



The Vistoso Voice

SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas Cantata. The first weekend in December our choir, accompanied by a chamber orchestra, presents VCC's annual Christmas Cantata. This year's presentation is a celebration of Christmas called *And There Was Light*. The cantata features beautiful music, including many traditional Christmas carols, as well as narration recounting the story of Christ's birth.



The cantata is Saturday, December 7 at 4:00 pm and Sunday morning during the worship service at 9:30. The doors open for the Saturday Cantata at 3:30 pm.

Christmas Eve Service. On December 24, at 5:00, VCC will have a service to celebrate Christ's birth. The service features special music and message for Christmas.



Upper Room Discourse Study resumes January 7, 2020.

Men's Bible Study meets for an hour on Friday at 7:30 am for the first three weeks this month. After the Christmas break, studies resume on January 3, 2020.

HeartCall Ladies Bible Study meets only the second Thursday this month at 9:30. Following the study, there will be a lunch and guests are welcome. The Sign up in the Fellowship Hall has all the details of the gift exchange. HeartCall resumes February 13, 2020.

Recovering Your Joy Study will have sessions on Wednesday December 4, 11, and 18 at 9:30 am. After the Christmas break, sessions will continue beginning on January 8, 2020.

VCC's Midweek prayer and Bible study service meets at 5:00 pm December 4 and 18. There will be no service on Christmas Day.

Choir Cantata. Our Christmas Cantata, *And There Was Light*, will be presented twice: Saturday, December 7 at 4:00 pm, and Sunday morning December 8 at 9:30. More details at left.

Business Meeting. VCC's quarterly meeting is Wednesday, December 11 at 5:00. See details on this page.

Christmas Eve Service will be at 5:00 pm on December 24.



QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING, DECEMBER 11

The quarterly meeting held at the end of the year is an important one for all members to attend. The agenda includes the following important items:

- Presentation of the 2020 VCC budget.
- Election of Church Board members and Committee Chairs.
- Reports from several ministries and committees.

As always, the meeting, held at 5:00 on December 11, requires a quorum of the membership. Mark your calendar so you don't miss the quarterly meeting.

Did You Know?

Congress recently made permanent a law that allows retirees to donate directly from their IRA to a charitable organization and have it count against their RMD (required minimum distribution). Furthermore, the amount is not included in your adjusted gross income. Note, you cannot withdraw the money yourself and make the contribution, it must come directly from your IRA administrator. Contact your IRA administrator or tax advisor for further information.

Vistoso Church

Telephone: 520-825-0652
e-mail: vistosocc@icloud.com

Office Hours:

Tue-Thurs: 10 am-2 pm

Friday: 8 am-12 noon

Pastor: Kevin Redig

Emergency: 520-403-4088



THE LORD HAS BLESSED US THIS YEAR

It seems like every December I say to myself, "I can't believe how fast the fall has flown by!" And so here we are, starting the final month of the year, and I trust you will join me in stepping back in awe for a moment at all the Lord has done! Our just completed Missions Conference was such a blessing and encouragement; the Bible studies held so faithfully throughout the fall have helped promote the spiritual growth of many, and what a rich time of worship we enjoy on Sunday mornings. The Lord has brought enough visitors that we have started our Saturday evening services two months ahead of our normal schedule.

Then, looking ahead, I am eagerly awaiting our Christmas Cantata, which I trust will be followed by a brief pause in our normal schedule to celebrate Christmas as a church family before launching into the challenges of the new year.

What a blessing it is to serve shoulder to shoulder with you in ministry. May the name of Jesus Christ be exalted in all we do, and God the Father glorified. Christmas blessings to the VCC Church family and best wishes for a spiritually fruitful new year,

*Pastor Kevin and Karen
Pastor Peter and Cindy*



A CHANCE TO GIVE AT CHRISTMAS

Christmas is coming and we're making plans to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. One of the things this involves for Love Thy Neighbor Ministries is our *Blessings in a Bag* gift program. We set up Christmas trees at locations like the VCC Fellowship Hall. The trees are hung with tags indicating gift ideas for residents of the nursing homes we adopted this year. The tag is taken by someone from the church then gifts are purchased, placed in a gift bag and returned to the collection box by the tree. Our Christmas gift program has been active for many years and is always a blessing to the elderly residents.

Why give gifts? For us it is a way to celebrate the wonderful gift of salvation that we have received from the Father. Giving gifts at Christmas is a family tradition and brings back warm memories to the resident who receives a gift. And, in most cases, the gift they receive is something they need and perhaps couldn't afford to buy.

This year the Christmas tree went up in the Fellowship Hall on November 24 and will be up until December 15. If you wish to give a Christmas gift or gifts to needy nursing home residents just take a tag or two.

On behalf of the residents at Park Avenue Care Center, Pueblo Springs Care Center, Santa Rosa Care Center, and Sapphire of Tucson Nursing and Rehabilitation, thank you for your generosity.



Jean Deering	12/02
Ann Grover	12/02
Carolyn Carson	12/03
Richard Hehir	12/03
Tricia Jennings	12/03
Arlene Kuizema	12/03
Curtiss LeRoy	12/03
Gary Wilson	12/03
Carol Arnold	12/04
Richard Flax	12/05
David Winscott	12/05
Zamie Studt	12/07
Marilyn Hartley	12/09
Hal Hufford	12/12
Bev Jurgens	12/12
Jan Young	12/12
Joe Markwell	12/13
Josa Heilman	12/16
Carol Workman	12/16
Kurt Schulz	12/18
Gain Von Fabrice	12/18
Joan St. Onge-Meder	12/20
Richard Williams	12/20
Donna Hess	12/21
Darcy Wright	12/22
Robert Westendorf	12/24
Janet Rhodes	12/27
Barb Pickering	12/28
Debbie Swank	12/28
Debra Westendorf	12/28
Gerald Anderson	12/29
Clifton Vander Ark	12/30
Jan Wehmann	12/30

MISSIONS REPORT

BLESSING OTHERS AT CHRISTMAS

Each year the VCC Missions committee uses Point of Need funds to bring some joy and the Good News of God's gift to us into the lives of less fortunate children. Please keep these ministries and youth in prayer that eyes and hearts may be opened to the true gift of Christmas.

On the Tohono O'odham Reservation

For years John & Mavis Coleman have been helping many on the reservation with winter warm-up items such as blankets and caps, and Christmas gifts for the children. While the donation of these items from ministry partners as far away as Kentucky goes a long way in meeting the needs, it always falls short. VCC's donation will help John purchase some additional winter items, as well as plenty of gifts for the children. With every gift the Coleman's give, they also share the gospel and provide a copy of God's Word.



At the Flying-H Boys Ranch

The Flying-H is the last stop for these at-risk young men. The lessons they have to learn in reconciliation, respect, relationships, and trust are hard.

If you look at the Flying-H Facebook page, all the activities look like fun, but they have a purpose. They build trust, camaraderie, and self-esteem. The boys are pushed to their limits and beyond. They gain self-confidence as a result of these activities and being introduced to the Word of God.



VCC's gift to Flying-H will allow time for the boys to be boys. After an afternoon at the movies (the new Star Wars film), they will be treated to all they can eat at Hometown Buffet.

In India

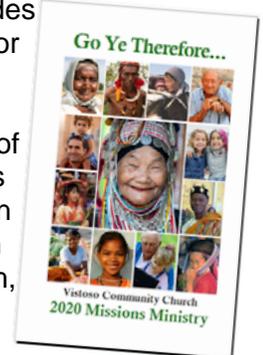
Have you ever looked closely at the pictures in the Gilgal Gospel Mission (GGM) newsletter? You see very few shoes or sandals! We all know someone who had feet so tough they could walk on nails, but that was mostly by choice. When food, clothes, and

some kind of shelter is a priority, shoes are an unaffordable luxury. This Christmas GGM has expressed a desire for all the children in their care to have a new pair of sandals for school and church. VCC has supplied the funds to purchase sandals for all 23 of the students at the GGM Children's Home.



MEET OUR MISSIONARIES

The 2020 Mission Ministries booklet is now available on the literature racks or in the Mission's Corner of the Fellowship Hall. The booklet provides ministry updates for VCC's supported missionaries. Also included for each of the missionaries is contact information so that, in addition to praying for them, we can write with words of support and encouragement.



Two other sections of the booklet list the Point of Need projects that your donations have supported during 2019 and identifies the members of the Missions Committee should you have questions. The Missions Committee section of the booklet also gives an overview of some of the Committee's outreach and ministry activities during the year.

At VCC the GREATER Portion for Ministry

You need to know a few things about the budget. Now, I know what you are thinking, “No way! This is December. I am thinking about Christmas. Budgets are boring.” Now hear me out, there really are some things you need to know, and they are not the least bit boring! Here are four things you might find to be a blessing.

First, for the past ten years, our expenditures have been under-budget—every single year. The Lord is certainly due thanks for His watch-care, as are those who so carefully act as stewards of the grace-giving of our fellowship.

Second, for the past ten years, giving has always been in excess of our budget—every single year.



Again, we should thank the Lord for His material blessings as well as the gracious generosity of all those who gather at VCC to worship.

Third, for the past four years, the largest portion of our budget has gone to ministry—more than debt service on our building, more than payroll, more than anything else. We feel so strongly that the largest portion of VCC’s giving be applied to ministry that we wrote it into our By-Laws.

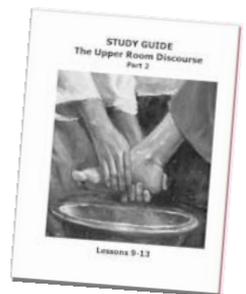
And so, when the 2020 budget comes before you at our December 11 business meeting, you shouldn’t be the least surprised to learn that once again the largest portion is going to ministry—most of it in support of missions!

Finally, one last item to note. The so-gracious giving of those who collectively make up the VCC fellowship is not by means of pressure offerings, but simply through the collection boxes at the rear of the church. Our 2020 budget will support the building, pastors, and ministries of this church. In addition, an amount nearly 20% in excess of the budget is designated to a variety of ministries, again, mostly missions. This is another example of a time when you can see grace.

So, as you have the opportunity, seek out one of those involved in the church’s finances and thank them for their faithful stewardship. And, on behalf of those leading the various ministries within our fellowship, thank-you for your faithful and gracious support.

URD PART 2

The 2019-2020 Tuesday morning Men’s and Women’s Bible Study topic this year is the Upper Room Discourse (URD) in the Book of John. This amazing time of Christ teaching his disciples just before he goes to the cross is a source of truths that are repeated and expanded throughout the New Testament.



During the fall, Part 1 of the Study covered John 13:1-14:12. The two winter sessions will cover John 14:13-17:26 in two sessions: Tuesday, January 7-February 11; and March 3-April 7. Materials for the first winter session of the URD study will be available from the church office in mid-December.

Happy Anniversary

C.J. and Judy Hindman—40 years	12/02	Yoojin Muhn and Donathan Chang—9 years	12/16
Jim and Cena Gardner—37 years	12/03	Dan and Marian Stoleson—55 years	12/18
Larry and Carol Arnold—26 years	12/11	Don and Joyce Collier—5 years	12/23
Kevin and Christine West—48 years	12/11	Bill and Zamie Studt—51 years	12/28
David and Barbara Glaser—45 years	12/13	Larry and Tricia Jennings—40 years	12/29
Peter and Cindy Tranvik—32 years	12/13		