



BE *the* BLESSING

CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 5, 2019

Welcome!

We are so glad you are here!
We pray that you will encounter
God as you worship with us.

Today

- 8:00am First Worship Service, Bert Ballard preaching
- 9:30am College and Young Adults Class
- 9:30am Bible Classes for All Ages
- 10:45am Second Worship Service, Bert Ballard preaching
- 12:30pm Mentor Sunday
- 5pm Sunday Night Youth Group Devo

This Week

- May 6 Women's Bible Study
- May 8 Hungry / Thirsty at Zolas'
- May 8 REFRESH
- May 9 Small Group at Fosters'

Upcoming Events

- May 12 Infant Dedication Service
- May 19 Crafty Women Event
- May 19 Mission Team Meeting
- May 27 Memorial Day Picnic
- June 2 Promotion Sunday
- June 9 Senior Sunday

Welcome and Response



Scan above or text (805) 214-8384

Not (Quite) the Wedding We Expected

By Bert Ballard

As for the rich in this world, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on uncertain riches but on God who richly furnishes us with everything to enjoy.

1 Timothy 6:17 (RSV)

Weddings. They evoke excitement of an eternal union and happiness. They also bring stress over endless details—invitations, guest lists, dresses, cakes, in-laws, dinners, flowers, to name a few. Indeed, Sarah and I threatened to elope because we were so frustrated! (We didn't, but it was tempting!) We stress over these details because we want the day to be perfect.

But often those dreams and plans don't come true. At our wedding 20 years and one month ago (April 3rd), two things didn't go as planned. Sarah's father performed the ceremony and the three of us were supposed to read 1 Timothy 6:17 together. That part didn't make it into the script, so the three of us stared awkwardly at each other, paused, then shrugged our shoulders and moved on. No one knew the wiser.

The other detail was bigger. One of the rolls of film in our photographer's camera came loose. The roll had Sarah's Grandma Binns on it including when she embraced Sarah as we walked back down the aisle and leaned to me saying, "it's too late!" in a teasing tone. Sarah's grandmother was wheelchair and homebound, so her attendance was a big deal. Not having pictures of that moment remains heartbreaking.

Don't get me wrong. Our wedding was also awesome! Creative dances, tears of joy, lots of laughter. We still have people ask if we'll have another wedding because they had such a blast!

But things not going as planned is life. We all have visions of how we want the story of our life to unfold. We plan for happiness, health, a good job and a solid reputation. We want to live free of conflict and have the freedom to act on our choices. But the story doesn't always work out as we would like or hope. Maybe our health turned poor. Maybe a marriage didn't turn out like we anticipated. Maybe the job we wanted turned out less than stellar. Yet, those moments of broken expectations and disappointments are still part of our story.

Our wedding didn't turn out exactly like we wrote it or hoped it would. But that doesn't mean beauty cannot be found in the broken. Rather, it is BECAUSE of the disappointments that we experienced the fullness of the day, the ups and the downs. And that is also life—the story we didn't expect, but the unique one God invites us to enjoy and experience.

What's Happening at Conejo



Adult Education

Our Sunday morning adult education program includes the following options:

College/Young Adults: This discussion class meets at 9:30am across Hillcrest Drive at the Williamson home (261 Quinta Vista) and includes breakfast.

Auditorium Class: "Exploring the Gospel of Luke." Eugene Peterson writes, "Luke is the most vigorous champion of the outsider... As Luke tells the story, all of us who have found ourselves on the outside looking in with no hope of gaining entrance now find the doors wide open."

Overflow Classroom: "How Christianity Became American," led by Christina Eng. This six-week series will explore the Second Great Awakening, a time of religious revival that greatly influenced U.S. culture at the time of the nation's legal founding. See how Christians influenced the young democracy even as democratic values influenced American theology. This week's class will look at "Slavery, Abolition, and the Benevolent Empire."

2019 Youth Led Service

Last Sunday, members of our youth group prepared and led us in our worship time. Thank you, teens, for your leadership in worship and stories about how the church has shaped you.



Shout Out for TO Sewing and Vacuum

Recently, Stu carried the church's carpet cleaner in for service at TO Sewing and Vacuum. The owner said that he would donate his time to repair it for the church. In the end, TO Sewing and Vacuum simply donated a much newer machine to our church. If you have the opportunity, drop by this business and express your gratitude for their generosity toward our church. This business is located at 662 Thousand Oaks Boulevard.

Thank you from Rob and Alyssa

Dear Conejo Church,

Alyssa and I want to express our heartfelt thanks for the outpouring of love and support you've shown us, celebrating our upcoming marriage. We are so touched by your warmth and generosity, and we feel continuously blessed to be a part of the Conejo Church family." ~ Rob West

Summer Camp at Many Mansions

Our neighbors at Many Mansions have given us a list of items that they will need for the summer camps they provide for the children in their communities. These items include:

- **Pool Supplies**—pool towels, spray sunscreen, sunscreen lotion, face sunblock sticks, beach balls, dive toys, goggles, pool noodles, BPA-free water bottles, one-piece swim suits, swim shirts, water shoes, and flip flops.
- **Activity Supplies**—googly eyes, pipe cleaners, cotton balls, glow sticks (bracelet size), brown paper lunch bags, plastic beads, plastic Easter eggs, bean seeds, patterned washi tape, lollipops, chocolate chips, dinner-sized paper plates, and dessert-sized paper plates.
- **Gift Cards**—for the following retailers: Amazon, Michaels, JoAnn's

Memorial Day Picnic

Monday, May 27, is Conejo's annual Memorial Day picnic at Dover and Hendrix Park in Thousand Oaks. This is a great day for fun, food, fellowship, and games with friends and family. It is also an opportunity to introduce your friends from outside of church to your church family in an atmosphere of light-hearted fun. Activities include softball, volleyball, and tadpole-hunting in the creek. The fun starts around 10am, with grilling at 11, and lunch around noon. Please plan to bring food or drinks to share according to the initial letter of your last name:

A-J: Two or more 2-liter drinks plus chips

K-P: Dessert

Q-Z: Side Dish or Salad

High School + Middle School

Youth-Led Service Thank You

A huge thank you to all our young people who stepped up to lead this past Sunday! You did an amazing job and we are very proud of you! Thank you to all who came and supported our youth with their presence, words of encouragement, and the donations that were given toward our summer mission trip. If you wanted to make a donation and forgot last Sunday, you can still donate online through the church website and mark it to go towards the mission trip. Thank you, church family, for your continual support!



Thank you!



Mentor Sunday

Once a month we have mentor groups that meet to build relationships, provide support for one another, and plant the seeds of faith. Older adults from Conejo have committed to walk alongside our middle school and high school students who are willing to be mentored. These groups will meet today following second service. Please pray for these groups and the

relationships that are being built for God's glory!

Sunday Night Devotional

This evening, from 5-7:30pm, the middle school and high school groups will gather for a Sunday night devotional at the Moores' (12904 Sleepy Wind St., Moorpark, CA 93021). Girls are asked to bring a dinner item to share, and guys are asked to bring a side item to share. The Moores will provide drinks and dessert. Come connect, blow off steam, and spend some time worshipping together!



King's Kamp 2019: "King's Knights of Idyllwild"

Registration is open online for King's Kamp (July 28 - Aug 3). King's Kamp is for students entering 4th through 8th grades in the fall of 2019. Registration can be completed for King's Kamp at www.kingskamp.org. On time registration is now open and will end June 14th, so be sure to sign up so you don't miss out on camp this year! This year's theme is "King's Knights of Idyllwild," coming from the passage in Ephesians 6 about the armor of God.

Teen Camp 2019

Registration for Teen Camp 2019 (July 14-20) is NOW OPEN! Teen Camp is for students entering grades 8-12. Registration can be completed for Teen Camp at www.socalteencamp.org. Register before May 31 to avoid any late registration price increases. This year's theme is "Let's Go!"

Children's Ministry

Scripture Memory

Taste and see that the Lord is good!
Blessed is the one who takes refuge in him!
Psalm 34:8 (NIV)

Bible Classes

This week 1st-3rd Grades will be in the "Museum of Biblical History" and the 4th-5th Grades will be in the "Matters of Faith" lab for Bible Classes.

See map at children's ministry sign-in table.

Promotion Sunday—June 2 (during Bible Class time)

Come and encourage our children at Promotion Sunday! We will celebrate with scripture, songs, and share details from our year as well as sending our 5th graders off to join the youth group!

During the event, our children will be reciting Psalm 34:8.

Vacation Bible School Volunteers

It's time to focus on our VBS program—June 17-20 (Monday through Thursday). Volunteers are needed for a variety of roles. Please see Penny White for details.



Prayer Corner

Devote yourself to prayer being watchful and thankful. Colossians 4:2

PRAISES

PREGNANCIES: **Erin Opdahl** (September); **Lauren Kliest-Blankfein** (September)

For **Cielo Iglesias** (friend of Grace Price) – cancer is in remission

THOSE GRIEVING

Char Hurley – loss of her father, Dale DeForest

Buzz Guilbault – loss of his step-father, Dan Verbonitz

Sandy Stivers – loss of mother, Nadine Tiner McBee

Grace Price – loss of brother, Mark Poblete

Ron Hall – loss of father, Maurice Hall

Alexis Lasiter – loss of mother, Mary Bell

Cary Mitchell – loss of father, Carl Mitchell; loss of mother, Frankie Mitchell

Family and friends of **Linda Marcinkoski**

Nicole Montanez – loss of her grandfather, Howard Segar

Rob West – loss of his mother, Helen West

Michael family - Loss of Joella's brother, Jon Hayes

FIGHTING CANCER

Robin Brown (former member) – breast cancer

Ted McAllister (former member) – multiple myeloma

Dick Williams (father of Heather Phillips) – esophageal cancer that has spread to lungs and liver

Taneisha Schuman (friend of Buzz Guilbault) – diagnosed with stage IV cancer

Valerie Corbet (sister of Abby Wilson) – inoperable stage IV brain cancer; undergoing chemo and radiation

Kurt Krebs (friend of Ed and Sheryl Sanders) – multiple myeloma, loss of job

Ryan Lohoff (Julia Chesson's dance teacher) – stage IV brain cancer

James Wooley (uncle of Rene Heard) – bone cancer

Dede Koldyke (cousin of Steve Scott) – responding well to treatment for stage IV squamous cell thymic carcinoma

Joella Michael – recovery following mucosal melanoma treatments

Yashica Budde's friend, **Ruth** – final stages of cancer

Dana Sheehan (friend of Lisa Scott) – undergoing chemo

Jesse Carrington (father of Michele Carrington) – spine cancer, pain relief

Aaron Robinson (friend of the Audeninos) – grade IV glioblastoma multiforme

Marlene Michaels (friend of Lisa Scott) – stage IV cancer

Susie Baston (Cindy Randolph's cousin) – spinal cancer

Justice Howard (Yashica Budde's cousin) – thyroid cancer

VARIOUS CONCERNS

Tom De Long (father of Ty

De Long) – Recovering from quadruple bypass surgery

Mike Thomas (husband of Maureen Thomas) – transferred from Los Robles to Mary Health for the Sick, Skilled Nursing Facility

Joe Burroughs (father of Sue Ann Meador's) – fractured elbow that is limiting his activities

Whitney Nicholas (niece of Rene Heard) – hospitalized during week 28 for remainder of pregnancy

David and Allegro Rankin (uncle and aunt of Daelan Blankfein) – severe car accident; continuing physical therapy

Adria Ballard – relief from chronic pain and its effects on school absences

Claudia de Bruyn and family – seeking answers for fainting and dizzy spells

Sarah Ballard – relief from chronic back pain

Ashlyn Thomas – continued health issues. Pray for answers and successful treatments

Pat Tudor – disease has been identified. Pray for energy and healing

Peter Thompson (Pepperdine's Volunteer Center Director) – recovering from brain tumor removal

Kathy Cocke – pulmonary fibrosis, pulmonary hypertension

Margie Caldwell – heart issues

Vera Davis – aortic valve tear

Sam Audenino – recovery from

bicycle accident

Harriet Nutter (Daphne Green's mother) – received a defibrillator/pacemaker

Betty Brown – pain relief, healing, and regaining of strength

Carol McNutt – neuropathy

Mary McQuillan (Kay Falletta's sister) – Parkinson's disease

Caleb Rodriguez (8-year-old son of Marcus and Julia) – ongoing seizures

MILITARY SERVICE

Tyler Scott – serving in the Navy in Camp Lejeune, NC

Bobby Blackburn – serving in the Navy in Pensacola, FL

Micah Smith – serving in the Army Rangers

Derek Willis (Tim Willis' nephew) – serving in PA in the Army

Michael Warford – stationed in San Diego with the Navy

MISSION EFFORTS

Megan Randolph – teaching in Thailand

Julie Broyles – Bible English Study Center in Cambodia

Raul & Betty Alvarado – mission efforts in Panama

Charles & Darlene Coulston – mission work in Kenya

Tom Bonner – mission work in Albania

David & Danna Willis – mission work in Samoa

Ryan Campbell – mission work in Philippines

Attendance + Giving

April 28 Attendance

Combined Service 220

Total Attendance 220

April 28 Giving

\$12,801

Weekly Giving Average (2019) \$11,730

Weekly Giving Budget (2019) \$12,995

Be the Blessing Giving (To Date) \$915,064

Wall Settlement \$225,000

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