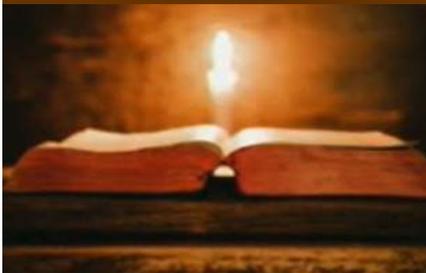


Vistoso Community Church Update: May 22, 2020



IN YOUR LIGHT, WE SEE LIGHT

Psalm 36:9

Livestream Schedule

NEW Sunday: VCC's Livestream Worship service moves to 9:30 am on Sunday, June 7, when VCC will suspend the Q&A time to ensure that those attending can exit with appropriate social distancing.

Monday-Friday: Livestream Bible Study, 10:00 am. The broadcast begins with music at 9:50 am.

Office Hours

The Church is open during normal office hours:

Tuesday-Thursday from 10 am-2 pm.

Friday from 10 am-12 noon.

Weekly Publications

Prayer list—Thursday
Update newsletter—Friday

For those with an e-mail address in the Church directory, these publications will be e-mailed to you. For those without e-mail, the publications will be available at the Church.

Also Available

Audio discs are available at the church for each of the Bible Studies and the Sunday service for those who do not have computers.

Address: 1200 E. Rancho Vistoso Blvd., Oro Valley, 85755
WEB: Vistoso.org

CELEBRATING OUR RETURN TO CHURCH SERVICES

When those who feel comfortable gather to worship together on Sunday, June 7, there will be two new publications to help us celebrate.

- **Hebrews book.** Pastor Kevin has written the first book in our new series based upon his sermons in the Book of Hebrews. The book will be available on the literature rack and available for pick up on Sunday or any day following during office hours.
- **Weekly newsletter.** The weekly update we have been e-mailing out during our shut-down has proved so popular, that we have decided that beginning in June *The Vistoso Voice* will become a weekly publication. Because the new *Voice Weekly* will provide calendar and announcement information, our worship bulletin will be much simplified and focus on the service itself.



CHANGE TO LIVESTREAM

When we begin gathering again in Church for worship on June 7, it won't affect our livestream Bible study schedule for the near term. The daily Bible studies will continued to broadcast each morning at 10 am. But on June 7, our Sunday worship returns to our normal start time of 9:30 am.

That means that we need to get the word out so that our livestream audience can be alerted to tune in half an hour earlier than usual beginning the first Sunday in June. If you have urged family and friends to stay in touch with God's word through our livestream broadcasts, be sure you inform them of the change in time.



MEMORIAL SUNDAY

Be sure to tune into Sunday's livestream worship service at 10:00 am. Because it is Memorial Sunday, we will have patriotic slides, music, and a time of prayerful remembrance.



DEADLINE EXTENDED

The outpouring of support for the clothing drive for the children on the Tohono O'odham Reservation has been truly amazing in both clothing and cash donations. Several who have ordered items have asked for a week's extension in order to get their deliveries. Thus, the new deadline for any outstanding donations to be delivered to Church is Wednesday, May 27, so that everything can be packed for John Coleman to pick up on Friday, May 29.



PREPARING TO WORSHIP TOGETHER AGAIN

As mentioned last week, we are preparing to re-open for Sunday services June 7, with our worship service at 9:30 am. This will be our first in-person gathering in 12 weeks and it will naturally include a time of praise and thanksgiving.

Please take the following into consideration as you decide whether or not to attend:

- If you are in good health, and just can't wait any longer, please join us. It should be a particular blessing for those who haven't been able to join us via live-stream.
- If you are still uncomfortable gathering in groups of people, then simply continue to join us via live-stream. Do not feel any pressure to return. You can certainly receive a blessing by joining with us via the technology with which the Lord has blessed us.
- If you have health conditions that put you in a very high risk category, it might be wise to make use of the live-stream while waiting to see how the next few weeks unfold.

Smaller Numbers Will Help

If not everyone comes back at once, it will actually help us. We need some time to adjust and fine-tune our efforts at moving people into and out of the church while trying to maintain social distancing.

I have certainly been encouraging all of us to trust in the Lord through this challenging time. But, when you come back to church is a matter not only of

faith but also of making wise decisions with respect to your own health. We must each prayerfully make the best decision for ourselves and for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

To give you a very practical example: one of our own VCC Board members has been here every day to help ensure we get the livestream out in the best form possible as well as working on other areas of ministry. Yet, when we re-gather she is not planning on joining us on Sunday's in the short term, because of pre-existing respiratory problems and concern over a respiratory infection. I mention this because it is an excellent example for all of us in finding the balance between faith, ministry, and personal responsibility.

I hope my heart on this is clear. If I had my preference, we would never have stopped meeting, and we would have been able to continue in corporate worship in the many ways we find to be such a blessing. But it is not my calling to satisfy my preferences, it is my calling to minister to this congregation. Thus, Peter and I will continue to study and teach at every opportunity in order to encourage the saints in the faith. As shepherds of this particular fellowship, we will be careful to attend to the spiritual health of our fellowship while also seeking the wisdom to safeguard the physical health of our congregation.

Another Way We Can Protect Our Fellowship

While we are on the subject of protecting our physical health, consider this: In theory, if our fellowship is clear of any individuals infected with the coronavirus and we remained isolated from sources of infection, no one would ever become sick. Of course, that's easier said than done. There is always a chance we might come in contact with an infected individual by means of interaction with a neighbor or while shopping. But there are things we can do to limit the chances of bringing the virus into a church gathering:

- Taking care about entertaining visitors from other parts of the country or traveling personally. If visitors or travel can not be avoided, we can consider self-quarantine via live-stream for a few weeks to ensure we haven't picked up the virus that we could then could pass on.



- Avoiding going places where large groups are gathered. Large gatherings increase your risk of exposure to the virus, which in turn could be spread to others. I know I have been careful about who I am exposed to, simply because I don't want to be the person who brings an infection into our church gatherings.

I'm looking forward to gathering in worship—soon.