



BE the BLESSING

April 25, 2021

Welcome!

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

Today

- 10:00am In-person Worship Service (registration required)
- 10:00am Virtual Meet-and-Greet via YouTube Chat Box
- 10:15am Virtual Worship Service via YouTube
- 11:15am Virtual Lobby via Zoom
- 4:30pm Middle School Pod (Moores' home)

Upcoming Events

- Apr 26 Women's Bible Study (Zoom)
- Apr 27 Guys' Group
- Apr 27 "Fifth Commandment" (Zoom)
- Apr 28 Hungry / Thirsty (Walls' home)
- Apr 28 High School Pod
- Apr 29 Conejo School Tutoring (Zoom)
- Apr 29 T.O. Life Group (Fosters' home)
- May 2 Kindy De Long preaching
- May 2 CVCC Backyard Devotional

Birthdays This Week

- | | |
|-----------------|------|
| Ron Hall | 4/25 |
| Tadd Wooton | 4/25 |
| Clark Zola | 4/25 |
| Ashley Stephens | 4/28 |
| Jay King | 4/29 |
| Anika De Long | 4/30 |
| Bob Falletta | 4/30 |
| Neil Socquet | 5/1 |
| Carly Stephens | 5/2 |

Stop, Drop, and Roll!

by Jack Williamson

"God is our refuge and strength, a present help in times of trouble." So goes this paraphrase from Psalm 46:1. If you are like me, you have no trouble believing that God is there for you when tragedy strikes or when times are particularly difficult. My problem is more likely the fact that in the everyday kinds of trouble, the moment of frustration on the freeway or when things are not going exactly according to my plans, I can get out of sorts becoming snarky, angry, or bitter. These are the times that I feel like I don't need God to help me. I just need this goofball who is messing up my day to get out of the way or stop "being so annoying!"

When I was a kid, it seems like every year they would bring a fire truck and firefighters to school and teach us what to do if our clothes ever caught on fire. You can probably say it with me: "Stop, Drop, and Roll!" They taught us this little lesson over and over. We all knew it, but I have never met anyone in all of my 5-plus decades of living who ever had to put this little technique into practice. Now don't misunderstand me. I'm not saying this teaching was useless. I am an advocate of teaching such things to kids. If the technique is ever needed, I think it is a great idea to have everyone know it.



Now back to Psalm 46:1. I see a connection between "Stop, Drop, and Roll" and this familiar truth from God's Word. God is our present help in times of trouble. But sometimes we find ourselves with our souls on fire from spontaneously combusting over a common temptation, and we try to run around like proverbial fireball chickens without heads (sometimes I love mixing metaphors) instead of turning to God for help putting out the flames. Spiritually speaking, we need to Stop what we are doing, Drop to our knees (figuratively and perhaps physically) in prayer, and Roll away from temptation by God's power and grace. That's the kind of "stop, drop, and roll" we all need fairly often, unless you are much, much better than me.

What's Happening at Conejo

Church of Christ Foundation Scholarships



Conejo members, will you be attending a university or college affiliated with the Churches of Christ in fall of 2021? 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 \$1,500-\$2,000 and can generally be renewed for up to four years. **Applications are due by April 30, 2021.** Should you have any questions, please contact Keith Hinkle at (310) 283-5007.



Dealing With the Devil

We all struggle with temptation in one form or another. A temptation that is enticing to you may have no effect on me. Still, I do have my weak areas and moments of enticement to do what I know is not right. Thankfully God knew this about us in advance and has not left us without help.

Over the years I have learned to adopt the strategy to stop, drop, and roll. I know what you're thinking: this is the technique they teach kids to do if they ever catch on fire. True—but as a spiritual practice it is a much more useful tool. I meet people almost every day who need to stop, drop, and roll in the area of their personal temptation. God, in his wisdom and providential care, has given us a means of escape from every temptation we face. Today's message will focus on how we can all learn how to stop, drop, and roll.

In-Person Worship Services

We have re-launched limited in-person worship services on Sundays at 10am. This Sunday, the service will simply provide an opportunity to be together in the auditorium as we watch the pre-recorded YouTube video. **However, starting Sunday, May 2, we plan to livestream the service with both live and pre-recorded elements. Those leading parts of the service will lead without masks but the congregation will continue wearing masks throughout the service. Our plans going forward are to always have the service viewable live on YouTube.**

An RSVP is required, will be first-come, first-served, and is limited to 90 people. If you have any health concerns, or if you have any COVID-19 symptoms, please enjoy the service from the comfort of your residence. Here are our guidelines for all who will join us at the building.

- 1) Masks and symptom checks are required.
- 2) In the auditorium, please leave 3 empty seats between households; families with children/teens must stay together throughout the entire service.
- 3) Fellowship will take place outside in the upper parking lot;

please exit the building immediately following the end of the service and enjoy visiting outside.

- 4) Bathrooms will be limited to two people at a time and the drinking fountain is not in service.

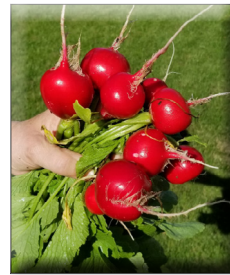
"Fifth Commandment" Group / April 27

The fifth commandment tells us to "Honor your father and mother." How do we do that in our adult lives as our parents age, face health challenges, and live hundreds or even thousands of miles



away? We don't have all of the answers, but if these questions resonate, you might want to join with other women via Zoom for the "Fifth Commandment" Group. We meet the last Tuesday of each month to share challenges and concerns regarding our aging parents. We pray for and support one another as we share the journey. [Zoom Meeting Link.](#)

"First Fruits" New Small Group / May 4



Stu and Co Warford are hosting a small group to help and encourage all who are interested to grow their own food right where they live. This small group, "First Fruits," offers very practical tips and information and meets virtually via Zoom on the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Topics such as planting schedules, soil preparation, seasonal fruits and vegetables, and a variety of other related topics are discussed as we reflect on how we can work together with God's creation.

This small group is applicable for gardeners at all levels and gardens of all sizes. A link for the May 4 Zoom meeting will be provided in next week's edition of Family News. Happy gardening!



Congregational Devotional / May 2

Please make plans to join us for our upcoming Sunday evening devotional in the backyard on May 2 at 5pm. This gathering will include a simple time of outdoor worship and a brief devotional message by



Travis Moore, followed by a time of fellowship. Masks and social-distancing protocols will be observed. Please bring lawn chairs or blankets to sit on.



High School + Middle School

Youth Group Pods



Throughout April, each pod is going through a series called "Waitlisted!" From the stories of Abraham and Sarah, Paul and Silas, King David, and Joseph, we'll discover that **God has a plan, but we might have to wait for it**, and we'll be reminded that, while we're waiting, **God is faithful, God is listening, and we should never give up because God's not giving up on us.**

Middle School Pod – Sundays from 4:30-6pm

Pod Leaders – Travis & Amy Moore

Location – 12904 Sleepy Wind St. Moorpark, CA 93021

High School Pod – Wednesdays from 6:00-7:30pm

Pod Leader – Travis Moore

Location – CVCC Building

Summer Camps—Save the Dates!

We are very much looking forward to having camps this summer. The dates reserved for the camps are:

So Cal Teen Camp: "Tangible"

Sunday, July 11 through Saturday, July 17

King's Kamp: "Run to Win"

Sunday, July 25 through Saturday, July 31

You may register your child for summer camps: Teen Camp at www.socalteencamp.org and for King's Kamp at www.kingskamp.org. Teen Camp is for students graduating from

grades 8-12 and King's Kamp is for students entering into grades 4-8 in the fall of 2021.

King's Kamp Counselors Needed: If you are 16 years of age or older and interested in being a counselor, you may print an application form from www.kingskamp.org, fill it out and mail it in or email it to king.skamp.camp@gmail.com. Counselor applications must be postmarked or emailed by May 1.

"Sorry Not Sorry" Devotional Thought

Ever been wronged, hurt, or held a grudge? Discover what Jesus says can help you move forward...

The best part about true forgiveness is that it doesn't come with conditions. In fact, it doesn't even need an apology. Just look at Jesus. He let Himself be captured, tortured, mocked, and put on a cross, and, while there, He prayed, "Forgive them, for they know not what they do." Can you imagine? If you've ever tried forgiving someone, you know how hard it can be to ignore that little voice inside you screaming, "BUT THEY DESERVE PUNISHMENT," and listen to the voice that whispers, "Yes, but so do we." Because that's the trickiest thing about forgiveness. Not just giving it to others, but realizing how much we need it ourselves. So who do you need to forgive? Pray today that God will help you be strong enough to forgive that person when everything inside of you resists it.

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." **Romans 5:8**

Children's Ministry

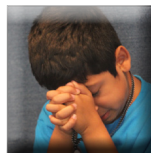
Children's Worship Video for April 25



So, how do science and trail mix help us learn the Lord's Prayer?

Tune in to this week's video to find out! Link available through the "Worship Links" e-mail sent on Saturday nights.

VBS VBS VBS VBS VBS VBS VBS



Save the Date

Vacation Bible School – June 14-17



Prayer Corner

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

PRAISES

Josh Horton – home from a second hospitalization, recovering from post-surgery complications; so grateful for the prayers and support!

ENGAGEMENTS: **Nathan Heard** to **Sarah Anderson**

Michaela Wall to **Keith McGuire**

THOSE GRIEVING

Carol McNutt – loss of her brother-in-law, Steve Hallman

Rachel Miner – loss of her mother, Shera Miner

Matt Joyner – loss of his aunt, Nan Fox

Christina Eng – loss of her aunt, Cathy Littlefield

Sharon Mitchell and family – loss of mother, Lacreata Scott

Scarberry family – loss of Frances Scarberry, mother of Shirley, stepmother of Mark

Joe Cocke – loss of wife, Kathy

Maribel Guevara – loss of uncle, Carlos Hernandez

Mary Jo Hardman and family – loss of husband, Stu Hardman

Joy Rhoades – loss of sister, Lani Shearn

Mike Rivas – loss of niece, Ilesha Moreno

Guy Patenaude – loss of aunt, Chris De La Rosa

Matt Joyner – loss of grandfather, Steve Eckstein

Tim Horton – loss of brother-in-law, John Lamm

Andy Caldwell – loss of mother, Margie Caldwell

FIGHTING CANCER

Joella Michael – surgery to remove cancer from lymph node in neck scheduled for May 6; immunotherapy

Marilyn Aurand – neuro-endocrine cancer; has completed radiation and chemotherapy

Dan Scarberry (brother of Mark Scarberry) – recently diagnosed with metastatic kidney cancer

Patricia Sparks (sister-in-law of Shannon Latson) – recurrence of uterine sarcoma carcinoma following treatment; immunotherapy

Karen Kennedy (friend of Lisa Scott) – Stage IV kidney cancer

Barbara Sanders (mother of Ed Sanders) – colon cancer

Ted McAllister (former member) – chemo following successful stem cell transplant

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

Jim Bishop (friend of Lisa Scott) – cardiac issues and leukemia

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

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

Justice Howard (cousin of Yashica Budde) – thyroid cancer

VARIOUS CONCERNS

Gary Tiner – (brother of Sandy Stivers) – recovering from recent heart surgery (6 by-passes!)

Jonathan White – continuing out-patient testing to determine

cause of fainting episodes

Calleigh Hunnicutt – having difficulty standing and walking; in constant pain; some improvements

Joan Nicholas (mother of Rene Heard) – recently suffered additional mini-strokes

Pat Tudor – working with doctors regarding immunotherapy

Eileen Charles (step-mother of Robert Charles) – suffered recent stroke

Roger Dillion (father of Jacqueline Dillion-Wiens) – suffered recent strokes

Martha Condley (daughter of Janie Condley) – lupus

Sara Hodges (mother of Darlene Rivas) – serious health issues

Al Odenath (father of Nick Odenath) – on hospice dealing with anxiety and confusion in memory care unit

Teachers, students, parents, and administrators during this unusual academic year

Researchers, doctors, nurses, and patients battling COVID-19

Andrea Thomas Carter (friend of Lisa Scott) – several medical issues

Healing, peace, and justice in our nation and communities

Marilyn Aurand – spinal stenosis

Mary Zollman (friend of Lisa Scott) – multiple sclerosis

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

Harriet Nutter (mother of

Daphne Green) – depression and loneliness

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

Carol McNutt – neuropathy

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

MISSION EFFORTS

Raul & Betty Alvarado – mission efforts in Panama

Tom Bonner – mission work in Albania

Julie Broyles – Bible English Study Center in Cambodia

Ryan Campbell – mission work in Philippines

Charles & Darlene Coulston – mission work in Kenya

Megan Randolph – teaching in Thailand

David & Danna Willis – mission work in Samoa

MILITARY SERVICE

Tyler Scott – stationed in HI with the Navy

Michael Warford – stationed in FL with the Navy

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

Attendance + Giving

April 18 Attendance

Online Viewing	79
In-Person Service	43

April 18 Giving

\$8,603

Weekly Giving Average	\$13,642
Weekly Giving Budget	\$12,812
Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)	\$1,587,224
Property Settlement	\$225,000

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