

Prayer Walk for Peace

June 28, 2020

"The Church should be in prayer in the places where the world is in pain." NT Wright

Conejo School – Conejo School is an important hub of social activity and learning for young families with kids in this area of town. It has been here for more than 135 years! Its teachers and staff serve many of the lowest income families with the greatest needs in our community. This is the location of our tutoring program for first graders that many CVCC members participate in every year.

- **Pray for:**
 - Teachers and staff as they prepare to go back to school – whatever that will look like this year!
 - Families who may have struggled to support online learning in the last few months.
 - Our relationship with Conejo school including that with Anna Alvarez, the district liaison who has been such a great support in all our events with the school.
- **Expand your prayer** to pray for all of our Conejo church members who are involved in education and for all of our kids whose academic experience has been so drastically affected by COVID-19.

Apartment Complex – As we walk, you will see several apartment complexes in this part of town. As of the last census count, almost 33,000 people in Thousand Oaks live in rental properties. Hundreds of those rental apartments are in this neighborhood.

- **Pray for:**
 - People in rental properties who have multiple generations sharing a small living space due to financial need.
 - Ethnically and racially diverse populations who make up a larger percentage of this population than in other areas of Thousand Oaks.
 - The property managers, like Jorge Guevara, and others who work in these rental properties and serve this great population.
- **Expand your prayer** to pray for all who live and work together in Thousand Oaks that we may find justice, equity, and peace in our neighborhoods, homes, and daily lives together.

Strolling down TO Blvd. – This corridor is filled with just about every kind of business you can think of. Take note of the density and diversity of the shops and businesses along this thoroughfare.

- **Pray for:**
 - God's presence in our city. As you walk along, toss up one sentence prayers for these businesses and this area of town. Pray for God's kingdom to come to bear on all of the commerce and relationships that play out along TO Blvd. in these places of business every day.
 - Along the way pick out one business and stop to pray with one or two others, specifically focusing on this business and whatever aspects you feel called to pray for.
- **Expand your prayer** to pray for the seats of local government at the Civic Arts Center. Pray that decisions will be made that seek justice and equal opportunity for all. Your prayers can expand even further as you pray for our federal and state governments to make decisions against racial injustices and enact laws that improve the quality of life for everyone.

Fire Station 31- Ventura County Fire station 31 on Duesenberg is a very active hub of service for people throughout this area.

- Pray for all of the first responders around Thousand Oaks: Police, Fire, Paramedic etc.
- Not far from here is the US Post Office. You can expand your prayer by praying for all of the public servants who help keep our society running smoothly.
- **Specifically pray for all our law enforcement officers right now.** May we protect what is good and just and weed out what is corrupt.

Many Mansions – Many Mansions provides low income housing for people all over the Conejo Valley. Less than one block away from the church building is their largest, newest complex.

- Pray for these tenants who may be among the most impacted economically by COVID-19.
- Pray for the leaders, staff, and managers who are part of this great organization, that God would give them wisdom and success in meeting the needs of lower income individuals and families in our community.

