



BE *the* BLESSING

CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 17, 2020

Welcome!

Thank you for joining us for virtual worship. We pray you will encounter God as we worship together.

Today

- 10:00am Virtual Meet and Greet via YouTube Chat Box
- 10:15am Virtual Worship Service via YouTube, Jack Williamson preaching
- 11:15am Virtual Lobby via Zoom
- 12:00pm KidZoom Chat and Pray
- 7:00pm QuarantEENS
- 7:00pm Virtual Craft Skype

Zoom Group Meetings

- May 18 Women's Bible Study
- May 20 REFRESH
- May 20 Hungry / Thirsty
- May 21 TO Small Group
- May 23 Enneagram Group

Upcoming Events

- May 24 Jack Williamson preaching

Birthdays 5/17-5/24

Seth Hays	5/17
Sarah Antonio	5/18
Rylan Downey	5/22
Joe Cocke	5/23
Luke Zola	5/24

Welcome and Response

Please call, text, or e-mail the office, ministers, or elders if there are ways that the ministry team can pray for you or those you love.

Looking For Some Good News?

By Jack Williamson

If you are like me in this season you almost dread looking into the latest news. It seems every day brings a higher infection rate and increasing death tolls. Even though here in Ventura County, we have the lowest percentage of COVID-19 impact throughout the California Southland, right next door, quite literally, is LA County with the highest count. On top of that, much of our Conejo family lives in LA County.

Here's my first piece of advice. If you haven't seen it you should check into SGN – Some Good News with John Krasinski on YouTube. Here's a link: https://youtube.com/channel/UCOe_y6KKvS3PdIfb9q9pGug. This spoof news cast is a bit madcap and satirical and yet highlights many good things that are happening in the midst of this pandemic. It is a bright spot on the internet amidst all the negative statistics and difficult news that seems so prevalent. Tami and I have thoroughly enjoyed Krasinski's sense of humor and tributes to people who are out there making a positive difference while the world struggles through these difficult days.

Here's my second piece of advice. Times like these are the perfect environment for the people of God to shine, so get out there and love your neighbors! God is the originator of the Good News business. We are the carriers and purveyors of the only Good News that can make a forever difference! You don't have to stand on the street corner preaching or knock on doors handing out Christian tracts—in fact these methods probably aren't very effective (especially wearing a mask and gloves!). What does matter is a simple act of kindness. The real difference is a loving smile or help with some task for an elderly neighbor or young family that could use a hand.

We members of the Conejo Church family are nothing if we are not creative! There must be a thousand ways that we can do good for those around us in these times. Let's start brainstorming and planning! Post ideas on the Conejo Family FB page or send your plans to the church office. Just remember, we don't want ideas sent to the church office that tell us what the staff should get started or how "the church" should do something. We want ideas of what you are doing or want to do along with ideas of how others can join you in being the hands and feet of Jesus, loving and serving others. That's the kind of Good News that can lead to relationships that lead to Jesus.

Finally, let me say one more thing. The next act I am doing to help get us going is to preach a series I am calling Good News for Those Who Believe. This simple 4 week series takes a look at four familiar passages from the Good News Letter of Matthew, with an eye toward what Matthew has to say to encourage believers—you and me—to live out the priorities that the life of Jesus highlights. After all, that is why we have the Gospels in the first place. God has left us a blueprint, a model, an example to follow. Even in the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic, that example is Jesus.

What's Happening at Conejo



Good News For Believers

Beginning this week, Jack Williamson will bring us a 4-week series titled "Good News For Believers."

When the authors of the Gospels set out to write the story of Jesus, they were mainly writing to Christians, believers who basically already knew "what happened." Like many of us, these first Gospel readers already believed that Jesus had died to rescue them from sin and death, that he was raised again, and that he was now the world's true Lord. With this thought in mind, how would they have read the Gospels? As with us, they probably did not read them to gain new information or to find out what happened. More likely, they read them as a guidebook or set of cues for how they should be living as followers of Jesus in their current situation.

For this series, we will take a look at four passages from the Gospel of Matthew. These stories can help us discover again how to let the power, presence, and leading of Jesus guide us through the times and trials that we are currently facing.

Today's sermon is titled "Seeking and Finding."

Donut Miss This!

On May 24, the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, our ministry team will be serving donuts, drive-through style, from 8:30 - 9:30am at our church building. Drive on by for a friendly physically-distanced greeting, a bagged donut for each person in your household, and a reminder of a favorite Sunday morning tradition! In sharing in this bit of fellowship and fun, we're also remembering that God will see us through this!

Small Groups Meet Virtually!

While adhering to the social distancing protocols, our small groups gather via Zoom to share in life, to check in with each other, and to encourage and pray for one another.

QuaranTEENS Sundays at 7pm

Virtual Crafting Sundays at 7pm

Monday Night Women's Bible Study at 7pm

Tuesday Night Guys' Group at 7pm

Wednesday Night Hungry / Thirsty Group at 6:45pm

TO Thursday Night Group at 7pm

Enneagram Group Saturdays at 6pm

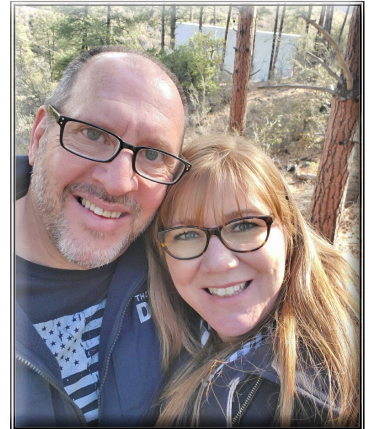
We are blessed to have many ways to continue to build community and encourage one another as we go through this difficult season. Though the virus is serious and isolation is necessary, let's do all we can to build one another up.

Farewells

This week, we offer a heartfelt goodbye and godspeed to Buzz, Christy, and Libby Guilbault. Our prayers go with you as you set up your new homes, adjust to new (and ongoing) jobs, find a

new church home, and settle in your new community.

Buzz and Christy have moved to Prescott, Arizona and their new address is **1179 E. Cedar Drive, Prescott, AZ, 86303**. They have been a heart and soul part of the Conejo Church family since their baptisms on October 1, 2006! Buzz and Christy have brought a joyful energy, thoughtful challenge, and faithful consistency that have blessed many. It's hard to imagine the fall retreat, the Pismo campout, the AMOR mission trip, Teen Camp, the praise team, or third-row-right on Sunday mornings without them. They have especially done a beautiful ministry with our teens, befriending and mentoring and caring for so many through the years. May God bless and keep the Guilbaults always!



Church of Christ Foundation Scholarships

Conejo members, will you be attending a university or college affiliated with the Churches of Christ in the Fall of 2020? If so, we invite you to apply for a scholarship from the Church of Christ Foundation by visiting www.churchofchristfoundation.com. Scholarships often range from \$1,000 - \$1,500 and can generally be renewed for up to four years. The application process has been extended to May 31. Should you have any questions, please contact Keith Hinkle at (310) 283-5007.

Online Giving

For the last few years, we have offered online giving as one way to participate in congregational giving. Our hope is that online giving will provide flexibility in how and when we give and will also help us better develop the habit of giving regularly. This will be particularly helpful during seasons like the one we're currently in with the Coronavirus.

There are three ways you can access our online giving.

- 1) The **Conejo website**: go to conejochurch.org and click on the "online giving" link.
- 2) Go directly to **conejochurch.churchcenter.com**.
- 3) **Text** a dollar amount to **84321**.

You'll be able to make a one-time donation or to schedule regular donations directly from your checking account or from your debit or credit card. You can even designate giving toward the regular offering, the Be the Blessing campaign, or the youth group mission trip. If you have any questions, please contact Jay or Wendi King at finance@conejochurch.org.

If you prefer to make your contributions by **hand-written checks**, please mail it to the church office address:

**31225 La Baya, Suite 214
Westlake Village, CA 91362**

High School + Middle School

High School Graduates

Traditionally, the parents of each graduating senior have put together a picture collage on a poster board that would be displayed on "Senior Sunday." This year, we are looking forward to sharing these photo collage boards of our seniors in the livestreamed scrolling announcements on June 14. Parents and students, please start sorting through and pulling together photos for this creation. The office will need to have a digital image of your graduate's photo collage board as well as a senior photo by **Sunday, June 7**. Please help us to honor your high school graduate on the completion of this important milestone. It is a great time of celebrating the life of your senior as they complete one chapter and begin the next!

"Subject to Change" Devotional Thought

Although change happens in all of our lives and so many things are subject to change, God isn't.

Is there someone in your life who you can always go to for good advice? Maybe it's a parent, teacher, coach, co-worker, mentor, or long-time friend. These are all individuals God has placed in your life to guide you, and they can be especially helpful during difficult times of change. On top of that, Jesus reminds us that God not only gives us people to guide us in this life, but He has also sent His Holy Spirit to be an Advocate – a helper – along the way. While people in our life will come and go, it's comforting to know God's Spirit will never leave. How would you look at times of change – changes at home, at school, or on your team – knowing you have an Advocate with you at all times?

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you." — **John 14:16,17**

Youth Group Virtual Gatherings

Due to COVID-19 and social distancing, the youth group will gather weekly via **Zoom** at the following times for the foreseeable future:

QuaranTEENS: Sunday nights at 7pm for Middle School only

(Check-in, games, prayer requests, staying connected)

Meeting ID: 221-435-162 Host - Travis Moore

High School Girls Group: Sunday nights at 7pm

Meeting ID: 299-832-3266

Hosts - Miranda Brawner & Madison Williams

High School Boys Group: Sunday nights at 7pm

Meeting ID: 386-474-8913

Host - Noah Socquet

REFRESH: Wednesdays at 7pm (MS & HS together)

(Games, virtual community, and brief study)

Meeting ID: 759-007-565

2020 Summer Church Camps

If either or both of our summer church camps has to be cancelled due to COVID-19, full refunds will be given to all who have registered.

• **King's Kamp 2020 - "Run to Win"**

Registration is open and available for King's Kamp (July 26 – Aug 1)! King's Kamp is for students entering 4th through 8th grades in the fall of 2020. Registration can be completed for King's Kamp at www.kingskamp.org.

• **SoCal Teen Camp 2020 - "Tangible"**

Registration is open at www.socalteencamp.org for students who have finished 7th-12th grade before camp. Teen camp is July 12-18, 2020.

Children's Ministry

Scripture Memory

The Lord your God is with you,

He is mighty to save.

He will take great delight in you,

He will quiet you with his love,

He will rejoice over you with singing.

Zephaniah 3:17 (NIV)

KidZoomRoom

Kellie Van Atta and Penny White are coordinating a Zoom opportunity for our children to chat and pray each week.

Details will be provided by Kellie and Ms. Penny.

Special Information for Parents from Ms. Penny

Until we are able to meet on site, each week I will email special

materials to use during our worship time and create a short video presentation for the children. I am also praying for your family daily. Please feel free to communicate specific prayer requests to me.

Thanks, Troy and Reese!



A special thank you to Troy and Reese for helping with the Children's Worship Video this week! Thank you for using your time and talents to help others!

Prayer Corner

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

PRAISES

The safe arrival of **Evie Mae Chambers**, daughter of Holly and Vincent (and granddaughter of Chris and Sandy Stivers), born on April 19

MARRIAGE: **Melody Thomas** married **Creed Reilly** on April 28

THOSE GRIEVING

Kathy Cocks – loss of brother, Alan Burgner

Kay Falletta – loss of sister, Mary McQuillan

Tammy Ditmore – loss of uncle, Everett Clare

Rick Marrs – loss of mother, Vivian Marrs

Jack Williamson – loss of mother, Melva Williamson

Erin Opdahl – loss of infant daughter, Maelyn; loss of husband, Silas

Darlene Rivas – loss of father, Harry Hodges

George de Bruyn – loss of mother, Veronica de Bruyn

Neil Socquet – loss of brothers, Scott and Ben, in helicopter accident

Linda Jameson (mother of Neil Socquet) – loss of her sister, Patti, and two of her sons, Scott and Ben

Carol McNutt – loss of sister, Judy Erickson

FIGHTING CANCER

Joella Michael – recurrence of mucosal melanoma in liver and lymph node; undergoing immunotherapy

Lucinda Hodges (sister-in-law of Darlene Rivas) – undergoing chemo for multiple myeloma and cardiac amyloidosis

Stu Warford – prostate cancer

Amy (friend of Maribel Guevara) – recently diagnosed with cancer

Jenna Sepulveda (sister of John Downey) – metastatic thyroid cancer

Clifton Tuggle (uncle of Rene Heard) – prostate cancer

Michael Smith (friend of Coupe family) – 4-year-old diagnosed with neuroblastoma

Shirley Moore (mother of Nicole Montanez) – leukemia

Ted McAllister (former member) undergoing stem-cell treatment

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

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

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

Dana Sheehan (friend of Lisa Scott) – undergoing new round of chemo

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

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

VARIOUS CONCERNS

Ashlyn Thomas – experienced some frightening episodes recently: temporary blindness and inability to speak

All **researchers, doctors, nurses, and patients** who are battling

COVID-19

All impacted physically, financially, or emotionally by COVID-19 virus

Alessandra Glaser (sister-in-law of Katie Charles) – ER doctor in Tennessee working with COVID patients

Derek Russell (son-in-law of Rivas) – works in ICU in Alabama; wife, **Rachel**, and four small children at home

Students at Conejo Elementary School who normally benefit from the Tutoring Program

Marilyn Aurand – acute spinal stenosis

Barbara Sanders (Ed's mother) – is wheelchair-bound, recovering from a broken leg; and has colon cancer at 87 years old

Jackie Nixon (Yashica Budde's aunt) – frequent trips to the hospital

Nicole Montanez – recently diagnosed with lupus

Pat Tudor – in second month of new 6-month treatment plan

David and Allegro Rankin (uncle and aunt of Daelan Blankfein) – continuing physical therapy

Adria Ballard – back surgery during holiday break

Sarah Ballard – relief from chronic back pain

Sarah Ballard's mom, **Becky**, facing multiple back and shoulder surgeries for chronic pain and unknown node in lung

Ashlyn Thomas – continued health issues; pray for answers and successful treatments

Kathy Cocks – pulmonary fibrosis, pulmonary hypertension

Margie Caldwell – heart issues

Sam Audenino – recovery from bicycle accident

Harriet Nutter (Daphne Green's mother) – struggling with depression and loneliness

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

Carol McNutt – neuropathy

Caleb Rodriguez (son of Marcus and Julia) – ongoing seizures

MILITARY SERVICE

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

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

Bry Wooley (Rene Heard's cousin) – deployed to Okinawa until June

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

May 10 Attendance	
Livestream Views*	137
* at communion	

May 10 Giving		\$15,661
Weekly Giving Average		\$12,782
Weekly Giving Budget		\$12,812
Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)		\$1,456,399
Property Settlement		\$225,000

CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST
(805) 371-1381 Office | (805) 371-1384 Fax
www.conejochurch.org



CHURCH
2525 E. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362



OFFICE
31225 La Baya Drive #214
Westlake Village, CA 91362

Rene Heard / Kathia King
Office Managers
(805) 371-1381 office
office@conejochurch.org

Travis Moore
Youth & Family Minister
(520) 591-8246 cell
travis.moore926@gmail.com

Andy Wall
Preaching Minister
(805) 331-0187 cell
andy@conejochurch.org

Penny White
Children's Minister
(818) 857-6213 cell
pennymwhite502@gmail.com

Jack Williamson
Outreach Minister
(805) 331-0183 cell
jack@conejochurch.org

Elders: Greg Brawner, Michael Ditmore, Chris Stivers, Tim Willis – elders@conejochurch.org