



# The Vistoso Voice

## *Minister of Music, Paul Matthews, Retires*

After 66½ years of music ministry, 5½ of which were spent at Vistoso Community Church, Paul Matthews has hung up his baton.

On June 26, after the Sunday service, some 100 members and friends of the church gathered to celebrate Paul and Ardith's ministry. The organizers had prepared an impressive display of photos and memories of their life and, of course, provided a lovely lunch for us all. A basket of gift cards was presented to Paul and Ardith along with a large card which many had signed with personal notes of remembrance and thanks.



Several people spoke, mostly choir members who had worked so closely with Paul. They praised his wonderful music program, with which everyone agreed, his love of the old hymns, his careful choice of music, his exceptional musical talent—all of which have contributed significantly to the worship experience. And, with Paul was a loving and supportive Ardith, a wonderfully organized music librarian and talented singer.

There were tears, lots of laughs, warm hugs and wonderful memories. Pastor Kevin extolled Paul's exceptional attention to detail, not only in his story-telling but also in his thorough work. Paul was always prepared and always anticipating. Kevin said it was a genuine pleasure working with him; in fact, it "couldn't have been any better." He thanked Paul for his service to the church and asked for prayers of blessings on Paul and Ardith.

When Paul rose to respond he said, "As unaccustomed as I am to public speaking," then he continued to share a few memories of his own, his heartfelt thanks to the church, to Kevin, to the choir, and to the deacons for the opportunity to serve. He also expressed his love of our church. In typical Paul Matthews' fashion, he has scheduled special music for the Sundays in July. Each of us, those who spoke and those who just listened, and laughed, share our love for Paul and Ardith and our deep appreciation of their contribution to the life of Vistoso Community Church. We were all sorry the moment had to end.



Now Paul and Ardith are off to spend the summer traveling and visiting family. Then they will be back, looking forward to sitting in the congregation and worshipping with us. There will undoubtedly be more stories to share.

### **VISTOSO CHURCH**

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Office Hours:

Tue—Thur: 10 am—2 pm

Friday: 8 am—12 noon

**PASTOR: KEVIN REDIG**

**Emergency: 520-403-4088**

### **THE VISTOSO VOICE**

Editor: Vickie Brennan  
Asst. Editor: Dee Bethke

*Scriptural Theme for the Year:*

*...Rejoice that your names are  
written in heaven*

*Luke 10:20*



**Summer Bible Study.**

Tuesdays; 8/2 and 8/30 at 9:30 am. Experiencing God." Note the 3-week break during this month.



**Men's Friday Bible Study.**

The Men's Bible study is taking a break in August and will begin again on Friday, September 9 at 7:30 am.

**Ladies Fun Day.**

Tuesdays; 8/2 and 8/16 at 1:00 pm. Check Sunday bulletins for further information regarding hostess and location.

**Bible and Breakfast**

Friday, September 2. Breakfast begins at 8:30 am, followed by a study of II Peter from 9:00-11:00, with a coffee break in the middle.



**Special Speakers**

While Kevin is on vacation in August, we will have the following worship opportunities:

- **Sunday, August 14:** Rick and Marilyn Fody, Wycliffe Missionaries. Rick will preach at the service and Rick and Marilyn will discuss their missionary work at the Q&A during fellowship.
- **Sunday, August 21.** Our guest speaker will be Mitch Wright, retired Pastor from Manor Baptist Church.



**WE CAN SPREAD THE GOSPEL WITHOUT PREACHING**

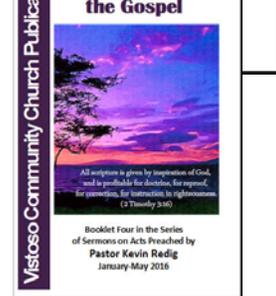
And [Jesus] said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature..."  
Mark 16:15

When Jesus uttered these words recorded in the Book of Mark, He was giving final instructions to His disciples after His resurrection. It is clear how important this instruction was to Him because of its breadth ("into all the world") and its depth ("to every creature"). But, how could the eleven possibly cover the world and every creature in it? This commission from Christ could only be accomplished if all who heard the Word and believed also took up this mission to "preach the Gospel."

The problem, of course, is that most of us are not gifted to "preach" the Word. Does this mean that we, who are not preachers, teachers, evangelists, or missionaries, have no responsibility to spread the Word? Does the fact that we cannot "preach" mean that Christ's clearly-stated instruction does not apply to us? Of course, not!

There are so many ways to spread the Gospel that do not involve preaching—witnessing, personal testimony and one of my favorites, sharing materials that provide a clear Gospel message. The VCC Communications Committee works constantly to provide such materials based upon the preaching and writings of Pastor Kevin. Initially, our goal was to provide these materials for the edification of our own congregation. But, over time, we have come to realize that the Daily Devotions, booklets of sermons, and tracts have a much wider audience. They can become a way that every one of us can spread the Gospel. We can share these publications containing Biblical truth and instruction with family, friends, neighbors and acquaintances.

This month our library of materials has expanded with the publication of a four-book set of sermons from Pastor Kevin's series from the Book of Acts. Two of the sermons—*Is the Message Still Relevant?* and *Who Can Come? How Do You Come?*—have been released in booklet form earlier in the year. But this month the addition of two more booklets—*Can You See Grace?* and *Guarding the Gospel*—complete the series. These are excellent publications to use to spread the Gospel. Plus, they are also worthwhile for us to read and reread as we prepare to personally share the Gospel. Look for the Acts series on the literature table in the foyer of the Church and start spreading the Word.



Dee Bethke, Communications Coordinator

**MISSIONS UPDATE**

**Fikret and Darlene Bocek** took advantage of Turkey's national holiday week to host a Family Camp for Izmir Protestant Church (IPK) members on their family farm. The week of tent camping was focused on the theme Confessing Christ: How to Live for Christ. While the rest of Turkey celebrated the last week of Ramadan, Family Camp offered Christian families an alternative celebration. With the recent bombings at the Istanbul airport, which is only 200 miles from Izmir, the Bocek's ask for continued prayer for IPK's protection from terrorists, for the TSV Bible translation project, and for the spreading of the Gospel.



The Boceks at a Father's Day photo shoot.



CEF Youth from the CYIA training in June

**Jon and Barb Habegger**, Directors of the Tucson office of Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF), are having a full summer of CEF activities. They conducted Christian Youth In Action (CYIA) training programs for teens in May and June. The teens learned and practiced how to effectively evangelize children in CEF's

*5 Day Clubs*. Many of the teens now serve as helpers in the numerous *5 Day Clubs* throughout the Tucson area. Pray for these young people God is raising up to reach the next generation of children for Christ.

**COMMUNIQUÉS**

The Missions Communiqués Bulletin Board has been redesigned to easily find the latest newsletters and updates from our supported missionaries and projects. Check it out on the wall in the Fellowship Hall.



Five hundred New Testament Bibles arrived and were safely picked up in Oaxaca City, Mexico, an area of unrest and violence, by Jeanne Austin and several of her colleagues from San Marcos Tiacoyalco. These Bibles, printed in Korea, are the result of many years of work. The dedication ceremony in San Marcos is set for August 27, and will be attended by VCC's Sharon Stark. Please pray for Sharon's safe travel, and that God prepares hearts to hear and receive His Word in their own language.



Jacob and Emilio with the New Testaments

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- Anne Solomon 8/2
- LeNeille Hudgins 8/2
- Nancy Appell 8/3
- Connie Weythman 8/4
- Rita Bolty 8/6
- Sue Koch 8/6
- Sharon Stark 8/9
- Lu Mastin 8/10
- Kevin Redig 8/10
- Diane Campbell 8/14
- Rudy Heinzl 8/15
- Don Bong 8/16
- Hal Campbell 8/18
- Art Riggins 8/20
- Helen Gittel 8/21
- Audra Southall 8/25
- Joe Tompkins 8/27
- Dean Wilkes 8/27
- Richard Ross 8/28



- Bob & Judy Owens, 2 years 8/8
- Don & Susan Bong, 31 years 8/10
- Bill & Cecelia Hallier, 54 years 8/19
- Ken & Karen Hunt, 56 years 8/27
- Art & Bebe Riggins, 66 years 8/27

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



**Allen and Arlene Burt** joined Vistoso Community Church on July 17 after visiting for approximately four weeks. They came from a larger church in the area, being impressed by the smaller size, Pastor Kevin's excellent teaching and the friendliness of the people, finding them very easy to relate to. Allen and Arlene have lived in Marana for approximately six years, coming from Colorado (10 years) and Texas (32 years).

Allen was a community banker for 32 years, chartered his own bank in Tyler, Texas and subsequently worked as a registered investment advisor for 17 years. Arlene was a homemaker who raised their two daughters and one son. Their son was killed in an automobile accident in Dallas at age 22. One daughter, Cynthia lives in Edmond Oklahoma with her husband Rich. She

is a speech therapist, using horses as therapy for autistic children. They have two sons at OSU. Their other daughter Kim and her husband, Tom Prothro live in Tyler Texas. Kim is a graduate of the University of Texas and Dallas Theological Seminary. She does volunteer work for Hospice in Tyler. Tom has his own CPA firm. They had two children; their oldest daughter Ashley died from pneumonia three years ago leaving four small children. Their son Evan Prothro is a computer software engineer and partner in his own firm. He lives with his wife and three small children in Tyler, Texas.

Arlene and Allen have three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. They have been married for 59 years. They enjoy hiking and bird watching. Allen's hobby is photography. Arlene likes to garden, though she is "re-learning" how to do that in the AZ desert! They also appreciate the Tucson symphony and theaters in the area.

If you have not met this great couple, please welcome them the next time you see them!

### Update From Our Financial Secretary

You should be receiving shortly, in either your church mailbox or through the mail, a statement which documents your giving to VCC for the first six months of 2016. This is the first time we have been able to do this thanks to new software which has made it much easier to accomplish. You can help those involved with financial record-keeping in two ways. First, make sure all of the personal information is correct, e.g. name, address, etc. Second, verify that our records of your giving are also correct. The statement you will receive will give you further instructions regarding what to do if you find something that needs correction. This mid-year review should make the end of the year process both smoother and quicker.



Thank you for your help in this matter, and for your gracious giving to Vistoso Community Church.

*Missions Update*

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#### PRAYER REQUEST AND UPDATE

When Pastor Victor was killed in Jamiltepec earlier this year, his brother, Joel stepped in and is now serving as interim pastor, while also working a full-time job. Joel is also involved with a team of translators who will soon have the book of Esther ready for a test printing. Pray for protection and encouragement for Joel and the translation team.