

DAVIS UPDATE

Well 2020 is now behind us, and although I think that brings some form of relief, I think this broken world needs more than relief. We need HOPE front and center. As Christians, we by faith believe this hope is found in Jesus. With an update on our mission at New City Church, I'd say Heidi and I together take care of a lot of the moving parts of the church that help maintain and create a consistent place for people in such an inconsistent time. Our pastors Vince Larson and Kenny Liles are incredible at preaching God's powerful truth and of His unending love. Heidi and I desire to



www.sophiaelizabethphotography.com

do the big and small things behind the scenes to help that message of hope get out more and support our church family to be movers of that message. As Sunday Expression Pastor my focus is the Sunday gatherings and the people that help make it happen. Here are some specific highlights in those efforts:

- We now have a church cargo van! The van itself is a bit beat up & old, but it works and has plenty of space! My car is no longer packed with speakers, sanitation station and kids crafts. Ha!
- We have been blessed by newcomers already! With extra van space we're adding a welcome table with signs & more things for our kids ministry. These small things are big for someone who may be visiting for the first time.
- We are slowly working out the technical issues & needed enhancements we need.
- My set up/sound crew are awesome! A group of consistent guys have stepped in to help me.
- Both Heidi and I had opportunities to preach sermons! Click the links below if you feel inclined to listen. The pastors hope to hear future sermons from us as well!



<u>Heidi's Sermon - "Meeting</u> Jesus in Disappointment"



Trevor's Sermon - John 12:24

As I write this California is currently in the purple tier with high Covid numbers. It can feel very daunting to know we're still in this pandemic. I feel like I have to stuff down my heart for worship team dinners and having worship nights at each others houses. I guess the bright side to this is it's an opportunity to step back and give attention to things we may have normally not noticed. The leadership at New City is excited about what's ahead. We are realizing what has brought us this far may not be the same thing to take us further down the journey, so instead of up building up the next thing for 2021, it's getting on our knees and praying. Here is a link to a video pastor Vince shared about what we feel God is calling New City in 2021. (Side note - I made the video thanks to this Covid season that pushed me into new video making ventures). **We invite you to watch: <u>Click Here to watch video</u>.**

Before I end this update let me say again that I am extremely grateful for your sacrifice to support our ministry. All the things done and people poured into this past year wouldn't of been possible without you taking the step to support us. Many thanks and can't wait to fill you in on this next season!

Letter from Heidi

The support, prayers, emails, financial gifts and phone calls have been God's hand on us. THANK YOU! Like most of us, this last year had a lot of challenges for our family yet it gave opportunity for learning and most importantly pushed us to lean into God's heart. Here are my highlights.

- It is crazy to think that Trevor's first Sunday at New City was the last Sunday our church met in a building! It has been an adventurous ride with lots of learning curves but worth every effort!
- One shift for me was having to support Anja in online school. It seemed to take over everything I had planned. Her and I have had to give each other a lot of grace and we have really found our groove together. We are a pretty great team :)
- Hendrix is a wonderful joy who definitely wears me down to my last energy string but it is amazing to watch him grow & see life.
- This year I was faced with my own racism and privileges. It has been moments of repentance, grief and growth. I felt (and still feel) a longing to find ways our church could/can reach out to the racial disparities of our society. A group of us at New City felt called to prayer & response. We created this page to help guide ourselves and our church family in those steps. I hope it can be a guide to you on your journey: www.newcitysd.com/racial-justice-reconciliation.
- As a church we came together this year, not in perfection, but as a family who longs to bear witness to the good news in a dark world. So many people in our church found ways to shine His light, share His love, and serve people. I am very thankful.

A couple photos of our church family being together.









We are thankful for technology which helps us stay connected through church meeting zoom sessions & online services. We are also VERY thankful for the beautiful outdoors as a means to connect and be with each other. What a blessing!



Heidi's Praise Story

If you feel compelled to keep reading, I wanted to also share a BIG praise for me personally and I share in hopes it will give someone hope in their life. Over 25 years ago, our family became broken through divorce with hurts, unforgiveness and disappointment. It seemed that our family would never feel whole again. But I think all of us prayed & hoped throughout the many years that some how we could have healing and reconciliation. After our daughter Mazelle passed away something ignited in my family and for me it was God's goodness in the midst of great sorrow. Since her death, our family has found healing, forgiveness and has experienced family love beyond our own abilities. This photo is from one of

our family zoom sessions and I stare at it often seeing so much evidence of grace, God's grace on us and grace for each other. You may be going through something hard right now...divorce like we did, a broken or hurtful relationship, hard realities you have to face and it might be hard to see anything good to come from it. It might be a long journey (ours took over 25 years), but God's goodness is a reality! We are not perfect, but we are FULL of love for each other. I praise God for each one of them. I see a miracle that I believe His hand was weaving for us. I am a praising lady over here! I hope our story can bring you encouragement!

Here are ways to continue your support :

PRAY – Will you pray for people to hear the good news of Jesus, for lives to be restored & renewed in the love of Jesus, and for disciples to be made at New City? Will you pray for us to have wisdom & discernment in the ever changing world we find ourselves in as a church?

CONNECT – Stay connected with us. Your emotional support & wisdom in our lives is a key component of encouragement & discernment to us. Feel free to reach out anytime by email at Trevor@newcitysd.com or Heidi@newcitysd.com.

GIVE - If you feel led to give here are ways to give.

- <u>Click Here to Give to the Davis Family</u> Choose the "Davis Family - Pastor Support" fund and either one time or reoccurring donation
- You can also text 'NEWCITYSD' to 77977 and you will receive a one-time reply containing the link to give
- To give by mail: Write check to "New City Church" and send to PO Box 122535
 San Diego, CA 92112. Put "Davis Family – Pastor Support" in the memo section



Artwork colored by our children at the church gathering. Jesus gave his disciples one model to follow when they asked Him to teach them to pray. May this prayer guides us even now as His church. *Matthew 6:9-13*