

The Vistoso Voice

Monday, January 11, 2021

Special Edition

OUR UNIQUE TIMES CALL FOR A CHANGE IN OUR VCC SCHEDULE

Let me start by urging you, if you haven't heard the message from Sunday January 10th, to watch the video or listen to the audio. It is my best effort to explain the nuances of how VCC's leadership thinks we can best navigate our current circumstances, and it is something that is best explained face-to-face. Here is the short version:

1. **The Reason.** The greatly increased infection and death rates in Arizona, as shown in the chart, are a very real concern, especially for a congregation as vulnerable as ours. Further, approved vaccines have shown remarkable results in trials, and vaccination has begun in parts of our community. For me, it would be heartbreaking to have an infection spread in our fellowship at this late date.
2. **The Recommendation.** The Church leadership's recommendation is for the congregation to gather for worship on Sundays via streaming for the short term future. However, if you believe it is in the best interests of your spiritual, emotional, and mental well-being to gather in person, you are welcome to join us at 10:00 on Sundays. Notice that we are now back to one service starting on Sunday January 17th, and the service time will be 10:00.

NOTE: For those who do choose to come to church, let's do our best to be careful: wearing masks to and from your seats, observing social distancing, and so on.

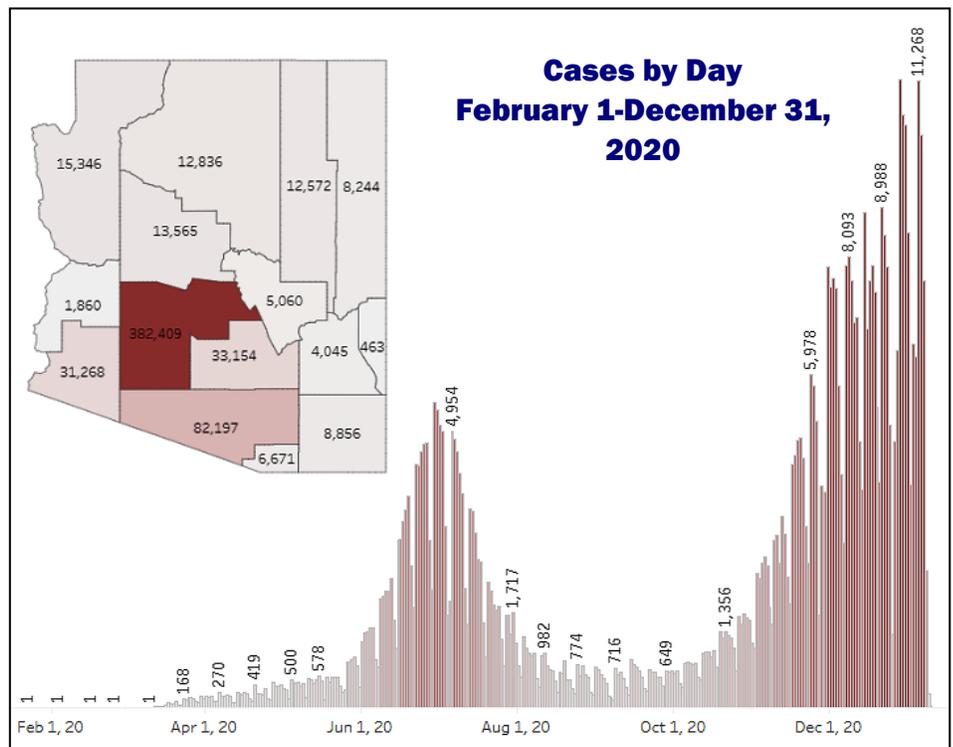
3. **The Schedule.** Beginning this week, we are going to stream Bible teaching Tuesday through Friday at 10:00 am. As your pastor, this is my way of "*committing you to God and to the Word of His grace.*" (Acts 20:32)

For our Tuesday morning Men's and Women's Bible study, that is scheduled to begin tomorrow, Tuesday the 12th, we are going to apply the same criteria as Sunday morning. Church leadership recommends you join this study via streaming at 10:00 on Tuesday or anytime after. We will be streaming and retaining these lessons on our website: vistoso.org. However, if you feel it is in your best interests spiritually, mentally, and emotionally to gather with fellow believers to study God's Word, you are welcome to join us at 10:00 this Tuesday and every Tuesday thereafter—men in the sanctuary and women in the Fellowship Hall.

I am sorry to say that other group studies are suspended until it is reasonable to resume.

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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



OUR UNIQUE TIMES CALL FOR A CHANGE IN OUR VCC SCHEDULE (CONTINUED)

4. **The Sessions.** You can find a projected listing of our steaming sessions in the next column. The detailed listing of the next week's sessions will be included in each Friday's edition of *The Voice Weekly*. We will also retain each of the lessons in our online archive so that you can also view them at other times during the week.

Have you ever heard of a pastor suggesting to his congregation that they stay home? I haven't either! But as I mentioned Sunday morning, I carry a burden for the "sheep" who make up our faithful congregation. I spend most of my time tending to the spiritual needs of our flock: studying, teaching, writing, praying, and so on. However, my conscience will not allow me to ignore the physical threat we are currently facing. We have *pushed the envelope* all along and, I believe the Lord has protected us. But, at this point, my walk with the Lord has led me to believe it is best for both our witness to the community and your well-being to temporarily pull back.

We can trust the Word of God to maintain our unity while we wait upon Him and continue to grow in grace and knowledge. If, in your case, you feel compelled to gather in person, praise God that we have the freedom to do so! I have given you much material to apply these past weeks during our *workshop on faith*. Now is the time to

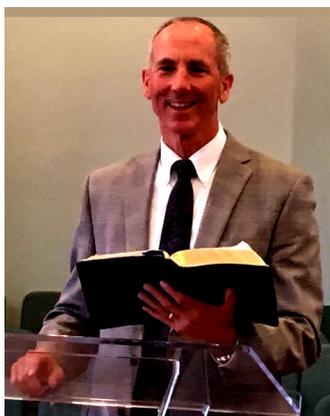


put these lessons to use.

God bless, and I'll be praying for you.

Pastor Kevin

P.S. The Church office will be open for regular office hours.



STREAMING LESSONS

Tuesdays at 10:00 am: Seven Letters to Seven Churches, Revelation 1-3, led by Pastor Kevin. Lesson books are available at the Church office or via e-mail.

- January 12: The Church: God's Masterpiece—Part 1
- January 19: Overview of Revelation 1-3
- January 26: Revelation Chapter One—A Vision of Jesus
- February 2: The Message to the Church of Ephesus
- February 9: The Message to the Church of Smyrna
- February 16: The Message to the Church of Pergamum
- February 23: Break
- March 2: The Message to the Church of Thyatira
- March 9: The Message to the Church of Sardis
- March 16: The Message to the Church of Philadelphia
- March 23: The Message to the Church at Laodicea
- March 30: The Overcomer—The Conqueror
- April 6: The Church: God's Masterpiece—Part 2

Wednesday and Thursday at 10:00 am: Mid-week Bible Hour, Pastor Peter provides New Testament studies.

- Wednesday, January 13: The completion of the Lessons from the Book of Philemon
- Thursday, January 14: Introduction to the new series entitled *Refresh My Heart*. This series, which will continue for several weeks on Wednesday and Thursday, will discuss lessons from God's Word that help us recognize all the good things we have in the Lord.

Friday: Men's Bible Study at 7:30 is suspended for the duration.

Friday at 10:00 am: Pastor Kevin will teach foundational lessons for Christian living.

- Friday, January 15: A special Lesson: *The Distinction Between a Christian Patriot and a Patriotic Christian*.
- Friday, January 22: Pastor Kevin begins a new series on the Christian Life, entitled *Advancing to Maturity*.

Sunday: Worship Service at 10:00. Pastor Kevin continues his series of sermons from the Book of Hebrews—*The Rest of Faith*.