

The Vistoso Voice

Friday, September 4, 2020

Weekly

thisweek

Sunday, Sept. 6, 9:30 am:
Worship in church and via livestream. No Q&A or fellowship following service. Social distancing practiced.

Wednesday, 10:00 am:
Midweek Bible Hour. Pastor Peter teaches livestream New Testament lessons.

Friday, 10:00 am: Pastor Kevin will not livestream a Bible study this Friday.

Meeting

Thursday, Sept. 10, 10:00 am:
Ministry Planning Meeting.

Saturday, Sept. 12, 10:00 am:
Security Meeting

nextweek

Sunday, Sept. 13, 9:30 am:
Worship with communion in church and via livestream. No Q&A or fellowship following service.

Wednesday, 10:00 am:
Midweek Bible Hour, Pastor Peter teaches livestream New Testament lessons.

Friday, 7:30 am: Men's Bible study resumes.

Friday, 10:00 am: Pastor Kevin's Bible study series: *The Christian Life—Starting with the Basics.*

Meeting

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 10 am:
Church Board Meeting.

MEN'S FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY RESUMES

It is our goal to return to as much church programming as possible within the new health guidelines. The first thing we added to our schedule was the Sunday service with appropriate precautions and social distancing. The next program to be added to the schedule is our Friday morning Men's Bible study beginning Friday September 18th at 7:30 am.

Although the study targets a specific portion of Scripture, as our regular attenders know, questions from the men cover a



broad expanse of doctrine and are always interesting. Feel free to jump in as we'll be starting something new. We meet in the Fellowship Hall, and will comply with the current guidelines on distancing.

For more on our plans to add more programming, see the article on Page 2.

REMINDERS

Devotional. The September devotional is available in print version at the church and online on the Vistoso website: vistoso.org. Just click on the Daily Devotional icon in the right hand column on the home page to bring up a list of the all of the posted devotionals.



Communion. The worship service on Sunday, September 13, will include our communion celebration. You can provide your own elements or pick up the pre-packaged elements at the church.



Friday studies. Pastor Kevin's Christian Life livestream Bible studies resume on Friday, September 18. All these studies are being archived on our website. Just click the video sermons icon on the home page.



QUARTERLY MEETING

VCC's first quarterly meeting since the shutdown in March will be held Wednesday, September 23 at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The meeting will provide an overview of the Church's ministries and financial standing and all church members are invited. Remember that, according to our bylaws, there must be a quorum of members present to conduct the meeting.



Vistoso Community Church

Telephone: 520 825-0652
e-mail: vistosocc@icloud.com
website: vistoso.org
Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday:
10 am-2 pm;
Friday: 8 am-12 noon

Pastor: Kevin Redig
Emergency: 520-403-4088



MOVING FORWARD WITH DISCIPLESHIP

In our second move toward more discipleship programming, we are also going to begin a trial of a hybrid version of our Tuesday morning Men and Women's Bible studies beginning Tuesday October 6, both in the church and via livestream.

Subject of the Study

As you may recall, we had John 17 yet to study when the coronavirus caused us to cancel the remaining spring Bible sessions. John 17 is known as Jesus' "High Priestly Prayer," and it is a very memorable and powerful passage of Scripture. It is an ideal passage on which to return.

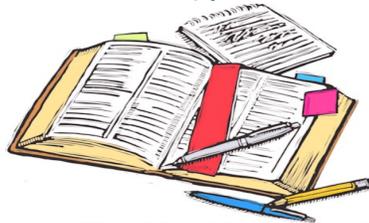
Meeting and Materials

Social distancing requirements make it impossible for us to conduct the Bible studies in our normal manner. These are the details to our new approach:

Meeting. When we meet on Tuesdays, beginning Tuesday October 6th at 10:00, ladies will meet in the sanctuary and men in the fellowship hall. We will make use of the same seating we have been using on Sunday mornings. Although masks are not required, you are welcome to wear one and they will be available at the door. Unfortunately, we will not yet be able to enjoy the pre-study fellowship to which we had become accustomed.

Materials. Last spring's study-guide can be used. We have also republished the portion dealing with John 17 into the

eight sessions we plan to use this fall. Feel free to pick up a revised study guide during office hours any time after this Sunday, September 13. (Note: if you are joining us via livestream, you may also contact the church office by phone or email to request an email copy of the study guide.



The Most Important Part

Here is the most important aspect of the study. Our goal is to have everyone learn this most important of lessons: you can grow spiritually if you will avail yourself of the Spirit of God and the Word of God! This means it is essential for you to prepare ahead of each Tuesday's meeting. The majority of what you get out of the study will come from your own study time. And then, what you glean as you follow the discussion among other believers will be the *icing on the cake*.

How It Will Be Different

Now we are not going to be able to sit at tables of 6-8 and discuss the text—at least not yet. So here is what we are going to do:

Ladies. In the sanctuary, there will be a group of five ladies on the platform, working through the study guide, in a similar fashion to how we did it in the past. These ladies will just be spaced out instead of sitting around a

table. The session will be livestreamed, so you can join it at home if you prefer. The session will also be open to any ladies who wish to observe the discussion, making use of the sanctuary seating. We are working on a means for the audience to ask questions, but it will naturally be more limited than our group discussions.

Men. In the fellowship hall, the men will work through the study guide, led as a large group by either myself or Peter. The men's session will not be livestreamed.

Changes and Blessing

As you can see, this is not the same format for studying God's Word that we have come to enjoy over the years. We, like everyone else, are making adjustments during this pandemic. But I am very glad we have the technology and willing individuals to get this *hybrid* offering back on the schedule.

The blessings are many. First, it will get people back into the Word on their own, which is so important. Second, it will allow all of us to reap the benefit of group discussion, even if not quite at the intimate level we prefer. Further, the livestream option for the ladies allows more ladies to join in, perhaps even some of our winter visitors. Finally, all who attend—whether in person or via livestream—can enjoy a time in God's Word. And what is better than fellowship around the Word of God?

Consider giving it a try as we continue to heed the admonishment to *make disciples!*

In His grace, 