with her dad but always wished she had a brother or sister like other children at school. One thing she learned early in life was to look out for your neighbors, a practice she has continued throughout her life.

On the Maynard farm they had a hand pump for water in the kitchen, no indoor plumbing or even electricity for some years. The family used kerosene lamps and took their Saturday night baths using a basin in the kitchen sink. Sundays Jan’s family attended the Lutheran church in Maynard and later after moving Presbyterians churches. In junior high school Jan asked her parents if she could go to the Methodist Church for Sunday School with a friend. The family moved four times during Jan’s school years to the small towns of Gladbrook for Grades 1 – 3, Maynard again for Grades 4-6, Oelwein for grades 7-10 and Ottumwa, Iowa for grades 11-12. Just before her Junior year in high school, Jan’s father bought a Dodge-Plymouth car dealership in Ottumwa, moving them from a town of 8,000 to 30,000 people. Jan begged her parents to allow her to stay with her grandparents and finish high school with her friends but made the move with her family. Ottumwa had been the site of a Naval Air Base during World War II. Upon the family’s arrival the base stood empty with huge barracks available to rent. Due to a shortage of housing in town, they rented in a large apartment in a former barracks with no bedroom or bathroom doors and one small sink. Jan hated the apartment, missed her friends, and frequently got lost in her “huge” new high school. She had to ride the school bus and could not stay for after school activities. Jan’s life improved dramatically in her senior year when the family moved to town and her father let her drive a brand-new yellow convertible back and forth to school. She graduated from Ottumwa High School in June 1951.

Jan met her future husband Jack Bohe when she was a senior in high school. Jack had served in the United States Air Force in Germany until returning to his family’s Ottumwa home in 1950. The story goes that Jan was walking down the street when Jack spotted her out the window while playing pool with his friends. A very handsome Jack immediately went outside and introduced himself to this beautiful young woman. Jan and Jack were married on June 7th, 1953. Both Jan’s mother and grandmother were professional seamstresses, but Jan found a dress on sale in size 2 for the wedding. She was photographed in her stunning wedding dress at the local town

photography studio. They displayed Jan's enlarged framed wedding photo in their window for many years. Later when a friend informed her the shop was closing, Jan contacted them and they sent her the display picture. It hangs on her bedroom wall.

Jan worked as a secretary for the Ottumwa Board of Education until the birth of their first child Alan on September 4th, 1954. Scott was born on September 26th, 1956. Jack worked for the N.W. Bell Telephone Company and the family lived in Ottumwa until 1958 when Jack was transferred to Indianola, Iowa. They lived in Indianola from 1958 – 1971 where Jan began her church life of service as Treasurer of the Presbyterian Woman's Group. Linda was born on May 15th, 1961. When Linda was in first grade, Jan started working part-time as an Accounts Payable Clerk at Simpson College. In 1971 Jack got a new job in Milwaukee, WI working for Union Prescription Service. They sold their house and moved when Alan was going into his senior year of high school, Scott his sophomore year and Linda was starting sixth grade. It was a traumatic move for the entire family. Jan continued her volunteering in the Newcomers' Club and women's group at First Presbyterian Church in West Allis, WI. Scott and Linda were active in the Youth Group performing in church musical programs. Alan began his lifelong career as a mechanic in work study while at Alexander Hamilton High School. He attended classes in the morning and worked at a garage in the afternoons. At church Jan organized luncheons to make money for church mission projects and was installed as a Deacon.

During the recession of 1974 Jack and Jan both lost their jobs and decided to move with their daughter Linda to Tucson, AZ. Linda was promised no more moves until she graduated from high school. Jan and Jack lived in Tucson for 10 years. Jack's sister Bev, mother and father were also living in Tucson. Jack went to Real Estate School and Jan applied to the Mountain Bell Telephone Company. Jack sold real estate, but Jan had a long year of unemployment until finally being hired by the telephone company. She worked as an order clerk for two years and then was promoted to supervisor of the department. In 1984 AT&T was ordered to split up by the Supreme Court. Jan and Jack moved to Denver with U.S. West paying all moving expenses. In 1990 U.S. West offered all management a buyout and Jan retired. They decided to move back to Tucson and bought a house in the new Sun City in Oro Valley, AZ. Jack was excited to get a job selling real estate for the new Del Webb community.

In 1992 Jack and Jan joined the newly formed Vista United Methodist Church holding Sunday services at a local school. Jan volunteered to decorate the card table altar with candles and flowers each Sunday, a job she performed for 10 years. Jack and Jan celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on June 10th, 1997. They went to Hawaii with church friends Betty and Don Little. Sadly, Jack was diagnosed with lung cancer

in November of 2002. He died on May 1st, 2003 at the age of 71 just a few weeks before their 50th wedding anniversary. They had planned a return anniversary trip to Hawaii. Jan's daughter Linda, husband Dan and son Scott later took their mom to Hawaii for that special trip in memory of their father.

Jack and Jan were always dog lovers. Jan has had a total of six dachshunds over the years. Her beloved last dog Molly died in 2024 at the age of 17. In 2009 Jan started the Sun City sewing group which she named Pet Beds. Volunteers make stuffed pillow beds for animals waiting for adoption at the Humane Society of Southern Arizona. Last year the group made 226 pet beds. Under Jan's leadership this group of volunteers have donated a grand total of 4,335 pet beds since 2009!

Jan started her long volunteer service at United Methodist Women (UMW) in 1993. She continually held leadership positions as the Susanna Wesley Circle treasurer, secretary or leader until 2022. She is still an active member of United Women of Faith (formerly UMW). In 1992 Jan joined the Sun City sewing group making children's clothes for Casa Amigos and Amphi Clothing Bank. In 2003 Jan took over Vista Church's sewing group which she renamed Creative Hands. Around this same time Dee (Berman) Tompkins became the leader of Mission Outreach. Dee dramatically increased the financial support of the church's mission projects including Creative Hands. The ladies in this small but dynamic group still meet on the first Friday of the month at Vista Church from September to May. Volunteers sew children's clothing including dresses, jumpers, shorts/t-shirt sets, pajamas, hats, baby bibs and pillowcases. Last year this group sewed and donated a total of 932 items to Family First Pregnancy Care Center and Impact for Southern Arizona Clothing bank. Jan's leadership and generous donation of her sewing talents have been instrumental in bringing joy to needy children throughout the local community. We continue to be in awe of her amazing willingness to share her time and talents with others. God bless Jan for her lifetime of service!

Written by Jan Hopke Almer with Jan Bohe

SURPRISE LUNCHEON FOR JAN BOHE

United Women in Faith sponsored a fund-raising luncheon for Creative Hands on St. Patrick's Day. It was also an event to honor Jan Bohe who started Creative Hands. Jan's wonderful sewing skills are displayed through her children's clothing such as pajama sets, aprons, dresses, and short sets. Speakers at the event included Frank from Family First, Barbara from Impact of Southern Arizona, and Dee Berman Tompkins.



Jan Bohe and Family



UWF members: Front Row: Amy Butkovich, Delores Brindle, Jan Hopke Almer
Back Row: Joan Logan, Jane Reifsynder



Gail and Joy Kirby modeling aprons

Letter from the Humane Society of Southern Arizona

Thanking Jan Bohe

On behalf of all of us at the Humane Society of Southern Arizona, I want to express our heartfelt gratitude for the time, care, and dedication you have given to making beds for pets in need.

Because of you, 4,553 pets have had a soft, comforting place to rest and lay their heads during a time when they needed it most. That simple act of kindness brings warmth, security, and comfort to animals who may be experiencing uncertainty.

It truly touches our hearts to know there are people like you who are so deeply committed to our mission of compassionately serving our community's pets and the people who love them. Your willingness to give so selflessly ensures that every pet in our care has something they truly deserve, comfort, dignity, and kindness. Your generosity has made a meaningful difference in the lives of thousands of animals, and in the hearts of everyone who cares for them.

Thank you, Jan, for everything you do for the Humane Society of Southern Arizona.

Kristin Barney (she/her)

Chief Executive Officer

[Humane Society of Southern Arizona](#)

(520) 327-6088 ext 120

635 W. Roger Rd. Tucson, AZ 85705

Jan has donated 4553 pet beds to HSSA. They are used in the shelter, offered at pet pantry and given to adopters.

MARCH ECHOES UPDATE:

Of all things to miss, I left Mary Louise and Walt's family photos out of the March Family Focus! My apologies dear friend!



Family 1930's



4-year-old tap dancer





MISSION OUTREACH
COMMUNION & LOOSE CHANGE OFFERING
FOR APRIL
UNITED METHODIST COMMITTEE ON RELIEF
(UMCOR)

Chair Yoga is coming to Vista UMC!

by Sharon Scanlan and Marty Lenzini

Beginning April 11, Tanya Fagentan, who teaches a very popular class in SaddleBrooke HOA1 and SaddleBrooke Ranch, will teach a Chair Yoga class on Saturday mornings at 10:00 AM. The cost will be \$10/class, paid directly to Tanya in cash or check. It will be held in the Elizabeth Room, which is at the southern end of the education building and will last for 50-60 minutes.

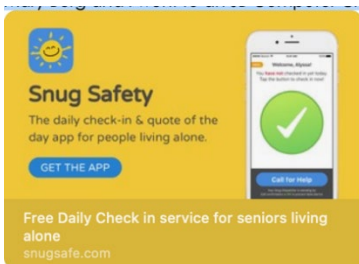
The class is open to the public! Invite a friend. If you have questions, please call the church office at 520-825-1985 from 9:00AM – 2:00 PM Monday – Thursdays. Vista UMC is located at 3001 E. Miravista Lane on the west side of Oracle, just south of the Golder Ranch intersection.

Cell Phone/Tablet Application for Anyone Living Alone

by Sharon Scanlan and Mary Berg

We recently went to a SaddleBrooke Computer Club class and heard about a great idea. A man in our class, who has been a widower for many years, lives alone. He told us about an app called SNUGSAFE:

<https://www.snugsafe.com/>



The app is free. Once you set it up, you check-in daily by a designated time. You can pay a fee monthly for more checks during the day. If you don't check in, the Fire Department is alerted. The man shared that he had a seizure, didn't check in by his selected time and the fire department was contacted. He had a lockbox, so the Fire Department came into his house and took him by ambulance to the hospital.

This could be a great app for anyone who live alone!! Also, everyone should have a lockbox so that the Fire Department can enter your home without breaking down your front door! (Senior Village in SaddleBrooke installs them.) Contact your Fire Department to acquire one.

Vista UMC 2025 Finance Update

By the Finance Committee

Vista UMC ended 2025 with a strong financial performance. Revenue was \$322,000, which was \$30,500 over budget. Expenses were on budget and we have had a positive net income. In the last 10 years, Vista UMC has never budgeted a negative net income and has always exceeded the budget, except for 2023. We were able to pay Apportionments in 2025 and continue to monthly in 2026. We are debt-free, since we paid off the mortgage on the Education/Administration building in January, 2024. Expenses are always planned after the stewardship campaign is concluded. The Vista staff manages their expenses extremely well.

If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Scanlan, Finance Chair, sascanlan8548@me.com.

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT, SERVE & SUPPORT

Communion Servers: If you are interested in being part of this ministry, please contact Linda Galka lindagalka65@gmail.com or speak with me at church and I will add you to the list. We need two servers the first Sunday of each month to serve bread and juice alongside Pastor Mary and the Liturgist. All elements are gluten free! No advance training is required!

Landscaping

The Landscaping crew are now meeting on Thursdays at 7:00 instead of 8:00, due to the increase in temperatures. The guys are always seeking others to join them, and sometimes there are even donuts provided for those who show up, such a deal!

Agua Prieta greeting cards are available for 50¢ each in the Library during office hours.

Complimentary Prayer Beads are available in the Narthex and in the Library.

Upper Room booklets are available in the Narthex and the church office for \$2.00 each or online at upperroom.org. It is free to sign up for a daily devotional email.

A wheelchair is available during services in the Narthex.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 04.01.06	12:30pm	Handbell Practice
Wednesday 04.01.26	1:00pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 04.02.26	8:00am	Landscaping
Thursday 04.02.26	4:30pm	Maundy Thursday
Friday 04.03.26	9:30am	Creative Hands
Friday 04.03.26	10:00am	Prayer Bead Group
Saturday 04.04.26	8:00am	Vista Men's Meeting
Sunday 04.05.26	6:30am	Sunrise Service
Sunday 04.05.2026	10:00am	Easter Worship
Tuesday 04.07.2026	5:00pm	Trustees Meeting
Wednesday 04.08.26	11:00am	Handbell Practice
Wednesday 04.08.26	1:00pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 04.09.26	8:00am	Landscaping
Sunday 04.12.26	10:00am	Worship
Sunday 04.12.2026	11:15am	Greeter/Usher Meeting
Sunday 04.12.2026	3:00pm	Voices in the Oaks
Wednesday 04.15.26	11:00am	Handbell Practice
Wednesday 04.15.26	1:00pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 04.16.26	8:00am	Landscaping
Sunday 04.19.26	10:00am	Worship
Tuesday 04.21.26	9:30am	Women of Faith Meeting
Tuesday 04.21.26	3:00pm	Church Council Meeting
Wednesday 04.22.26	11:00am	Handbell Practice
Wednesday 04.22.26	1:00pm	Choir Practice
Sunday 04.26.26	10:00am	Worship
Wednesday 04.29.26	11:00am	Handbell Practice
Wednesday 04.29.26	1:00pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 04.30.26	8:00am	Landscaping

Breakfast with the Pastor

2nd Tuesday, of the month, 8:00 AM Sunny side Up Cafe

Agua Prieta School Supplies Mission Project: During the month of April Mission Outreach will be collecting donations to buy backpacks and school supplies for students attending Fuente de Vida Church. The following is a message from Pastor Gela about this program.

About 20 years ago we began a relationship as sister churches: “Fuente de Vida” and “Vista de la Montana.” The area where God sent my husband and me in Agua Prieta, Mexico was a marginalized area called “La Cartonera” because the houses were made of cardboard. We found an enormous need in that place. First, there was a need for God. Then there was a need for education and basic public services like electricity, water lines, and sewage systems. It was an area of the city that had been completely forgotten.

My husband and I were praying and asking for direction on how to bring the Word of God to people who could not read or write. We were also praying that families would be lifted out of poverty. Many children did not attend school because they lacked the required school supplies. Vista members began a program sponsoring backpacks filled with school supplies. In this way God helped us begin to fight the problem of lack of education through our partnership with Vista de la Montana.

Years later, the Roche Foundation was established and provided scholarships to many university students whose lives were transformed. They would never have been able to complete a degree without your financial help. We currently have three students completing their programs.

The sister relationship of Fuente de Vida and Vista de la Montana has borne much fruit, and it has been fruit that remains. Thank you for all your support and for every demonstration of love toward the work of Fuente de Vida. Without your help, we would not have achieved everything we have accomplished up to today. In these 20 years of fruit—abundant fruit—you brought clothing to those without clothes, shoes to those who were barefoot, and a much better future to those who had no dreams or hope for their future. I am convinced that each one of you was guided by the Holy Spirit to go and transform that community. You are those branches that have borne much fruit.

Receive a loving embrace and God’s many blessings from the Fuente de Vida family.

Pastor Gela Villicana

Sunday April 12th 11:15 am
GREETER & USHER MEETING
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING OF
SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY IN THIS
IMPORTANT WAY PLAN ON ATTENDING THE
MEETING IN THE ELIZABETH ROOM
CONTACT JOAN MAYER OR CALL THE
OFFICE

EASTER

SUNRISE SERVICE - 6:30 AM

◆-----◆
WORSHIP - 10:00 AM

VISTAUMC.ORG

MAUNDY THURSDAY 4:30 PM IN THE SANCTUARY