



# CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

# BE the BLESSING

November 20, 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
- 10:15am On-Site Worship Service
- 10:15am Virtual Worship Service via YouTube
- 12:00pm Armloads of Love
- 2:00pm Sunday Afternoon Hoops
- 3:30pm MS Pod
- 6:00pm HS Pod

### Upcoming Events

- Nov 21 Women's Bible Study
- Nov 21 Guys' Group at CVCC
- Nov 26 Guys' Golfing
- Dec 4 Family Advent Experience
- Dec 9 All-Church Christmas Party at Rick and Paula's
- Dec 10 MS Christmas Party
- Dec 11 Carols and Candlelight
- Dec 16 Extravagodysey
- Dec 17 Ladies' Christmas Cookie Exchange
- Dec 18 Christmas Caroling

### Birthdays This Week

- |                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| Jett Landis       | 11/22 |
| Tony Baird        | 11/23 |
| Sydney Socquet    | 11/24 |
| Ella Rockey       | 11/25 |
| Caroline Stephens | 11/25 |
| Alyssa Hunnicutt  | 11/27 |
| Joy Rhoades       | 11/27 |

## Fifteen Quotes on Gratitude

Andy Wall

*"A joyful heart is good medicine..." Proverbs 17:22*

As we gear up for Thanksgiving this week, here are fifteen quotes on gratitude to help prime our hearts and minds to give thanks. These reminders will do us all good, and doubly so if they inspire us to express our love and appreciation to those who have been a blessing to us. My thanks to Jeff Hayden who gathered these quotes together.

1. "Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it." **William Arthur Ward**
2. "This a wonderful day. I've never seen this one before." **Maya Angelou**
3. "I would maintain that thanks are the highest form of thought; and that gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder." **G.K. Chesterton**
4. "Enough is a feast." **Buddhist proverb**
5. "Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things." **Robert Brault**
6. "Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has plenty; not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some." **Charles Dickens**
7. "Acknowledging the good that you already have in your life is the foundation for all abundance." **Eckhart Tolle**
8. "Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough." **Oprah Winfrey**
9. "The world has enough beautiful mountains and meadows, spectacular skies and serene lakes... What the world needs more of is people to appreciate and enjoy it." **Michael Josephson**
10. "Gratitude is a currency that we can mint for ourselves, and spend without fear of bankruptcy." **Fred De Witt Van Amburgh**
11. "He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has." **Epictetus**
12. "Things turn out best for people who make the best of the way things turn out." **John Wooden**
13. "Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude." **A.A. Milne**
14. "We should certainly count our blessings, but we should also make our blessings count." **Neal A. Maxwell**
15. "In ordinary life, we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we give, and that it is only with gratitude that life becomes rich." **Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

# What's Happening at Conejo

## Armloads of Love / Today

This Sunday is our annual Armloads of Love event, a day in which we gather various food goods and share them with families from our neighborhood. Please [click here](#) if you need a reminder of what you signed up to bring. We will need a number of volunteers immediately following the in-person service. Please [sign up here](#) to serve at one of the tables distributing food. If you'd like to walk with the families and assist them by carrying bags of groceries to their vehicle, please reply to [office@conejochurch.org](mailto:office@conejochurch.org). Thank you for taking part in this tangible expression of gratitude to God for his many blessings.



our families, churches, communities, and the world through the blessing of our work.

## Advent Adult Bible Class

Starting next Sunday (11/27), and continuing through December 18, our Advent-themed auditorium class will be exploring "The Colors of Christmas." We'll move from Gold Christmas (11/27), to White Christmas (12/4), then Blue Christmas (12/11), and finally, Green Christmas (12/18). Please make plans to participate!

## All-Church Christmas Party / December 9

The congregation is invited to a very special Conejo holiday gathering on Friday, December 9, beginning at 7pm at the home of Rick and Paula Marrs. Make plans now to come share in a delightful evening filled with warm holiday fellowship, Christmas carols, and tasty treats. Please bring substantial hors d'oeuvres or a favorite dessert to share.



## Sermon Series: Let's Go! Adventuring Through Acts

In the final message of our series on the book of Acts, Conejo's own Haylie Douglas will be sharing a message titled "Thank God and Take Courage." In Luke 27-28, Paul was in the midst of trials, both figuratively and literally. In the face of these trials, Paul continued to proclaim the kingdom of God and teach about the Lord Jesus Christ. Some believed that Paul was telling them the truth, but others would not believe. They had dull hearts, deaf ears, and shut eyes. But Paul spoke to them anyway, seeing his circumstances as an opportunity for the gospel.

Paul took his unforgiving situation and used it to advance the gospel. We don't know what happened with each of those seeds planted, and we don't even get the rest of the story on what happened for Paul. But we know that Paul continued in his call. The end of Paul's story is not the point – the point is that there is not an end to God's story. Because of people like Paul continuing to proclaim the Word of God in the middle of trials, we are able to bear witness to the triumphant nature of Christianity.

We are able to take the good with the bad, the triumph with the trials, because of what God has done for us. This text is a wonderful source of encouragement to all Christians that God will use our "chains" for the sake of His kingdom.

## City of Children Visits / December 9-11

For many years the Conejo church has supported the City of Children, a home for kids without parents to care for them near Ensenada, Mexico. The City of Children will celebrate 50 years of service in 2023, and Conejo members are invited to attend the celebration at the home on **January 15, 2023**. To prepare for the event, Conejo members are helping to update the photo history wall in the Americano kitchen where all the visitors eat with the kids during group visits. Mark Davis will be visiting the home on **November 18-20** and **December 9-11** to work on this project. There will also be time to interact with the kids. For more information about the visits, please contact Mark at (310) 892-9986 or [mrkw dvs@gmail.com](mailto:mrkw dvs@gmail.com).

## Carols and Candlelight / December 11

At 6pm on Sunday, December 11, you are invited to our annual Carols and Candlelight Service. This special service will feature the singing of favorite holiday carols, the lighting of candles, the reading of the birth narratives of Christ, and the renewing experience of the wonder of Christ's radiant coming. We will enjoy cookies and fellowship following the service. Be sure to invite friends and loved ones to this favorite holiday tradition as we enjoy the season of Advent together.



## Fall Adult Bible Classes

Our auditorium class is exploring "The Spirit Shaped Life," a scripture-based class about our life in the Holy Spirit. Today, Daniel Overton will be teaching about spiritual gifts from Ephesians 4 and 1 Peter 4.

Our class in the north overflow room is currently studying "Work as Worship Bible Study," by J.D. Greear. This is a six-part Bible study that will challenge all of us to consider the reason God calls us to work. God gives us great potential for impact on

# High School + Middle School

## Middle School Christmas Party / December 10

On Saturday night, December 10, the middle school group is invited to the Johnson's home for a Christmas party. The party will be from 5:30 - 8:00pm, will include dinner, games, prizes, and festive fun! Just like last year, prizes will be waiting for those who dress for a festive occasion!



## Extravagodysey 2022 / December 16



Friday night, December 16, the youth group will gather for an all-nighter of epic proportions! Other youth groups from SoCal join in on the fun before the close of the year, making it a large party. The goal is to remember 2022, reflect upon what we have learned, and take the next step of faith as we look toward 2023. The cost per person

is \$40. This cost includes supplies for the evening, snacks/drinks, a middle-of-the-night trip to Sky Zone (formerly Defy/Dojoboom), a movie ticket to Avatar: The Way of Water, and breakfast.

## Strengths Finder Workshop / February 4

Those who are a part of a mentor group should know that the Strengths Finder Workshop previously scheduled for Saturday, November 19, has been postponed to Saturday, February 4, 2023. The date for this workshop was changed to allow for more participation from our youth at Conejo, and also to allow us to invite youth from Camarillo & University churches to join the workshop.

## Youth Group Events Calendar

There are many opportunities for our teens to grow in their faith and in their friendships with one another. **Please [click here](#) to see the Fall 2022 calendar of events.**

## Youth Group Pods

Please help our students participate, learn, grow, and encourage one another by taking part in our weekly times together. The combined group (middle and high school) gathers at 9am each Sunday.

Then, separate pods meet at the church building on Sunday afternoons—the middle school pod meets from 3:30-5pm; the high school pod meets from 6-7:30pm. [Click here](#) to learn more about this month's theme.

# Children's Ministry

## Family Advent Experience / December 4

Join us on December 4 for a walk-through Family Advent Experience. Families will travel to different stations where Bible characters and storytellers will share the story leading up to the birth of Jesus. The experience continues at our celebration station for a craft and a treat.

RSVP required for a start time. Each start time is for up to 3 family units at a time. Please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DAFA92FA7FEC70-family>.



## Current Children's Class Offerings

### Bible Classes 9:00-10:00am

2's/3's - Leslie S., Sarah G.

4's-5th grade - Paula M., Patti F.

### Worship Classes are available for children during the sermon.

Nursery - Katie C.

2's/3's - Shaya B., Amy M., Kari O., and Sarah G.

4's-5th grade - Mark D., Amber J., and Dwayne H.

## Trunk or Treat Fun Memories

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Trunk or Treat a wonderful experience for our children.



## Sign In, Please!

Parents, please be sure to sign in your kiddos for Bible class and worship time. This will help Haylie be able to best prepare for future classes. The sign-in pages are on green paper and are placed on a table in the entry way which leads to the Children's Ministry area.

# Prayer Corner

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

## PRAISES

**BAPTISM: Taylor de Bruyn**

**BIRTH: Caleb Michael Rivas** (brother of Josiah; son of Michael and Sarah; grandson of Mike and Darlene Rivas) – born on November 5

**Stan Thomas** – awarded an Emmy for sports coverage video editing

**Pat Tudor** – doing well on maintenance therapy; energy level is improving

## THOSE GRIEVING

**Jose Rivera** – loss of father, Cecilio (Chilo) Rivero

**Char Hurley** – loss of mother, Linda Rice

Friends and family **Stella Sale** (former member) – Stella passed in August 2022 after a long decline

**Sam Jackson** – loss of mother, Maudie Brown

**Brittany Joyner** – loss of uncle, Robin Miller

**Matt Joyner** – loss of grandmother, Mildred Eckstein

**Tim Willis** – loss of mother, Evelyn Willis

**Jim White** – loss of father, Donovan White

**Maureen Thomas** – loss of mother, Barbara Lewis

**Tim Rockey** – loss of father, Steve Rockey

**Christian Socquet** – loss of father, Johnny Cowan

**Phil Daringer** – loss of mother,

Joyce Daringer

**Jim and Susie Lindley** – loss of sister-in-law, Jan Randolph; please pray for Jan's husband, Bob, and daughter, Margaret

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

## FIGHTING CANCER

**Joella Michael** – worsening of cancer in liver

**Cecilio Rivera** (father of Jose Rivera) – battling Stage III lung cancer and prostate cancer

**Lucia Campbell** (mother of Guy Patenaude) – home recuperating from recent uterine cancer surgery

**Ted McAllister** (former member) – prayers that new treatment will be effective

**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

**Larry McNutt** – hospitalized in Chicago with Covid and balance issues

**Judy Tapper** – recovering from intestinal surgery

**John Aurand** (caregiver for Marilyn Aurand) – recovering from surgery for aortic aneurysm

**Judy Long** (mother of Loree Hunnicutt) – receiving hospice care; in end-stage heart failure

**Andy Long** (father of Loree Hunnicutt) – tremendous stress as he cares for Judy

**Cathy Kiel** (sister of Connie Horton) – recovering at home following brain surgery

**Carina Grant** (infant granddaughter of Mark and Suzanne Scarberry) – in a Spica cast for 3 months following hip surgery; prayers for health, comfort, peace, and stamina

**Healing, peace, and justice** in our nation and communities

For **moderate rain** throughout the fall to give **relief from drought**

**Firefighters, Linemen, and all who work outside** – during periods of extreme heat, wind, and storms

**Barb Suhr** (friend of Char Hurley) – dealing with memory loss issues

**Barbara Schlosser** – recovery from a serious illness

**JoAnna White** (mother of Jim White) – recovery from broken hip from recent fall

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

**Sonia Smithers** – safety for friends and family in Ukraine

**Martha Condley** (daughter of Janie Condley) – lupus

**Marilyn Aurand** – no cancer was found during lung biopsy! Still dealing with spinal stenosis and seeking to improve mobility

**Mary Zollman** (friend of Lisa Scott) – multiple sclerosis

**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** – retiring from mission work in Albania; prayers for his transition to life stateside

**Julie Broyles** – Bible English Study Center in Cambodia

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

**Megan Randolph** – Associate Director of Teacher Services, TeachBeyond

**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

November 13 Attendance	
On-Site Service	123
Online Viewing	119

November 13 Giving		\$10,104
Weekly Giving Average		\$13,906
Weekly Giving Budget		\$14,116
Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)		\$1,638,336
Property Settlement		\$225,000

## CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

(805) 371-1381 Office | (805) 371-1384 Fax

[www.conejochurch.org](http://www.conejochurch.org)

### Haylie Douglas

Children's Minister  
(979) 676-1529 cell  
haylie@conejochurch.org  
R&R Wednesdays

### Rene Heard

Worship & Media Manager  
(818) 665-8598 cell  
reneheard@sbcglobal.net  
R&R Tuesdays

### Kathia King

Office Manager  
(805) 371-1381 office  
office@conejochurch.org  
R&R Thursdays & Fridays

### Travis Moore

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

### Andy Wall

Preaching Minister  
(805) 331-0187 cell  
andy@conejochurch.org  
R&R Fridays

### Jack Williamson

Spiritual Formation Min.  
(805) 331-0183 cell  
jack@conejochurch.org  
R&R Mondays

**Elders:** Michael Ditmore, Bill Foster, Chris Heard, David Rhoades, Mike Rivas, Chris Stivers, Tim Willis – [elders@conejochurch.org](mailto:elders@conejochurch.org)



## CHURCH

2525 E. Hillcrest Drive  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362