

The Vistoso Voice

Friday, November 12, 2021

Weekly

COMMISSIONING TO NEW MINISTRY

Next weekend, during both the Saturday and Sunday services, we will have two special focuses for our worship:

- Giving thanks as we typically do this time of year.
- A time to pray for Cindy and Peter, and to commission Peter in his new calling as pastor of Graceway Bible Church in Cottonwood, Arizona.

We'll also look forward to a time of fellowship with Peter and Cindy following the service. Please pray for their transition throughout the upcoming week, and join us for this opportunity to graciously send them on their way.



MEMORIAL SERVICE

Carl Forssell went to be with the Lord this week. We will have a memorial service for Carl on Monday, November 22 at 11 am. Please pray for Dorina's peace.



THE LOVE THY NEIGHBOR GIVING TREE

The Christmas Giving Tree will be up at the church on November 21. As in past years, this ministry provides gifts for the residents of some of the neediest nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Tucson. This outreach is called *Blessings in a Bag* and is coordinated by Love Thy Neighbor Ministries, a mission supported by Vistoso Community Church.

If you would like to help provide Christmas gifts for these residents, take a tag from the Giving Tree, purchase the items requested and deposit them in the collection box next to the tree. Given the nature of the items we are purchasing this year, it would also be perfectly appropriate to designate any amount you wish to Love Thy Neighbor-Christmas, and we will use the funds to buy needed personal and toiletry items. If you do purchase items, gift bags are **NOT** needed this year. Purchased items and donations should be at the church no later than Sunday, December 12 so they can be delivered in time for Christmas.

Vistoso members and friends have been so generous in the past to show the love of Jesus by sharing our Christmas joy with those who are even more isolated and lonely at this time of year. Thank you!



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

November 15-21, 2021

- **Tuesday**, Men's and Women's Genesis Bible Study, 10:00-11:30 am.
- **Wednesday**, Midweek Bible Study, in church and streaming, at 10:00 am. Pastor Peter's last lesson at VCC.
- **Wednesday**, Choir practice, 2:00-3:30 pm.
- **Thursday**, Care-giver respite, 10:00 am– noon, organized by Love Thy Neighbor Ministries.
- **Friday**, Men's Bible study, 7:30 am.
- **Friday**, Women's Share, Care and Prayer, 10:00 am.
- **Saturday**, worship 5:00 pm, followed by farewell fellowship with Peter and Cindy and sermon Q&A.
- **Sunday**, worship, 10:00 am, followed by farewell fellowship with Peter and Cindy and sermon Q&A.

IN HONOR OF VETERANS DAY, A POEM BY ANDREA C. BRETT

I AM A VETERAN

You may not know me the first time we meet
I'm just another you see on the street
But I am the reason you walk and breathe free
I am the reason for your liberty

I AM A VETERAN

I work in the local factory all day
I own the restaurant just down the way
I sell you insurance, I start your IV
I've got the best-looking
Grandkids you'll ever see
I'm your grocer, your banker
Your child's school teacher
I'm your plumber, your barber
Your family's preacher
But there's part of me you don't
know very well
Just listen a moment,
I've a story to tell

I AM A VETERAN

I joined the service while still
in my teens
I traded my blue jeans
for camouflage greens
I'm the first in my family to do
something like this
I followed my father,
like he followed his
Defying my fears and
hiding my doubt
I married my sweetheart
before I shipped out
I missed Christmas, then Easter
The birth of my son
But I knew I was doing what had to be done
I served on the battlefield, I served on the base
I bound up the wounded
And begged for God's grace
I gave orders to fire, I followed commands



I marched into conflict in far distant lands
In the jungle, the desert,
on mountains and shores
In bunkers, in tents, on dank earthen floors
While I fought on the ground, in the air,
on the sea
My family and friends were home
praying for me
For the land of the free
and the home of the brave

I faced my demons
in foxholes and caves
Then one dreaded day,
without drummer or fife
I lost an arm, my buddy lost his life
I came home and moved on
But forever was changed

The perils of war
in my memory remained
I don't really say much,
I don't feel like I can
But I left home a child,
and came home a man
There are thousands like me
Thousands more who are gone
But their legacy lives
as time marches on
White crosses in rows
And names carved in queue
Remind us of what these brave
souls had to do
I'm part of a fellowship,
a strong mighty band

Of each man and each woman
Who has served this great land
And when Old Glory waves
I stand proud, I stand tall
I helped keep her flying over you, over all

I AM A VETERAN