

The Vistoso Voice

Friday, December 10, 2021

Weekly

CALLED BUSINESS MEETING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

Due to the rise in the number of Covid cases in our congregation, the Church Board voted to postpone the quarterly business meeting, originally scheduled for this past Wednesday, Dec. 8. The fourth quarterly meeting agenda is packed with important business to conduct, including passing the 2022 church budget and voting on the 2022 slate of officers and committee chairs. As a result, an interim motion is necessary to continue business until these business items can be approved.

The vote on the interim motion will take place at a called business meeting following the service on Sunday, December 19. The order of business for this called meeting is a single motion, made by the Church Board, to authorize operations until the next business meeting.

thisweek

December 13-19, 2021

- **Wednesday**, Church Board Meeting, 11:00 am.
- **Wednesday**, No Choir practice until January.
- **Thursday**, Love Thy Neighbor Get-Together in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Friday**, Men's Bible study, 7:30 am.
- **Saturday**, Worship 5:00 pm, with no fellowship to follow the service.
- **Sunday**, Worship, 10:00 am, with no fellowship to follow the service.

The Board has approved, and recommends to the congregation for their approval, the following motion:

The VCC Board is authorized to make customary and reasonable expenditures in 2022 until such time as a Quarterly Business Meeting can be called.

It is anticipated such meeting will be held in January of 2022.

PRECAUTIONS

If, after due consideration, you decide to attend worship services in person, it is important for you to know what VCC is doing to protect your health:

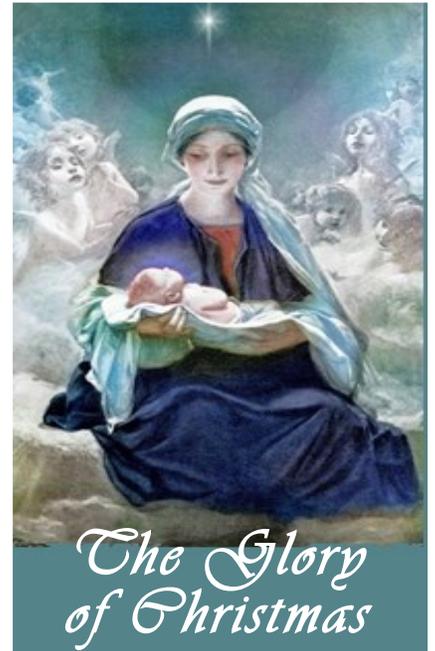
- **Two services.** We added the Saturday night service earlier than usual this year to avoid too much crowding on Sunday morning. And, that has been working well.
- **Sanitizing.** Before every service, our Property Committee uses a fogger to sanitize all surfaces in the public areas of the church.
- **Hands.** There are hand sanitizing units at each entry door.
- **Masks.** At each door there is also a supply of masks for those who choose to wear them but forget to bring their own.

Finally, we continue to stream services for those who choose to worship from home.



WITH GREAT REGRET

After much deliberation and consultation with all parties, the decision was made this week to cancel VCC's Christmas Cantata—*The Glory of Christmas*.



The very difficult cancellation decision was reached after a significant number of the choir members tested positive for the Covid virus. The cancellation was made to protect the choir and orchestra, our congregation, and the community from any further spread of the infection.

Because of the timing of the cancellation, the Church Board also voted to extend payment to the orchestra members that had been hired to accompany our choir. It was determined that it would be a real hardship for those orchestra members to have their engagement cancelled with so little time to secure another. As one Board member said, "It is the Christian thing to do."



WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Although it has been painful to do so, recently we have cancelled some things and made a number of other changes. It is natural to ask: "Where do we go from here?" Of course you know where I am going to start. God is still on His throne! His plans and purposes still stand! He has foreseen all of this! He will never leave nor forsake us, and He still loves those called by His name!

Now that we have settled the most important thing, let me add a few lesser details: fellowship and service schedules.

Fellowship

We are going to have another week of cancelling fellowship following the services on Saturday December 11 and Sunday December 12. We will still hold the services, just not enjoy fellowship afterwards.

If you are wondering why, let me give three quick reasons:

- I want to get everyone's attention and thereby remind us of good practices so that, if at all possible, we can avoid spreading Covid during a gathering for worship.
- To protect our fellowship.
- To protect our witness in the community.



Assuming things settle a bit, I anticipate us going back to our normal fellowship routine on the weekend of December 18 and 19.

Service Schedules

As you noted elsewhere, we have cancelled our Christmas Cantata, but that won't keep us from gathering for worship, enjoying a time of singing carols together, and having Christmas fellowship. As of now, we intend to hold our Christmas Eve service at 5:00 pm on December 24.

We had previously decided not to hold a Saturday night service on Christmas and New Year's Day, December 25th and January 1st, respectively.

Reminders

Again, for the sake of not spreading an infection to others—if you have traveled, had out of town company, been exposed to someone with Covid, or are simply not feeling well—join us via streaming rather than in person until you are sure you remain healthy. We all need to take these precautions whether we are vaccinated or not!

God bless, and as we have been emphasizing by means of our theme of the year—Keep the Faith!

In His grace,

TWO NEW BOOKS AVAILABLE ON SUNDAY



Two new books based upon Pastor Kevin's summer sermons on prophecy are available this Sunday. Titled *The Study of Prophecy is Simply: Reading Ahead*, the books provide an excellent introduction to and explanation of God's promises that have yet to be fulfilled. Spend the next week reading them instead of the nightly news, and see if you are not greatly encouraged. The content is a single narrative, printed in a two-book set.

Vistoso Community Church

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