

The Vistoso Voice

Friday, September 25, 2020

Weekly

SUNSHINE BOXES A BIG SUCCESS

In August, *The Weekly* published a request for folks willing to fill sunshine boxes to provide “a dose of encouragement” for those who are homebound. Volunteers filled 35 boxes and Pastor Peter took on personal delivery. The office has received numerous cards and words of appreciation for this effort. Good job to all who participated!



OPENING UP

Thanks to excellent planning for safety and social distancing, the number of people who feel comfortable returning to our services and studies is increasing weekly. On Communion Sunday, 136 attended the service, topped by the 145 who were present for last Sunday's service. In addition, we had nearly 100 locations worshipping via livestream.

Our current seating in the Church (114) and Fellowship Hall (85) gives us plenty of room to welcome more worshippers to our services as we go into our winter season. In addition, our Fellowship Hall can add chairs in place of the meeting tables currently set up at the back of the room.

PICK UP MATERIALS FOR JOHN 17 STUDY



Tuesday, October 6, VCC begins a hybrid version of our Men's and Women's Bible studies. The eight lessons cover Jesus' high priestly prayer in John Chapter 17—Lessons 17-20 that we did not complete in the spring. If you do not have your study book from last spring, pick up a new one at Church. Although the format has changed, we are to prepare each lesson at home before we gather in person or via livestream for the Tuesday discussions.

thisweek

Sunday, Sept. 27, 9:30 am:

Worship in church and via livestream. No Q&A or fellowship.

Wednesday, 10:00 am:

Midweek Bible Hour. Pastor Kevin discusses the error of current social movements.

Friday, Oct. 2, 7:30 am:

Men's Bible study in the Fellowship Hall.

10:00 am: Pastor Kevin's Bible study series: *The Christian Life—Starting with the Basics*.

Meetings

Thursday, Oct. 1, 10:30 am:

Missions Committee

Saturday, Oct. 3, 10 am:

Security Committee

nextweek

Sunday, Oct. 4, 9:30 am:

Worship in church and via livestream. The first service to offer limited fellowship.

Tuesday, 10:00 am. Men's and

Women's Bible Study. Men in the Fellowship Hall, women in the sanctuary. Women's study also livestreamed

Wednesday, 10:00 am:

Midweek Bible Hour, Pastor Peter teaches livestream New Testament lessons.

Friday, 7:30 am: Men's Bible study in the Fellowship Hall.

10:00 am. Pastor Kevin's Bible study series: *The Christian Life—Starting with the Basics*.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The first session of the newly restarted Men's Bible Study taught by Pastor Kevin was well attended last Friday. The study in the Fellowship Hall begins each Friday at 7:30 am.

OCTOBER DEVOTIONAL

The devotional for October is now available at the Church and on the web site.

Vistoso Community Church

Telephone: 520 825-0652

e-mail: vistosocc@icloud.com

website: vistoso.org

Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday:

10 am-2 pm;

Friday: 8 am-12 noon

Pastor: Kevin Redig

Emergency: 520-403-4088

THE SHUT DOWN DID NOT SHUT DOWN VCC

Wednesday evening, September 23, VCC held its first quarterly business meeting since January. The business meeting scheduled for May was cancelled along with every other in-church activity. Nearly 50 members and friends filled the socially-distanced seating in the Fellowship Hall to hear a series of very positive reports that demonstrated that VCC persevered despite conditions.

Missions

Pastor Kevin first demonstrated that, despite the shut down, our missions activities have continued. VCC was able to continue providing our pledged support to all of our supported missionaries every month. In addition, we added another missionary to our list. Bill Pennington will soon return to Brazil to provide technical support to Bible translators.



Because of our congregation's generous giving, the Missions Committee has also been able to step in and provide funds for special needs like those pictured below: school supplies for the children on the Tohono O'odham reservation, food bags for the destitute members of Gilgal churches in India, and, Kevin's favorite, a motorbike for a JAAR's missionary worker in Africa.



Discipleship

Pastor Kevin noted that it has taken some special planning to be able to restart some of our normal programs safely. The Friday morning men's Bible study began again a week ago and was well attended with the men using the distanced seating rather than gathering around tables. The inability to gather around tables will also cause a change in approach for our men's and women's Bible studies that resume October 6.

The men meet in the fellowship hall with a Pastor-led, and appropriately distanced, discussion. The women meet in the sanctuary with the discussion being conducted by several of the discussion leaders. The women's discussion is also livestreamed. Pastor Kevin emphasized that the focus of the studies is the same: individual participants learning on their own, as taught by the Holy Spirit, with discussions adding to that learning.

Deacons

Pastor Peter reported that the Deacon's have been able to meet many needs in the church and the community, thanks to our congregation's continued strong giving to the benevolent fund. In addition, the Deacons have adopted a telephone ministry during this period when personal visits have been restricted, especially focusing on members and friends who are not able to get out.



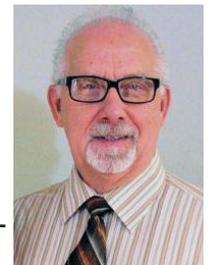
Music

Dan Detloff, VCC's conductor, reported on all the work that our Director of Music Ministries, Yoojin Muhn, is doing behind the scenes to plan and produce our monthly virtual choir hymns. He also noted that, beginning Sunday, we will add more musical components to our services, additional musicians and soloists.



Property

Property officer, Darwin Thornton, demonstrated that work on our building and property continues without pause. He cited the team that replaced all the lighting globes and ongoing irrigation work. He noted that, because of irrigation issues, some of the plantings would be moved or replaced this fall.



Finance

Finance Officer, John Bechard gave the startling report that, despite the shut down, VCC giving exceeded budget expectations through August in all areas of giving. With expenses down, we experienced a budget surplus.

