

Vistoso Community Church Update: April 3, 2020



IN YOUR LIGHT, WE SEE LIGHT

Psalm 36:9

Livestream Schedule

Sunday: Livestream Worship service at 10:00 am followed by 10 minutes of music, then Pastor Kevin will have 15 minutes of Q&A with e-mail questions: pastorkr@icloud.com

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

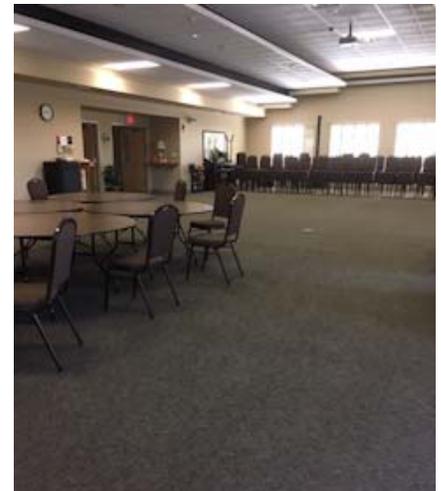
Audio discs are available at the church for each of the Bible Studies and the Sunday service for those who do not have computers.



PROJECTS, PROJECTS, AND MORE PROJECTS

Darwin Thornton and his very active property team have used this time when the church building is not crowded to do many jobs that are difficult to do when the church is open and hosting so many activities. Three of these projects are:

- Cleaning of the floor covering in the Fellowship Hall, which required moving a lot of tables and chairs
- Installation of two ceiling fans in the kitchen, a special request of the Fellowship Committee
- Replacing recessed light bulbs in the fellowship hall and the sanctuary which required the hire of a lift to reach both ceilings and moving a lot more chairs



The volunteers who worked on the lighting project included: Bill Carson, John Koch, David Montgomery, Ralph Nitcher, Mike Prout, Chuck Slade, Stan Swank, Rick Thomas, Darwin Thornton, Kevin West, and Bob Westendorf.

GOOD FRIDAY

Our Good Friday service will be during our regular livestream Bible study at 10:00 am on Friday, April 10. Pastor Peter will give the Good Friday message.



This would be a great time to invite family and friends to tune in at vistoso.org.

ON YOUTUBE

VCCs livestream Bible studies and services are now available on YouTube. In the address line on your computer, type in youtube.com to bring up the search line. Type Vistoso Community Church to see the list.





ONGOING ADJUSTMENTS

Prior to the middle of March, I would have told you that we have a pretty well-established routine at VCC. Of course much of it is driven by the church calendar, as well as our preferences on worship. However, our inability to gather as usual is forcing us to develop a *new normal*—at least for the short term. As part of this new normal, I want to discuss two things that we are going to try to continue in spite of the challenges.

Monthly Communion Remembrance

At least for the month of April, we are not going to be able to celebrate Communion together in keeping with our normal practice. Fortunately, the Communion Remembrance is just that—something that is primarily an exercise of remembering truths we hold dear,



and combining them with faith! For this reason, there is nothing that can stop us from calling to mind the substitutionary death of Christ

and His certain future return. It is for this reason we are going to set aside time during our Easter livestream service on April 12th to celebrate communion together. By that I mean that we will share the same thinking in regard to the person and work of Jesus Christ even though we are physically unable to gather. In order to be prepared, please take one of the following actions:

- **Pick up.** During regular office hours we will have a basket available outside of the Fellowship Hall doors containing baggies holding two plastic communion cups and two of our normal pieces of bread. Stop by next week to pick up what would be suitable for your needs. You will provide your own juice.
- **Personally prepare.** It is also certainly permissible to provide your own elements from materials you have at home. What is central is an accurate content of remembrance and not the exact nature of the elements we use to prompt our thinking.



Being prepared in one of these ways, you will be ready for the point during our Easter Service when we celebrate the Lord's table together, as a united in truth, though physically separated, body of believers.

Easter Missions Offering

It is our custom each year to undertake a special offering in conjunction with Easter that focuses upon missions. This offering allows the congregation to either designate one or more missionaries or missions enterprises, or support the efforts of the VCC Missions Committee to meet missions needs throughout the year. This year will be no exception. This year's missions offering will run from this Sunday, April 5th through Sunday April 19th. If you would like to designate a gift to missions, you can mail it or drop it in the offering box in the Fellowship Hall at the church.

If you designate *Missions* in the memo line of your check, our Missions Committee applies your gift to the areas of greatest need. If you would like your gift to support specific missionaries or mission enterprises, put one or more of the following in memo line of your check or in an attached note:

- Roberta Cencini, publication ministry
- John Coleman, Tohono O'odham Outreach
- Rick and Marilyn Fodey, Wycliffe Assoc.
- Gilgal Gospel Ministries, India
- Grace Training Institutes, International Pastor Training
- Jon and Barb Habegger, Child Evangelism Fellowship
- Audrey Johnson, Wycliffe
- Steve and Virginia Kacprzak, Love Thy Neighbor Ministries
- Kris Klebs, Ethnos 360, our Sent Missionary
- Annie Armstrong, SBC Easter Offering for Home Missions
- Julie Newsted, Christian Challenge—University of Arizona
- James and Linda Nissley, Wycliffe
- Sharon Stark, Wycliffe
- Paul and Hope Towne, Wycliffe
- VCC-Philippines
- VCC-Wycliffe/JAARS (Jungle Aviation and Radio Service)
- Guillermo Villanueva, Evangelism in Latin America
- Patti Wagner, Wycliffe
- Richard and Tricia Wagner, Flying H Youth Ranch
- Bryan and Diane Wilson, United International Mission

The booklet describing each of the ministries in the above list is available in the literature rack in the Fellowship Hall. On behalf of our Missions Committee, thank you for your ongoing support.

VCC MISSIONS

PRAYING FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

In the March newsletter, we started the list of prayer requests from our missionaries and included some in last week's update. This week we are going to finish those requests so that you can use some of your extra time during the shut down to be in prayer for those we support on the mission field.

Julie Newsted—Christian Challenge

Pray for my health. I have had a lot more sinus infections this year. Please pray for wisdom and endurance and healing. Thank you for praying for Johnathan, Autumn, and me. Pray for us this Spring that we may see God continue to move and work in students' lives.



Finally, thank you so much for your generosity to me and for helping me do the work God has called me to do!

James and Linda Nissley

Linda: Pray for God's healing touch on the infections that I'm being treated for. Because of the treatment I'm waking up at night and am unable to sleep for several hours. Pray that I'll continue to have the energy to continue to do my roles well. A male on my



Member Care team was led back to help a translation project, pray with me for another male to join the Member Care team.

James: Administration is not my first choice, but I believe this is where God wants me at this time. So, pray that I'd have the stamina and wisdom to lead and plan well, and have a good balance of work and *down time*. Pray that the Lord would bring people into our lives who would like to join in His work as part of our ministry team, that we and our children's families would all continue to grow stronger in our faith and walk with the Lord. And, we would appreciate continued prayer for strength, energy, and wisdom for each day.

Sharon Stark

Pray that the Lord would give me and the team the spiritual knowledge and insight we need to do this impossible job. Pray that the pastors and church leaders in the Popoloca village of San Marcos would embrace and teach what they have been taught in the Grace Training conferences. Pray that the San Marcos church would get behind the translation team and start supporting them financially, which would make them more a part of the project.



Paul and Hope Towne



Pray that our three-year visas can be finished without a hitch. Pray for a healthy, consistent balance between rest and work, and for clarity on what activities can help us rest well, individually and together. Pray

for building relationships with those around us. Pray for laborers for the harvest, specifically for a new generation of support workers to come. Hope would appreciate prayer for finding efficient processes for new tasks such as digital record-keeping, charging more complicated apartment rents, tracking cash advance expenditures, and recording transactions from the SIL center in Mexico City.

Guillermo Villanueva



Pray for two united crusades in two counties around Mexico City, and that many churches will get involved and that many souls come to Christ. Also, pray that the Lord will lay on the heart of each Mexican

Christian to get involved in these two projects of prayer. Pray that I may learn very well the Mexican Sign Language and that God may stop violence completely in the country of Mexico. Also pray that abortion, gay marriage, and legalizing the use of marijuana may be completely eradicated from the minds of our authorities.

THANK YOU SO VERY, VERY MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROUS AND FAITHFUL FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND PRAYERS.



VCC MISSIONS CONTINUED

Richard and Tricia Wagner

Please pray for my wife and me, specifically that we would draw closer to one another in the midst of all the ministry/leadership challenges. We have been away from our friends and family for several years now and we are feeling the effects. We have many new boys coming in all at once which makes our ministry more challenging. All of our young leaders have graduated so there is a leadership void among the boys. Please be in prayer specifically for new leaders as this has a huge effect on the program. Also, be in prayer for new missionaries/staff as we have been operating with a minimal number for over the past 12 months.



THANK YOU for your continued support, I can't tell you how much it means knowing that Vistoso is supporting and praying for our ministry. The boys really appreciate your Christmas gift every year as dinner and a movie has become one of their favorite traditions. May the Lord continue to bless your ministry and further His kingdom through all of you.

Patti Wagner

My first prayer request is for my family and extended family especially my daughter, Deb Seng, who has been diagnosed with the very rare Bechet's Syndrome, which is now attacking her brain. I rejoice in every day that I have her and I'm still looking for that miracle! I also ask your prayers for fourteen-year-old Nate, who has a brain disorder, and for my grandson, Nathan, who needs emotional, spiritual, and physical help from the Lord in His new military assignment.



I also ask you to pray for God's direction for my life! As SIL downsizes, I'm beginning to feel like I should perhaps retire and open up more job opportunities for those younger. Many on staff are doing just that. From the bottom of my heart, thank you. What a blessing you have been to Jerry and me. I am so thankful to the Missions Committee for their love and support all

these years. And I am so very grateful to Mike Galyen for fixing my computer which now works! Bless you and Jan and thank you both for all you do for all of us at VCC.

Bryan and Diane Wilson

The Wilson family has just moved from Zambia to a new ministry in Arizona. Bryan asks for prayer for friends for the kids! "That is what they need to settle well here! It is a huge adjustment for them." He also asks us to pray that the family can be a blessing to those they serve.



A TESTIMONY TO GOD'S GRACE

I had felt somehow my communion with God had been broken. For two years I prayed fervently for my husband Joe to get better. As time passed, he seemed to decline more and more. The doctors didn't have a clue, what was going on. We had slowly drifted to a very dark place, feeling hopeless, lost, and disconnected from our Lord. Joe began to give up, he was surrendering to his poor health and to the lack of medical help.

Then, one day, I heard a quiet voice say, "Be still my faithful servant, I am here." I was reminded about everyone praying for Joe, they were not giving up and neither should I. Like an old stubborn mule, I renewed my prayers for guidance, mercy, and healing.

Finally, recognizing that I do not know how to live apart from God, all the pieces of the puzzle came together. It was the right timing, the right doctors, the right hospital staff. Now, Joe is doing fantastic. Every day there is improvement, reduction in the needed medication, and good test results. We still have challenges to face, but our faith will carry us through.

Maturity in prayer must come with age and through simple, elegant, trusting faith. Thank you to all for your prayer support. And, above all, thank you Jesus for your loving grace.

Gail Markwell