



# DORSETT VILLAGE CHURCH

# EVANGEL

*Loving God...Loving Others*

**JULY 2020**

A Publication of  
Dorsett Village Church

2240 Bennington Place  
Maryland Heights, MO 63043  
314-576-7729  
dorsettvillechurch.com

## REVISED SCHEDULE

### Sunday

10:45 a.m. Worship Service

### Wednesday

7:00 p.m. Adult Co-Ed  
Bible Study  
(on-line)

## STAFF

### Derald L. Harris

*Interim Pastor*  
(DeraldLH@sbcglobal.net)

### Kevin Royal

*Associate Pastor*

### Raymond Cabello

*Interim Music Minister*

### Kristie Song

*Administrative Secretary*

### Ashlee Brannin

*Sign Interpreter*

## Notes from Pastor Derald

It was certainly wonderful to see many of you last Sunday in worship. It was so much better having real people in the seats worshipping instead of the photos that had been pinned to those chairs for weeks. And it was obvious that you were excited to be back.

Thank you for taking safety seriously. I know it is uncomfortable to wear masks. I know it is difficult to maintain physical distance when you so desperately want to shake hands and hug people. I know it is unusual to have the chairs spread out so much in the Worship Center. But you showed your love and concern for fellow DVC family members by doing the things we know will make it safer to worship together. There will be a tendency over the next few weeks to start relaxing our adherence to the guidelines, but we must be diligent.

I know you are probably getting tired of hearing me say this, but we know it is still not safe for many of our church family to get out in public settings. If you are in the higher-risk populations, we all understand. Even more importantly, God understands. None of us want you to do anything that risks your long-term health for the short-term blessings of public worship. You will know when the time is right for you. Until then, continue to worship with us through our live stream.

I want to thank the members of the Leadership Council who provided the guidance, wisdom and efforts that allowed us to restart our public worship services. Just as a reminder, this Council is made up of Mike Rissell, Wanda Gant, Matthew Song, Alan Gragert, Deb Woodworth, Elizabeth Hoang, Kevin Petterson, Kristie Song, Kevin Royal and Raymond Cabello. They are doing a great job in providing leadership for the church during this time of transition.

The last several months have served as vivid reminders that we live in a broken world. God did not create the world to be subject to viruses or any other kind of illness. God did not intend for people created in His image to prejudge others and treat some people as better than others. Pandemics and social injustice are products of sin.

As we witness man's inhumanity to man, laws and court rulings that reflect the exact opposite of God's teachings and a culture that continues to go down the path of destruction, we often ask what is this world coming to? I can tell you – it is coming to an end! We don't know exactly when, but we do know Jesus is coming again and this world will be re-created into the perfection that God originally created. We also know that the time of His return is getting closer everyday. We just need to remember to live in His grace and share His gospel with others.

Sometimes it is easy to forget that God really loves us and wants to bless us. On Sunday, July 12, we will begin a new teaching series on the 8 Keys to Being Blessed by God. I think it is wonderful that Jesus began His greatest sermon – the Sermon on the Mount – by giving us 8 ways to be blessed by God. He didn't begin by giving us 8 things to avoid to keep from being cursed. It is my prayer that you will be blessed by this study.

**Blessings,**  
**Pastor Derald**

# Virtual Vacation Bible School on July 20-24

Dorsett Village Church is hosting a Virtual Vacation Bible School. We will bring VBS directly to your home! You will receive materials to facilitate Bible study, recreation and crafts at home. There will be livestream media-driven sessions to engage your kids as viewers. This is a FREE event that will teach your child(ren) (babies-6th grade) how to build a solid foundation on the word of God.

Our theme is "Concrete and Cranes" because we are all a work in progress. VBS will be a week of discovering how Jesus' love provides a foundation that will last. Kids will learn to be wise builders who continue in what they've learned and firmly believe as they discover that *"He who began a good work in them will be faithful to carry it on to completion."*

Each day kids will have the opportunity to make crafts, play fun games, make tasty snacks and sing cool songs. Packets and craft items will be available for pick-up prior to the week of VBS.

Life is a hard hat zone. But just wait 'til you see what God will do at VBS! Register now and be ready to start building on the love of Jesus!

## How to Register

Online at Eventbrite.com and type in Dorsett Village Church or call the Church office at 314-576-7729.

## Calling All Volunteers!

We rely on many volunteers to help make this free event a success.

- Do you enjoy being on camera? We need event leaders and group leaders (who are comfortable in front of a camera) to make short video lessons (5-10mins long). We also need a game leader, arts and crafts leader, mission leader and group leaders for all ages K, 1st-2nd, 3rd-4th and 5th-6th grades.
- Don't feel comfortable in front of a camera? That is okay, we have other roles to serve in. We need volunteers to assemble packets and volunteers to hand them out after church on July 19th.
- Are you handy with tools? We need volunteers to build some basic stage designs. We have the blueprints and just need someone to bring them to life.
- Do you like to walk? You can help distribute flyers to our surrounding communities.

All of us can form a strong prayer group to support VBS. We need to pray for volunteers, students and everyone on this team so that together we can "Nail It".



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## Notes from the Pastor Search Committee

The Pastor Search Committee has continued to meet via ZOOM during the Covid-19 pandemic. We have completed reviewing the survey answers of the current list of pastor candidates. The committee's activities over this past month have been focused on compiling additional questions to be asked at individual interviews of the candidates to gain a deeper understanding of their qualifications to be our next fulltime pastor. These interviews are expected to be performed in the August/September time frame.

Something that I'm not sure I've mentioned before is that the committee has been using the LifeWay Pastor Search Committee Handbook as a resource, which has been a great help in going through our search process.

As a church usually doesn't go through searching for a new a pastor regularly, such a publication is extremely helpful in guiding a search committee through the process. This handbook has recommended questions that we have been editing to better match our church and congregation. I just wanted to assure everyone that the committee is following a proven process to find the right person God has chosen for our congregation.

Again, the entire Pastor Search Committee requests your continued prayers as we perform God's work for Dorsett Village Church.

In the Love of Christ Jesus,  
Mike Rissell

## Ministry Meeting

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic that has prevented us from gathering together for nearly 4 months, we have not had a Ministry Meeting of Dorsett Village Church since December. The Leadership Council has scheduled such a meeting for Sunday, July 12 at 2:00. Initially the thought was to have the meeting immediately after the service, but that would rush the meeting and disrupt people's lunch.

Those who can will meet in the Worship Center and others can join via our on-line channels. When there is a need for discussion or voting, those on-line can send comments and they will be read aloud (or tallied). We don't want to leave anyone out.

We have some routine matters such as financial reports, report from the Pastor Search Committee, etc. in addition to the recommendation from the Leadership Council explained elsewhere on this page.

## Worship News

Hello Church Family! How can it already be July? 2020 is just zooming on by!

Last Sunday, we had our first service back inside the building! It was nice to see everyone's faces again (and not pinned to the seats). As we continue with public worship, there have been some changes to our services. We had to limit congregational singing, no bulletins, no hugs or handshakes – and the masks. All of this is to make sure our members stay healthy and safe. Thank you to everyone who came and followed the new guidelines.

We are asking for short videos of scripture readings, testimonies and words of encouragement from our members. These videos will be used during our worship services. If you would like to submit a video, please record it in landscape on your smart phone and text/email it to Cell: (314) 276-2280 – email: raymond2011@yahoo.com.

Starting Thursday, July 2nd, we will restart our online Thursday night worship services. These services will take place every other week at 7:00pm on our YouTube and Facebook pages to encourage our congregation and community during this pandemic. There will be A LOT OF SINGING! We would love to have you join us online for these services. If you have any song suggestions, please send them my way.

On Sunday, July 19 at 6 pm, our church will be joining with Landmark Family Church and Rodem Church to host an outdoor worship service! It will be a night of corporate worship and coming together as a community of faith. Bring your lawn chairs and socially distance worship with us!

Finally as a shameless plug, VBS is coming!! I hear the guy doing the snack videos is pretty cool... ;)

In Christ,  
Pastor Raymond

## Preparing for a New Era at DVC



Dorsett Village Church is obviously in a time of transition. One day soon a new pastor will be called to shepherd this church. It has been more than two and a half decades (a quarter of a century!) since the last time that took place. A new pastor will bring fresh new ideas of

how to reach the community.

In preparation for a new era in our church, the Leadership Council will bring a recommendation to the Ministry Meeting on July 12 that the church consider changing our name. At this time, the Council will just be proposing that we begin the process. No suggested names will be offered. That would be voted on at a later date.

Our current name reflects a day and a population that has changed greatly. St. Louis County and Maryland Heights are not the same as they were 25 years ago. DVC is not the same as we were 25 years ago.

One of the issues that has come out of the current societal re-awakening on racial justice is that many of our street and park names honor individuals who had severely racist pasts. Dorsett Road (and by extension Dorsett Village) was named for such an individual. While Dorsett Village Church was named because of our location and not as an attempt to honor Walter Dorsett, our community now knows the background of the Dorsett name.

It is probably inevitable that the name of Dorsett Road will be changed in the not-to-distant future. When that change occurs, this church will be left with a name without a context.

While we are relatively small, our congregation is more ethnically diverse than most churches in St. Louis County. We are proud of that diversity. Does our name adequately communicate our multi-cultural membership or does the name now communicate just the opposite?

Name changes are nothing new for this church. It was founded as Penn Junction Baptist Church. The name was changed to Dorsett Village Baptist Church and is now Dorsett Village Church. Each name change represented a slightly refocused mission and ministry to our community. Is it time to make another change?

Please come to the Ministry Meeting (in person or online) prepared to discuss the value of a name change for our congregation.



# Praying for Dorsett Village Church

Lord, We rejoice this morning that we are finally able to join together in public, corporate worship. These last several weeks and months have been challenging for all of us – and we know that the challenges have not been eliminated. Please give us the wisdom and the patience to continue to follow safety guidelines carefully as we begin to return to a somewhat more normal life.

As we begin to gather once again in person, we know that only a portion of our church family will be able to join together. As we look around and see our chairs moved apart and fewer people than usual, remind us that it is not about numbers. Give us a passion for PEOPLE, not numbers.

Father, we pray this morning for those who are not ready to return. Help them not to feel that they are less important in this church and in Your Kingdom than those who are gathered in this room. We know that they are among high-risk groups who should exercise additional caution.

This church was built by the service and faithfulness of those who are now in their senior years. We thank You for their work and dedication to Your church. Please keep them healthy.

We ask that You give them the grace to understand that their caution does NOT indicate a reduced faith in You. Rather, they are using the intelligence and common sense that You gave us when You created us in Your image.

Lord, please give them continued wisdom as they make decisions in the weeks to come.

Father, we also ask that we would not experience a sense of disappointment or loss from the changes we have made. Remind us that we do not worship You out of nostalgia, but out of sincere faith and love. We ask that you will fill us and our worship with Your Holy Spirit.

Lord, we pray that as we return to this building that we would not be focused inwardly, but that we would be energized to reach out and minister to those beyond these walls. We pray that this pandemic is a wake-up call for evangelism and not a catalyst for selfishness.

As we have sought to worship You in new and fresh ways when we were unable to gather in this building, we thank You for the creativity You have breathed into us. We pray that You will continue to refresh our worship and find new ways to proclaim Your message to a lost and dying world.

Lord, one of the tragedies of this pandemic has been the loss of closeness to other people. Many in our society are experiencing extreme loneliness. Others feel isolated

as they have dealt with family difficulties including other illnesses, injuries and even the loss of loved ones.

We know that it is not Your will that we go through these times of difficulty alone. So even as we are unable to offer PERSONAL support to our friends and family, we ask that You continue to show them Your love and comfort.

Father, we admit that we are somewhat lost in knowing how to express our hospitality and fellowship. Expressing our love for each other through physical touch is an important part of who we are as Your Family. Help us to find new ways to display our hospitality and deepen our fellowship.

Lord, we ask that You would take complete control of Your church. Use Your people to change our community with Your love and Your gospel message.

In Jesus's name, amen.



## Teaching Series for July - August

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| July 12   | <i>"It All Depends on Who You Depend On."</i> |
| July 19   | <i>"How God Blesses Broken Hearts"</i>        |
| July 26   | <i>"The Strength of Gentleness"</i>           |
| August 2  | <i>"Why You Need to Stay Hungry"</i>          |
| August 9  | <i>"Your Ministry of Mercy"</i>               |
| August 16 | <i>"God Blesses a Heart of Integrity"</i>     |
| August 23 | <i>"How to Reconcile a Relationship"</i>      |
| August 30 | <i>"Handling Opposition to Your Faith"</i>    |

## Freedom's Cost

*"If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."* John 8:36 (NLT)

**1. Simply \_\_\_\_\_ Independence \_\_\_\_\_ win our freedom from England.**

**2. \_\_\_\_\_ don't guarantee \_\_\_\_\_.**

**3. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ did not win our \_\_\_\_\_ freedom.**

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor, He has sent Me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."* Luke 4:18-19 (NIV)

*"The scripture you've just heard has been fulfilled this very day."* Luke 4:21 (NLT)

**The Gospel is a message of \_\_\_\_\_.**

*"I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin."* John 8:34 (NLT)

*"If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."* John 8:36 (NLT)

*"...without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sins."* Hebrews 9:22 (NLT)

*"God has purchased our freedom with His blood and has forgiven all our sins."* Colossians 1:14 (NLT)

*"He is so rich in kindness that He purchased our freedom through the blood of His Son, and our sins are forgiven."* Ephesians 1:7 (NLT)

**4. Freedoms that are \_\_\_\_\_ can be \_\_\_\_\_ to others.**

*"The free gift of God is Eternal Life through Jesus Christ His Son."* Romans 6:23 (NLT)

*"I assure you, unless you are born again, you can never see the kingdom of God."* John 3:3 (NIV)

**5. The \_\_\_\_\_ of our freedoms must not be \_\_\_\_\_.**

*"I am Jehovah, your God, who liberated you from your slavery in Egypt."* Exodus 20:2 (LB)

*"The Lord your God is bringing you into a good land ...where you shall eat food without scarcity.... When you have eaten and are satisfied, you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land which He has given you.*

***Beware...lest, when you have eaten and are satisfied and have built good houses and lived in them...& your silver and your gold multiply and all that you have multiplies, then your heart becomes proud and you forget the Lord your God."*** Deuteronomy 8:6-14 (NIV)

*"If you obey all His laws and commands, you will enjoy a long life. Listen closely, Israel, to everything I say. Be careful to obey. Then all will go well with you, and you will have many children in the land flowing with milk and honey, just as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, promised you. Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away on a journey, when you are lying down and when you are getting up again."* Deuteronomy 6:2b-7 (NLT)

*"In the future your children will ask you, 'What is the meaning of these stipulations, laws, and regulations that the Lord our God has given us?' Then you must tell them, 'We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt, but the Lord brought us out of Egypt with amazing power. Before our eyes the Lord did miraculous signs and wonders, dealing terrifying blows against Egypt and Pharaoh and all his people. He brought us out of Egypt so He could give us this land He had solemnly promised to give our ancestors. And the Lord our God commanded us to obey all these laws and to fear Him for our own prosperity and well-being, as is now the case.'"* Deuteronomy 6:20-24 (NLT)