



BE *the* BLESSING

CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 27, 2021

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
- 10:15am On-Site Worship Service
- 11:15am Virtual Lobby via Zoom
- 4:30pm MS Pod (Moore's home)

Upcoming Events

- Jun 29 Guys' Group at CVCC
- Jun 29 Fifth Commandment Group (Zoom)
- Jun 30 High School Pod
- Jul 1 T.O. Life Group (Fosters' Home)
- Jul 6 First Fruits Group (Zoom)
- Jul 11 Baby Boy Horton Baby Shower
- Jul 11 Teen Camp begins
- Jul 18 All-Sing and Ice Cream
- Jul 25 King's Kamp begins

Birthdays This Week

- | | |
|----------------|------|
| Joshua Rockey | 6/29 |
| Tess Michael | 6/29 |
| Marilyn Aurand | 6/30 |
| Amy Moore | 7/1 |
| Doug Hurley | 7/2 |

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.

Wielding Power Wisely

By Andy Wall

"I cannot accept your canon that we are to judge Pope and King unlike other men, with a favorable presumption that they did no wrong. If there is any presumption it is the other way against holders of power, increasing as the power increases... Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely." —Lord Acton

How may we utilize our power and influence with godly wisdom, a Christ-infused humility, and a Spirit-led grace? One place to begin is by learning from many negative lessons about power's corrupting effects on even the best of us. Here are seven suggestions on how we might wield our power (or if you prefer, influence) more wisely.

- 1) **Be self-aware.** When seeing the power abuses of others, beware of blithely blathering, "That could never happen to me!" It could. None of us is above temptation, fallibility, and sin. Paul warned, "If you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall" (1 Cor. 10:12).
- 2) **Cultivate humility.** Beware of temptation to think, "The rules don't apply to me! I'm special. I'm irreplaceable! I've earned this." Trust me, you're not that special. And neither am I!
- 3) **Listen to the voices of dissent.** Even if you honestly disagree and are sure you're right, remember they too belong to God. Leaders must be willing to respectfully listen to contrarians, to build bridges with those they disagree with, because Christ calls for no less from us.
- 4) **Be self-reflective.** Ask: "Is there anything I'm trying to hide? Is there anything I'm doing or saying that I don't want to see the light of day?" If you're trying to suppress information or spin a story, that's not a good sign! Not without good reason is Alcoholics Anonymous famous for saying, "We're as sick as our secrets."
- 5) **Empower and others.** Are you able to put others first? Does your leadership bless others or merely advance your own interests? Are you able to give away power, empower others, provide ways for them to use their gift? Are you able to take a secondary role, to not always have to be in the driver's seat?
- 6) **Beware of acting out of fear.** Ask yourself, "Where am I behaving out of fear?" Jon Steinbeck reflected, "Power does not corrupt. Fear corrupts... perhaps the fear of a loss of power." This is where you must be honest and accountable with trusted friends. Invite critique. Ask your friends, "Am I grasping at power or blessing others?"
- 7) **Follow in His steps.** Keep looking to Jesus, learning from his life and ministry. Jesus emptied himself. He lived for others. He took on the unjust and refused to use violence for his cause. He empowered his followers and entrusted them (us!) with the mission of the Kingdom of God!

What's Happening At Conejo



"Echoes of the Divine" Sermon Series

Today's message is on the theme of power, whose wise usage is essential to any healthy society. Without leaders who responsibly assert power, everything from families to churches to businesses to schools to entire societies and nations would soon cease to function. However, we also know that the misuse of power has wreaked unimaginable suffering throughout history. The same power that allowed ancient Rome to bring order across the Mediterranean world also enabled Pilate to execute Jesus. So how do we wield power with Christ-like wisdom?

Jesus' ministry provides for us insights into how we might use power for good in the world. When his disciples squabbled about status, Jesus taught them that in contrast to Rome's power games, "Whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant." In his magisterial Christ hymn, Paul urged the Philippian Christians to follow Jesus' example of self-emptying power in their relationships. Using our power to bless others and to empower agency in others are ways we may positively utilize power, while keeping a sharp eye out for its corrupting influence upon us.

Baby Shower / July 11 at 2pm

Baby Horton's arrival is very soon! Ladies, we would love for you to come and enjoy an in-person celebration of the baby boy on his way to Cassie and Josh Horton. The baby shower will be at the home of Amber Johnson on Sunday, July 11, at 2 pm. Amber's address is 1211 Lynnmere Drive in Thousand Oaks. The registry is at babylist.com. Amber Johnson will be coordinating a group gift. You may contribute via cash, check, or Venmo @Johnson1211. If you have any questions, please call or text Melody Thomas at (805) 908-1397.



Fifth Commandment Meeting / June 29 at 7pm

You are invited to join with other CVCC members via Zoom for the Fifth Commandment Group. We meet on the last Tuesday of each month to share challenges and concerns regarding our aging parents. Then, we will spend time praying together. Between meetings, we share texts, e-mails, or phone calls to encourage and support one another along the journey. If you are interested, please contact Paula M. or Rene H.



On-Site Worship Returning to Full Capacity

The state of California has officially lifted its coronavirus restrictions, removing physical distancing requirements and

capacity restrictions for public gatherings. We have now more fully opened our public worship assemblies.

Plans for the 10:15am service going forward are as follows:

- We are returning to full capacity. If you are able, please join us for live worship!
- We are no longer practicing physical distancing. This means that we will no longer have rows marked off as unusable in the auditorium and you can sit where you like.
- Masks are welcome but not required if you have been fully vaccinated. Per state instructions, masks are required indoors for those who are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated (including children).
- For our children's ministry: in compliance with California guidelines in indoor settings with children, any indoor classes for our children will require masks for all unvaccinated individuals.
- We plan to utilize pre-wrapped communion elements through the end of June. In July, we will begin to share communion via trays passed row by row. Some pre-wrapped communion will continue to be made available.
- We will continue to livestream the worship services on our church YouTube channel for the foreseeable future.

Address Update for Rick and Paula Marrs

Please update your records to reflect the new mailing address for Rick and Paula Marrs:

11234 Crenshaw Street
Moorpark, CA 93021

New Address for Offerings

The church office has officially moved back to the Conejo building. Those who mail in offering checks should now send them to 2525 E. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362. Thank you for your faithful support of our ministries!

Seeking Help With Worship Services

We've recently resumed weekly worship services at the building and now offer an online "livestream" of the service for anyone who would like to be with us but cannot join in person. Each week a team of volunteers helps us to see and hear well by operating our sound, projection, and video stations. If you are willing to help provide this valuable service for your church family please contact reneheard@sbcglobal.net. Training will be provided.



High School + Middle School

Summer Camps

Summer camps are back this year! For all of the information on dates, registration, and 2021 theme click on the links below:

[Click here for Teen Camp](#)

Registration closed June 20

[Click here for King's Kamp](#)

Registration closes June 27

Any registrations past the deadlines will go on a waiting list depending on space availability for camp.



Youth Group Pods

Throughout June, YG pods will go through a series called "Back to the Future!" [Click here](#) to learn more about meeting times and this month's theme.

Summer Bonfires are BACK!

We had a great night this past Tuesday at Dockweiler Beach with the youth groups from Hilltop, Culver Palms, and University Church! Our next bonfire night is scheduled for Tuesday, July 20. Here are some pictures from this past Tuesday.



Children's Ministry

Promotion Sunday

To our wonderful sixth graders: We look forward to seeing you engaged with the Youth Group and continuing to grow in your faith. Of course, we especially look forward to serving side by side with you.



Children's Worship at the Building!

We are back with two (2) in-person worship programs for our children. **Toddlers/2's/3's** will be in the 2's/3's classroom with doors open to the outside for air circulation. A child safety gate has been installed in the classroom door to keep the little ones in! Children **ages 4-5th grade** will worship outside on the playground on the bleacher area.



Rocky Railway VBS: Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through

Thank you, volunteers, for all your work and creativity to reimagine VBS. You embraced working in new spaces, working under two different sets of COVID guidelines, working in a heat wave with a completely new schedule and with a shorter teaching time. You modeled how to do hard things and letting Jesus' power pull you through, give you hope, help you be bold, and know that in Him you live forever. Thank you for loving our children and walking with them as we return to in-person experiences together.



VBS 2021

Prayer Corner

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

PRAISES

Wonderful week of VBS!

Marilyn Aurand – PET and CT scans on May 10 indicated she's cancer free!

Recent College and High School Graduates

NEW MEMBERS: **Rick and Patti Furino, Barbara Schlosser, Brian Smithers**

THOSE GRIEVING

Shannon Latson – loss of cousin, Rodney Feet

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

Rachel Miner – loss of mother, Shera Miner

Matt Joyner – loss of aunt, Nan Fox

Christina Eng – loss of aunt, Cathy Littlefield

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

Joe Cocke – loss of wife, Kathy

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

Joy Rhoades – loss of sister, Lani Shearn

FIGHTING CANCER

Muriel Meador (sister of Judy Tapper) – recently had surgery for cancer; will begin radiation and chemotherapy soon

Joella Michael – recovering from recent surgery to remove cancer from lymph node in neck; immunotherapy continuing

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) – experiencing more pain and fatigue; test results showing worrisome increase in cancer numbers

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

Pat Gibson (longtime member of the Camarillo church) – experienced a brain bleed on June 1 and is currently paralyzed on one side of her body

Dee-Ann Jenkins (sister of Kevin) – comfort and peace while fighting MS; having a gastric feeding tube installed on June 14

Michael Jenkins (son of Kevin and Nelda) – struggling with numerous issues and declining health

Marvin Shipley (father of Michelle Hagemann) – in rehabilitation following recent stroke

Jim Kutil (friend of Shannon Latson) – candidate for double lung transplant

Gary Tiner – (brother of Sandy Stivers) – encouragement during the long recovery from recent heart surgery and leg wound

Calleigh Hunnicutt – difficulty standing and walking; some improvements

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

Pat Tudor – tolerating 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 – physical therapy for spinal stenosis and to improve mobility

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

Made In The Streets – ministry to street kids in Nairobi, 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

June 20 Attendance	
Online Viewing	27
In-Person Service	151

June 20 Giving		\$9,209
Weekly Giving Average		\$13,728
Weekly Giving Budget		\$13,410
Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)		\$1,594,886
Property Settlement		\$225,000

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