

NOVEMBER 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.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!

Fellowship Focus - October 2026 - Delores Brindle

By Robin Conner

Shanksville is a small borough township in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, known globally as the crash site of United Airlines Flight 93 during the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. The plane crashed just ½ mile from Delores Brindle's family farm where her family still resides. Almost 58 years prior, to the day, on September 10, 1943, Delores was born. She ranked the oldest of 5, (three sisters (beginning with Delores, then Carol, Danny, the third sister, followed by two brothers, Robert and the baby, Larry). She has fond memories of her childhood including a big garden that yielded scores of grown veggies and fruits; anything her mother could can into 100 quarts, using a wood stove, with wood produced by the kids bringing it in a red wagon.

They attended the Lutheran church as a family, with each child putting a nickel into the Sunday School offering plate. Delores loved teaching the preschoolers even as a preteen, and this desire to teach followed her throughout her life.

In 1951, several medical situations changed the family lifestyle, including her grandmother suffering a serious stroke and moving in with her son-in-law. Eventually, she came back to live with the family so Delores and her mother could care for her. Delores' sister, Carol, had back problems, followed by surgery, and she, too, returned home eventually to further recover. The two sisters continued going to Sunday school accompanied by their dad while their mom stayed home to care for her own mother.

A surprise baby brother was born much to the delight to Delores and Carol, who now had a real "live baby doll" to play with, not to mention he was the first boy born into the family, a namesake, who would carry on the family name. When the 3rd sister, Danny, was three, she became very ill and was confined to her bed unless someone carried her to her little wheelchair. Delores' mother found herself in a serious caregiver role between her grandmother and daughter, in addition to the attention Delores and Carol desired. In the meantime, their father was running a Hereford beef cattle farm as well as contributing to the welfare of the grandmother-in-law and Danny. Times were tough for the family but Delores learned to iron! There were months Danny was in the hospital and holidays were delayed until she could return home to enjoy them.

The Hereford farm was sold, causing the family to move into an old farmhouse without running water, but it had heat. In May of 1957 another baby boy, Larry, was born. Sadly, Danny became ill again and passed away June 16th from a ruptured spleen. She was just nine years old. This was a very sad time for the family. Delores' dad was a comfort as he took care of her mom, who suffered deeply from the death of Danny. In time, she felt God took Danny and replaced her with Larry. In January, 1959, their grandmother died; again, sad times for this family. After graduating high school in 1961, Delores' parents prepared to find a nursing school that would accept her general education. They found one in Chambersburg, PA, and she graduated with the Practical Nursing Program in March, 1963. She was about to meet her future husband, Kermit, who was home from Auburn, NY and visiting his parents. A cousin attempted to set up a blind date, but it didn't work out. Kermit found out about it and asked her out the next day for an outdoor movie. And they both went back to their lives, Kermit in NY and Delores with her nursing. In January of 1963, Kermit's father passed away in Chambersburg and the couple got together often as Kermit took care of the funeral arrangements. After asking for her hand in marriage via her father, Delores and Kermit were married Easter week end, April 13, 1963, in the Lutheran Church officiated by a Methodist minister! She'd passed the nursing exam and she permanently moved to Auburn, NY. The couple lived across the road of the Owasco Finger Lake until they bought a small fixer upper along the old barge canal in Memphis, NY. The next several years saw Delores working in a nursing home and assisted living while Kermit worked full time at GE in Auburn and attended night school two nights a week. Kermit and Delores moved to Milford, CT after he accepted a job offer while Delores continued to work in the nursing home setting until Kermit started to

encourage her to go to college. He knew she wanted to be a registered nurse, but the only nursing programs were held in the hospital setting in NY. It was not feasible that she do a 3-year nurses training program held and run by the hospital because if one moved, they couldn't transfer to another hospital training program.

Kermit believed in higher education.

In 1969, Delores discovered a community college and became a full-time college student working towards an Associate Degree in general education. She was able to quit work and focus on her education. She had no other plans after graduation.

Apparently, "God" and Kermit had other ideas and she transferred to Connecticut University in August,1971 after graduating from the community college. She graduated with a "Bachelor of Science" degree with a major in early childhood education in 1973. After graduation she tried to find a full-time teaching position but was unable to, and she went back to being a licensed practical nurse in the nursing home setting, working as a staff nurse then moved into the role of Director of Nurses in a private facility.

At the end of 1978 Kermit graduated from college with his electrical engineering degree. He wanted to look for an engineering job in CA. He was hired for a high-powered semiconductor company in Los Angeles, CA and they moved to Huntington Beach, CA.

Delores was back to working in the nursing home setting in the Huntington Beach area. She discovered the California community college had a registered nursing career ladder program for licensed practical nurses to receive their register 2-year nursing degree. She learned that if she took some additional classes she could enroll in this career ladder program. She again believed "God" was guiding her the whole time and has never stopped guiding her in her life.

In 1980 Kermit and Delores started their business consisting of building a portable tester for testing the high-powered semiconductor. He wore all the hats in their business.

She graduated from the career ladder program in 1982 and took the registered nurses' state exam. She passed and found a position at the La Palma Inter-Community Hospital as a stroke rehabilitation charge nurse and stayed from 1982 to 1983. In 1983 she wanted to leave the acute setting because she had reached her RN goal in going back to the nursing home setting with her new knowledge. She left in 1983 and was hired as the Director of Nurses at a Beverly Enterprises nursing home chain in the Huntington Beach area.

Later she applied for the position of Pharmacy Nurse Specialist and a nurse consultant which was still part of the Beverly Enterprises nursing home chain.

In 1990 they decided to look at retiring early and moved to Tucson, AZ. Delores was not quite ready to retire because she was afraid of missing that check coming in every 2 weeks. They moved in September 1990 to SaddleBrooke which at the time consisted of only 500 homes. She stayed working but transferred to a different area of Beverly and worked as a quality assurance nurse. She traveled every week to California, Washington, Oregon or Missouri for her job.

She retired and back in SaddleBrooke, she enjoyed volunteering in the ceramic room and learning to do ceramics. She decided to run for the HOA board secretary position. She won and her position involved scores of too many meetings due to changes within the organization. Delores stayed with it until the next election.

She decided it was time to check out Vista de la Montaña United Methodist Church to see if she would like to become a member. She liked the pastor and the people at the church. Mary Lou Young asked her one Sunday if she would help her with a memorial. She was hooked and joined the church on October 31, 1999 and was part of hospitality for 20 years, including the Memorial Director for eight years for Vista.

In 2018 she started the “90 Year Plus Birthday Club” at Vista to celebrate over 90 birthdays. It keeps her busy as she gets closer to the big birthday event at church on the third Sunday every September and is appreciated by honorees.

Her group volunteer positions included the Walk to Bethlehem along with various other events.

She decided another ceramic lady was to take over the SaddleBrooke Artists Gallery before they closed it. They continued to sell artwork along with handmade crafts in the shop and started the first craft fair the next year and then Delores got involved in starting the SaddleBrooke health fair every fall.

In 1993 she was asked to be the Director of Nursing at Holy Family Nursing Home on St. Mary Road for two days a week until they could find a new director. She was offered a nursing assistant teaching position at Aravaipa Community College outside of Mammoth, Arizona to start their nursing assistant program. She came out of retirement then and worked 2 days on campus and then did Saturday clinicals for 8 weeks until the students graduated.

The Brindles began to travel around the U.S. visiting family, friends and the countryside. It was great to be on the road in the summer for three months until she had to come home to teach classes at Aravaipa and Kermit started his computer classes at SaddleBrooke.

In 2004 they moved out of SaddleBrooke, and Delores remained teaching at the college until they moved to South Mountain Mobile Park to live. She quit because it was too far to drive.

She started working for CareGiver Training Institute doing monthly in-services clinicals on Saturday, followed by working fulltime as their Director of Nurses for the nursing assistant/caregiver training programs.

She officially retired again in 2014, allowing Kermit and she to still travel back home to see their families every 2 years.

In 2015 she decided to start doing craft fairs in the fall selling her handmade baby books. She is still doing the fairs, making it seven this Fall. Last year she sold over sixty baby books in the surrounding Tucson area.

April 13, 2022 found the Brindles celebrating 59 years of a great marriage. Sadly, Kermit, the "love of Delores' life", unexpectedly passed away on July 22, 2022 after an illness of only 3 ½ days, leaving her to do things on her own. She states: "the good thing we taught each other were skills we each needed."



Delores as a baby



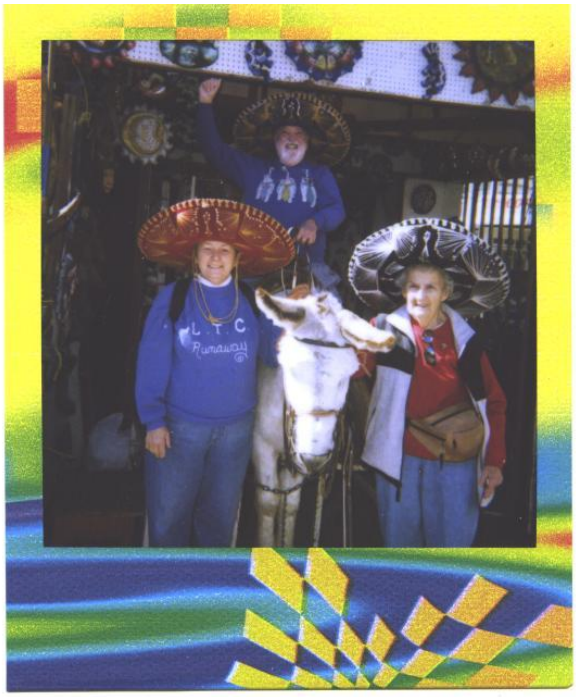
Delores Graduated



Delores & Kermit Wedding



Delores & Kermit



Trip to Nogales, Mexico



Kermit 70th Delores 60th



Christmas 2001



Alaska 2002



How 9/11 Affected My Family: By Delores Brindle

- My brother's garage is ½ mile from where the "Flight 93" went down. Robert, my oldest brother, went to work at the garage that morning like usual. Robert said when he heard the explosion, he thought his new oil furnace exposed that he installed the day before. He discovered it was not his furnace blowing up. His next thought was that someone got into the dynamite shed at the coal strip area and set off the dynamite for fun. He changed his mind again because the fire truck and ambulance went up past the garage. The ambulance came back right away and stopped at the garage. They said a plane crashed into the field and there was nothing they could do at the scene. Robert questioned about where did this plane come from and the guys told him about what was happening in New York City and Washington, DC and this was the third plane to have crashed.
- The government quickly set up a large work team and work equipment for the area. The government sent the local's home. They also stationed security people every five hundred feet around the large area to prevent anyone crossing over the crash site border. The security detail took care of guarding the area twenty-four hours a day. If you lived and/or worked in that secure area and wanted to get back into that area the locals where asked why they needed to enter the area. Security was very tight for six months.

- The Shanksville locals still pitched into helping in diverse ways in this explosion area such as:
    - My nephew volunteered to help at the flight site with his truck. They used his truck to move things to and from the immediate site area.
    - The government sent in crews to take charge and organize the site. Work crew came to start searching the area for clues such as finding the plane black box.
    - The September days and nights get cold, so the local men collected large empty oil drums and wood and took the barrels and wood around to the guards on duty. The security people could use the drums and wood to have a fire.
    - My mother was helping to organize people to prepare food and bring to all those working the site and area.
    - As time went by the Olive Garden Cooperation sent in a trucker tractor with prepared food and staff to set up and serve employees that were working in the area. The firemen turned the fire house station into area for the workers where they could clean up, rest and eat.
- The next major change the government sent in the American Red Cross to take charge of caring for the employees working the area. They brought in their own work crew. The locals became upset when the American Red Cross came and the locals could now go home.
- Shanksville is not a town, and the nearest town is Somerset. Somerset still could not accommodate and manage all these workers. The locals volunteered by opening their homes and churches for the workers.
- Today the 9/11 site has attracted visitors during the summer months. The “Flight 93” memorial has an excellent job on presenting information.



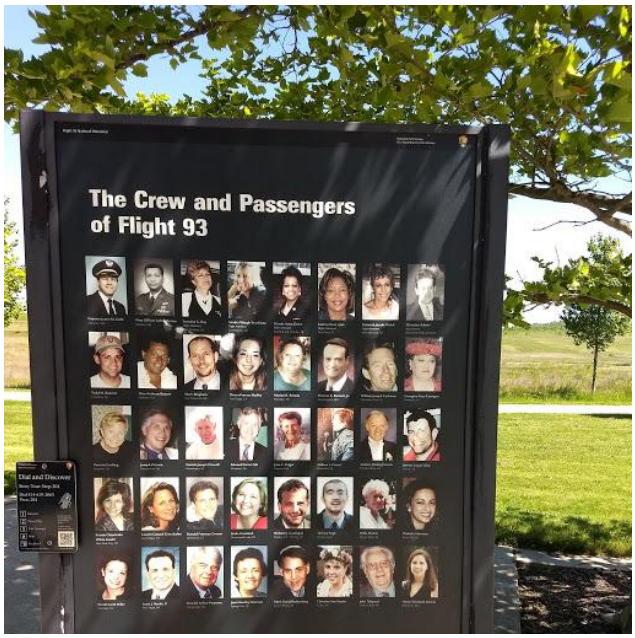
Names on the wall of those that were on “Flight 93”



Ceremonial Bells



Planting a tree at “Flight 93” area.



Crew and passengers on “Flight 93”.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

In November, United Women in Faith will assemble backpacks for the homeless/unhoused for Gospel Rescue Mission. Items needed are individually wrapped food items, hygiene items, and men's, women's and children's socks.

November 22, 29, and December 6, Christmas stockings will be distributed before and after church. Stockings should be filled with hygiene items and returned to the church no later than December 13. The stockings will be distributed to Tucson charities.

Our BAKE SALE will be December 13 before and after church. Our BAKE SALES are important which helps us purchase items for our charitable projects.

Thank you for your continued support of United Women in Faith.

Holiday Giving

Always giving thanks to God for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 5:20

Holiday 9.1.1.

During the month of November help us support Impact Foods in Catalina. Please take one of the special brown grocery bags, available November 1. Fill your bag with the following 9.1.1 items and return it to church on or before **November 22** when they will be blessed.

Neighbors loving neighbors this holiday season

9 canned or boxed items

1 flour, sugar, cake mix, baking mix

1 bag of chips or candy (it's the holidays!)

Two Dollar Buy a Pie

Sunday, November 15, please consider a $2 donation in support of our annual "Two Dollar Buy a Pie". We will deliver forty small apple pies and forty pumpkin/sweet potato pies to Impact Foods Friday, November 20. These pies will be included in the Thanksgiving meals provided for the forty shut in seniors Impact serves on a weekly basis.

Impact Donations

Donations in September totaled 64 pounds. This included 52 cans of diced tomatoes, our focus item. Also donated: mac and cheese, chili, peanut butter, cereal, rice, bbq sauce, Spam, bread crumbs, pasta, and soup. Thank you Vista.

THANKS FOR YOU DONATIONS!

Thanks to your donations, Vista provided 15!!! Bags of Halloween candy and goodies for the teachers' Halloween Apple Buffet!!! We supplied 100+ apples, toppings, dipping caramel and chocolate, and LOTS of sprinkles! There will be more pictures next month!





MINISTRY FAIR

The Ministry Fair was a great success! We had 17 Mission groups represented. Thanks to everyone who stayed around after church to see the wonderful missions we support. Also, a **SPECIAL THANKS to Cecilia, Celina and Willow!!!** Celina set up the tables and chairs and took them all down. Celina and Willow both volunteered to help us "older" kids bring the goodies for the tables down from our cars to the tables. That effort was truly appreciated.







Miss Lily Supervised!!!





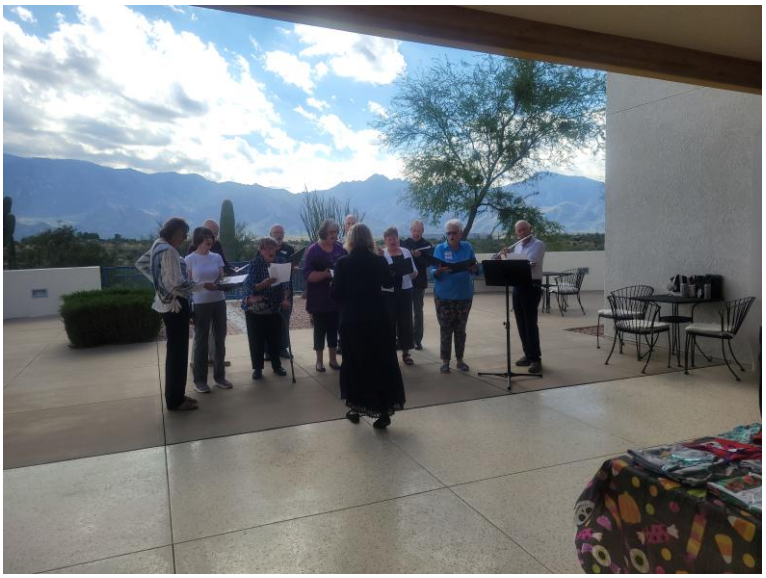

Ladies' Brunch
& Baby Shower
Family First
Pregnancy Care
Center
Pull-Ups

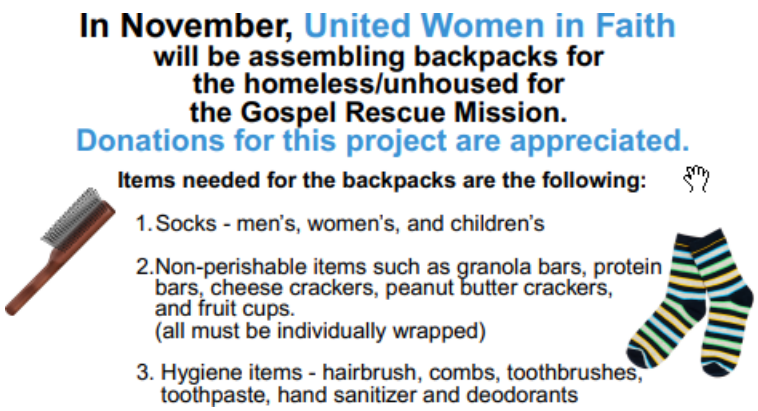

PRAYER
BEADS




BOARD KIT
HEADER
UNITED WOMEN
OF FAITH
MISSION PROJECTS
DONATION BASKET







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!

November servers: Peggy Hoeft and Silvia Perdue

December servers: Jim Lubach and Kay Barber.

October Desert Southwest Prayer Focus

St. Paul's UMC - Tucson, AZ
Trinity UMC - Bisbee, AZ
Vista de la Montaña UMC - Tucson, AZ

Keep in Your Prayers

Nancy Kimmel, Pete Rice, Ben Millard,
Eileen Carender, Dottie Lou Colby, Ed Jensen,
Paul St. Clair, Carolyn Leonard, Bill Ayers

Home Bound

Margaret Overman, Charlotte DeWindt, Lisa Homan,
Sally Innes, Alex Perakis, Jerry Browning,
Orland Burbey, Jan Crown, Jerry Eschelman,
Rev. Alan and Kathy Campbell, Lynn Duenkel,
Bill Gureck, Marsha Hartz, Jo Ann Hubbard,
Ken and Diane Podlasek



CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Congregational Care Committee is here you if you need short=term meals, rides to the doctor or other appointments, or visitations.

Please let the church office know or call Sandy Schwartz

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!

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.

OCTOBER CALENDAR

OCTOBER

Sunday 11.01.26	10:00am	Worship
Tuesday 11.03.26	5:00pm	Trustees
Wednesday 11.04.26	11:00am-2:00pm	Craft & Crunch
Wednesday 11.04.26	1:00pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 11.05.26	7:00am	Landscaping
Friday 11.06.2026	10:00am	Prayer Beads
Saturday 11.07.26	8:00am	Vista Men
Saturday 11.07.26	10:00am	Chair Yoga
Sunday 11.08.26	10:00am	Worship
Sunday 11.08.26	3:00pm	Voices in the Oaks
Tuesday 11.10.26	8:00am	Breakfast with Pastor (Sunnyside Café)
Wednesday 11.11.26	11:00am-2:00pm	Craft & Crunch
Wednesday 11.11.26	1:00pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 11.11.26	7:00am	Landscaping
Saturday 11.14.26	10:00am	Chair Yoga
Sunday 11.15.26	10:00am	Worship
Wednesday 11.18.26	11:00am	Crafts & Crunch
Wednesday 11.18.26	1:00pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 11.19.26	7:00am	Landscaping
Thursday 11.19.26	1:00pm	Stephen Ministry
Saturday 11.21.26	10:00am	Chair Yoga
Sunday 11.22.26	10:00am	Worship
Wednesday 11.25.26	11:00am	Crafts & Crunch
Wednesday 11.25.26	1:00pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 11.26.26		THANKSGIVING – Office Closed
Saturday 11.28.26	10:00am	Chair Yoga
Sunday 11.29.26	10:00am	Worship

DECEMBER

December 12.01.26	5:00pm	Trustees
Wednesday 12.02.26	11:00am	Crafts & Crunch
Wednesday 12.02.26	1:00pm	Choir Practice
Thursday 12.03.26	7:00am	Landscaping
Saturday 12.05.26	8:00am	Vista Men
Saturday 12.05.26	10:00am	Chair Yoga

NOVEMBER COMMUNION OFFERING

IMPACT 9.1.1.

9 canned or boxed items

1 flour, sugar, cake mix, baking mix

1 bag of chips or candy

Neighbors loving neighbors this holiday season

Voices in the Oaks

Sunday, Nov 8, 3:00 pm,
Concert at Vista UMC

Donations appreciated

Pastor Mary is on vacation this coming week.

Please contact our lay leader Joan Mayer if you have any needs.

Rev. Fred Kane is covering the pastoral emergencies.



All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.
When you come forward a server will hand you a piece of bread for you to dip into the cup.

If you are unable to come forward please let an usher know and the pastor will come to you with the bread and the cup.



ECHOES EMAIL

Please send all Echoes articles, events and photos to:

mamayob@gmail.com

Subject line: ECHOES

THANKS!!!