CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

BE the BLESSING

March 27, 2022

Welcome!

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

Today

9:00am	Bible Classes for all ages
10:00am	Virtual Meet-and-Greet via YouTube Chat
10:15am	Worship Service On-Site and via YouTube
6:00pm	Lip Sync FUN-Raiser

Upcoming Events

Mar 28	Women's Bible Study
Mar 29	Guys' Group
Mar 29	"Fifth Cammoandment" Group
Mar 30	High School Pod
Mar 30	Hungry-Thirsty Group
Mar 31	Conejo School Tutoring
Mar 31	Life Group at Fosters'
Apr 1-3	Springfest Youth Rally
Apr 10	Palm Sunday
Apr 15	Good Friday Worship Services
Apr 17	Easter Celebration Service

Birthdays This Week

Lizzy Daringer	4/2
TJ Reynolds	4/3
Lorna Thomas	4/3

Welcome and Response

Please contact the ministers or elders if there are ways that they can pray for you or those you love.

Dereliction of Duty

By Andy Wall

"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."
– Attributed to Edmund Burke

In the final episode of the 90's sitcom Seinfeld, Jerry, George, Elaine, and Kramer witnessed a man getting carjacked at gunpoint. Instead of helping him, Kramer filmed the crime on his camcorder as they cracked jokes, then they walked away. The victim observed this and told the reporting officer. These four main characters were then taken into custody for violating a Good Samaritan law that requires bystanders at the scene of an emergency to provide reasonable assistance to a person in need. A lengthy trial followed, during which many characters from the series were called upon as character witnesses to testify against the group for their many selfish acts.

When we think about various sins, we typically have in mind the "thou shall nots:" "Thou shall not murder… Thou shall not commit adultery… Thou shall not steal…" Such sins are sometimes categorized as "sins of commission," as in sins that we actively commit. But a large category of sins has to do with "sins of omission," that is, with failing to do the good that God calls us and commands us to do.

Just as Seinfeld and his friends failed to take action to help a fellow human in need, sins of omission include the shutting of one's eyes to injustice or pretending to be ignorant of evil. Such sins can include parents who neglect their children, breadwinners who abandon their families, adults who neglect their elderly parents, tax-evaders who flee overseas to avoid prosecution, soldiers who go AWOL or are derelict in their duties, or witnesses to crimes who fail to help or intervene. In short, when people defect from goodness they involve themselves in moral and spiritual evil.

The Heidelberg Catechism offers the following response to the question, "Is it enough that we do not kill our neighbor?" "No… God wills us to love our neighbors as ourselves, to be patient, peace-loving, gentle, merciful, and friendly to them, to protect them from harm as much as we can." Certainly, not being a murderer is a fine thing. But as Christians, we are also taught against fleeing our responsibilities or evading our duties. May we hear and take to heart the warning of James 4:17: "Anyone, then, who knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, commits sin."

What's Happening At Conejo

Sermon Series: The Faces of Sin/The Face of Our Savior

Our current sermon series, "The Faces of Sin/The Face of Our Savior," is exploring a variety of images that Scripture uses to provide insights into sin's corrosive power and is part of our 40-Day Lenten journey that is leading us to Easter.

The "Thou shalt not" sins typically garner the most headlines and country music lyrics (murder, adultery, stealing, lying) and are called *sins of commission*. However, another family of sins involves the commands of God that we either willfully disregard or forgetfully neglect; they're commonly called the sins of omission. These sins of neglect can include teachings such as Honor your father and mother, Be holy as God is holy, Be hospitable to one another, Care for widows and orphans, and Forgive each other. When God's people choose to bury their gifts rather than to use them, God is not honored. This message will explore various forms of dereliction of duty that Christians commit.

40-Day Spiritual Adventure

We have begun our annual 40-Day Spiritual Adventure. It is the traditional time each year in which Christians prepare for the remembrance of Good Friday and the celebration of Easter. This season of preparation can include the following:

- deeper and more fervent prayer
- greater engagement in acts of service and hospitality
- greater contrition over sins that push us away from God and neighbor
- deliberate curtailing of distractions and time-wasters
- expanding practices of generosity toward those in need
- voluntary fasting from some of our typical comforts
- the pursuit of reconciliation in broken relationships

Please click here to see a handout of ideas and suggestions of practices and activities for this year's season of Lent.

Meeting and Masking

In Ventura County, masking is strongly recommended for indoor gatherings regardless of vaccination status. Thank you!

Elder Selection Process

Last week we announced the names of 11 elder nominees and 3 current elders who are available to continue serving. Those names are available via the livestream from our 3/20 service and also went out to the entire church via email. Please pray for each of these people and their families as they discern God's call on their lives concerning the possibility of serving as Elder for the Conejo Church. Also, **mark your calendars for Sunday, April 3 at 6pm,** for a Town Hall congregational discussion with all of our elder nominees and returning elders.

Adult Bible Classes

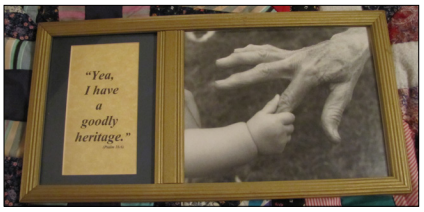
Live Sunday morning Bible classes meet each week at 9am.

Our Growing Families class, primarily for our families with children living at home, meets on the front porch area and includes coffee.

Our auditorium class is exploring the Letter to the Hebrews in a series titled "Encouragement to a Weary Church." Hebrews emphasizes at least two central themes: the primacy of Jesus Christ as the divine Son of God and the importance of faithful perseverance through challenging times. This Sunday, Kindy De Long will be leading our discussion of the message of Hebrews 8:1-9:10 in a class titled "The Once and Future Covenant." Our schedule for the next four weeks is as follows:

- **April 3.** A Clear Conscience, Once and for All (9:11-10:18)
- **April 10.** Drawing Near to God (10:19-39)
- **April 17.** Faith: Still Living on a Promise (11:1-40)
- **April 24.** Running with Perseverance (12:1-25)

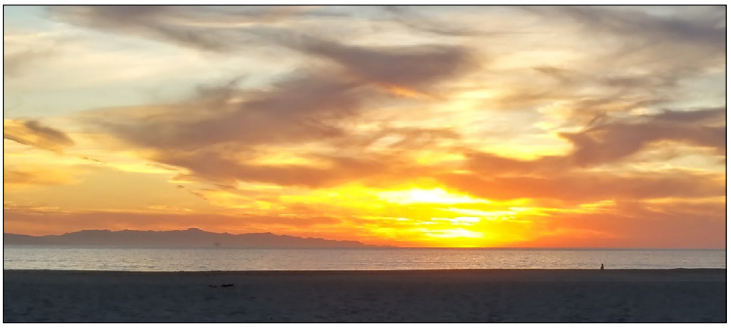
Fifth Commandment Group / March 29



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 we gain strength from walking together on this journey! Join us this Tuesday at 7pm as we share our current challenges and concerns regarding our aging parents and spend time praying for wisdom, direction, and comfort for those we love. Zoom Meeting Link.

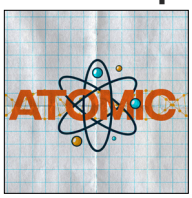
Seder by the Sea / April 16

You are invited to the Scarberry home to observe the traditional celebration of Passover on Saturday, April 16. Seder will begin at 5:30pm and will include a traditional Passover meal with songs and liturgy. It will end by 9:30pm. It is particularly meaningful this year to celebrate freedom with what is going on in the world. Well-behaved children are more than welcome to join us but there is no childcare. RSVP to Suzanne at mecmom@yahoo.com by April 10.



High School + Middle School

Youth Group Pods



Throughout the month of March, YG pods will be studying a series called "Atomic." This is a 4-week series that looks at principles in scripture about the large impact that small habits can make. Click here to learn more about meeting times and this month's theme.

Lip Sync FunRaiser 2022 / TONIGHT

Join us tonight at 6pm for a fun time of lip singing with our youth! Those participating should arrive at 4pm to help set up and to put the fine tuning on their live performances. Due to the generosity of our church the past few years, this event is not a mission trip FUNDraiser, but merely a FUNraiser. Looking forward to having some fun tonight!

SUMMER CAMPS: EARLY-BIRD REGISTRATION

It's time to sign up for summer camps! Camp can be a profound spiritual experience for our kids and is a place in which we continue to see God work in powerful ways in our kids' lives. If you desire that your child grow closer to God, camp is one of the greatest assets we have in helping that become a reality.

SoCal Teen Camp 2022 "Bloom" (July 10-16)

Teen Camp is for students who have finished 7th - 12th grades before camp. You can see more info about Teen Camp and complete the early-bird registration form here. ***Early-bird prices end April 1, so please register now!***

King's Kamp 2022 "A Different Kind of Hero" (July 24-30)

Kings Kamp is for students who have finished 4th - 8th grades before camp. You can see more info about Kings Kamp and complete the early-bird registration form here. ***Early-bird prices end April 11 so please register now!***

Springfest Youth Rally 2022 / April 1-3

Westside Church of Christ in Bakersfield hosts an annual youth rally for middle school and high school students called Springfest. Unfortunately, we received the information very late this year, but we still want to offer it for those who might be interested. ***The cost of the rally is free, but if you are interested in attending talk to Travis ASAP***.

Children's Ministry

Spring 2022 Memory Verse

Baptize them in the name of the Father
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Teach them to obey everything I have commanded you.
And you can be sure that **I am always with you**,
to the very end.

Matthew 28:19-20 NIRV

Family Good Friday Experience / April 15

This year's annual Family Good Friday Experience will be outdoors on April 15, 2022. Please go ahead and mark this date on your calendars.

We will have staggered starting times so that the evening will be one in which all families can proceed through the stations with time and space to remember Jesus and talk about the events that led to his death. Please click here and fill in the details to reserve your time to participate in this wonderful family event. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Penny at (818) 857-6213 or pennymwhite502@gmail.com.

The above image with a link to sign up for the event has been placed on FaceBook. Please share it with your friends.

Prayer Corner

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

PRAISES

PREGNANCY: **Jodi Davis** (April), **Lauren Kliest-Blankfein** (July)

Researchers, doctors, nurses, caregivers, and **patients** who persevere through COVID-19

BIRTH: **Alice Joy Overton** was born to Daniel and Elaine Overton (and big sisters Eleanor and Harriet) on March 11

Carina Abigail Grant was born to Eric and Michelle (Scarberry) Grant on March 18; congratulations to grandparents Mark and Suzanne

NEW MEMBERS: **Caleb Bearman**; **Daniel, Elaine, Eleanor, Harriet,** and **Alice Overton**

THOSE GRIEVING

Lisa Scott – loss of friend, Karen Kennedy

Alyssa West and her mother, Kathy Stetz – loss of Mark Stetz, Alyssa's uncle

Maureen Thomas – loss of mother, Barbara Lewis

Tim Rockey – loss of father, Steve Rockey

Eric Short and Erin Opdahl – loss of father, Sam Short

Christian Socquet – loss of father, Johnny Cowan

Phil Daringer – loss of mother, Joyce Daringer

Judy Tapper – loss of sister, Muriel Meador

Lisa Scott – loss of cousin, Margi Dalmas

Lauren Kliest-Blankfein – loss of grandmother, Marylee Illiff

Mark and Suzanne Scarberry – loss of daughter, Caitlin; loss of Mark's brother, Dan

Sue Ann Meador – loss of father, Joe Burroughs

Darlene Rivas – loss of mother, Sara Hodges

Jacqueline Dillion – loss of father, Roger Dillion

FIGHTING CANCER

Robin Brown (former member) – cancer has recurred in her bones and bone marrow

Patricia Sparks (sister-in-law of Shannon Latson) – prayers for her as she begins a new round of a different type of chemo

Ted McAllister (former member) – test results showing 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

Jonathan Meador (brother of Judy Tapper) – having variety of health issues

Sonia Forman (fiancée of Brian Smithers) – safety for freinds and family who reside in Ukraine

Elder nomination and affirmation process – congregational wisdom and discernment from the Spirit

Children's Ministry 2022 – smooth transition for children, location of wonderful candidates, smooth transition of Penny into her next chapter

Linda Rice (mother of Char Hurley) – infection in legs, high blood pressure, poor circulation

Kendra Davis (sister of Suzanne Scarberry) – recovering from recent surgery

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

Calleigh Hunnicutt – difficulty standing and walking; some improvements

Pat Tudor – tolerating immunotherapy

Martha Condley (daughter of Janie Condley) – lupus

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

Family and friends who have battled with COVID-19 or lost someone during the pandemic

Marilyn Aurand – physical therapy for spinal stenosis and to improve mobility; recovery from numerous infections, and now COVID-19

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

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

March 20 Attendance	
On-Site Service	155
Online Viewing	126

March 20 Giving	$12,094
Weekly Giving Average	$16,274
Weekly Giving Budget	$13,410
Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)	$1,628,126
Property Settlement	$225,000

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