

NEWSLETTER



“Psalms 107”

By Pastor Steve Gibson

We drove through the alley, found an open space to park, and climbed the stairs to the second floor of the old building. I held the door for my sister and her children to go inside. I took a deep breath. Yes, the familiar aroma of spices and baked goods was as inviting as ever. I had been looking forward to bringing my sister’s kids to The Harvest to eat while I visited on a Thanksgiving seminary break. Going to The Harvest was a family tradition. It was a bit of a drive to Pearl Street in Boulder, but our family had shared significant memories there. When my older sister brought Peter home from college to check us out, we went to The Harvest. When my younger brother brought his future wife to visit us in Colorado, he took her there on a date. The food was excellent and the people-watching was unsurpassed. (When you mix Pearl Street and vegetarians, you can get some interesting results.)

We walked down the hall to the stairs, but they were roped off. There was no hum of conversation. I looked down and chairs were set on the tables. A sign announced their closing on November 1. “Thanks for the memories” it said. We had missed the last day of operation. What a disappointment! We were so hungry; it smelled so good. And we had no alternative in mind.

David has a lament in Psalms 107: Oh, that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men! (v. 7 NKJV)

How often we are lulled into taking God’s goodness for granted. It seems that was my attitude toward going to church each Sabbath. I just assumed that pattern would continue indefinitely until the time before Jesus returns. Then in March that routine was disrupted rather abruptly. And the temporary situation turned into a longer period than I expected. We may recognize how much we value something after it isn’t available to us. Thankfully God is gracious and patient in providing for our needs in spite of our slowness to give thanks. He is painfully aware of our ability to forget His daily blessings.

As you look forward to freely returning to fellowship at our church, may it be with an abundance of thanksgiving. As David sang: Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy. (vs. 1-2 NKJV)

Prayer Group

Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

Look for an email with the number

Youth Vespers

Friday evening @ 7 p.m.

Look for email with information

Adult Sabbath School

Each Sabbath @ 8:45 a.m.

Look for email with information

Live Stream Church Service

Each Sabbath @ 11:30 a.m.

Look for email with the link

Great Controversy Reading

Sabbath afternoon @ 3:30 p.m.

Look for email with information

Church Reopening Date

We are happy to announce that we currently we have a date of June 27th for resuming services in our facility. Please keep your eyes open for an email with opening requirement information. We hope we will not need to postpone again.

Tithes & Offerings

Because of faithful giving we are meeting our budget and our tithe base is normal during this time. Below are the three ways you can give your offerings:

At the church from 4-8 p.m. Wednesdays

Mail to: Cathy Fields
P.O. Box 15332
Scottsdale, AZ 85267

Go to www.desertcovesda.com and click on ‘Online Giving’ and follow the prompts to give that way.

MINISTRY NEWS!

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Quasi Normal

Being aware of how to deal with the new way of life “Quasi Normal” is something that many individuals should be aware of. There are numerous tips that the world defines helpful to get through their day as individuals are secluded from other humans. Identifying the importance of our relationship with our Creator to this author is the highest and most important way to get through this time of isolation. First, one must be honest with oneself and ask the most important question, are you right with God?” As you can see the following tips are worldly tips but as people of the Bible, again are you right with God? How many of us truly take the time to pray and spend time with our Lord? It is estimated that even Pastors only spend three minutes in prayer and that the average individual spends one to three minutes in prayer a day. As we see the signs and our Beloved Jesus coming back soon, please, I urge you to reflect and answer the question, are you right with God? My brothers and sisters, as health is so important regarding diet, hydrotherapy, vitamins, exercise, and the list goes on and on, prayer is the breath of the soul! For this month's article I would like to urge each one of you to please **“Pray and Fast”** to have that relationship with our Lord. If you want to continue with what the world offers then here are some worldly tips to consider while you live in the Quasi Normal!

1. If you're remote-working or -learning, creating a regular routine will help stabilize things for you and your family.
2. Cook a meal together or take turns being the chef.
3. Go outside! Go for a hike or bike ride, or just take your cat, dog or turtle for a walk.
4. Download an educational program or app for your kids or yourself.
5. Read a book or listen to an audiobook.
6. Eat sensibly. Resist the urge to stress eat.
7. Turn off the TV instead and turn on music
8. Learn a new language. Chinese, Spanish, Italian—or maybe American Sign Language.
9. Enjoy family time.
10. Do some spring cleaning. Purge that extra stuff that's been lying around the place.
11. Facetime or Skype with friends. It will help negate some of the effects of isolation. Get your creative side on. Draw. Paint. Write a poem. Crochet. Knit. Exercise daily.
12. Get your camera out and start taking positive photos. You can post or not, but try to see the rainbow in every day.



“Pray without ceasing.” 1 Thessalonians 5:17
Health and Prayer Ministry Leader, Dr. Sylvia Hayashi

Walnut-stuffed Zucchini Boats

2 medium zucchini, halved lengthwise	1 tsp olive oil	1/4 tsp salt
1/2 cup walnuts	1/3 cup roasted red bell pepper	1/4 cup packed flat-leafed parsley
1/2 cup cooked quinoa	1 T finely shredded parmesan cheese	1 T lemon juice

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Line a baking sheet with foil. Scoop out flesh from cut sides of zucchini halves, making 1 inch deep cavities. Place zucchini, cut sides up on prepared baking sheet. Drizzle with oil, sprinkle with 1/4 tsp. salt. Bake 15 minutes.
2. Combine walnuts, roasted bell pepper, and parsley in a food processor. Pulse until finely chopped. Combine walnut mixture, quinoa, cheese and lemon juice in a bowl.
3. Spoon walnut mixture into zucchini shells. Sprinkle with regular salt or seasoned salt. Bake 20 minutes or until zucchini is crisp and tender. If desired, sprinkle with additional parsley.

Many of us will soon be having fresh zucchini from our gardens and this is a great way to use some of them. Enjoy!