



December 25, 2022

# Welcome!

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

## Today

- 10:00am Virtual Meet and Greet Online
- 10:15am On-Site Christmas Worship Service (no 9am Bible classes)
- 10:15am Virtual Christmas Worship Service via YouTube

## Upcoming Events

- Jan 1 New Year's Day Worship Service (no 9am Bible classes)
- Jan 1 Rick Marrs preaching

## Birthdays This Week

Elizabeth Jovel Rivera	12/25
Gwen King	12/28
Alyssa West	12/30
Daelan Blankfein	1/1
Emersyn Starkey	1/2

## Refracting the Light of Christmas

Andy Wall

*"Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight."*

— Phillips Brooks

Merry Christmas, one and all! We have journeyed through the season of Advent, a time of preparation, anticipation, and hope. On this Christmas Sunday, we enter into the full-throated celebration of the incarnation and birth of Jesus Christ, who is Immanuel, God with us. During the Christmas season, which technically extends through January 9, 2023, we celebrate that God is with us today, now, and forever. The entire season rejoices in the Incarnation, the truth that the Son of God became human.

I was reminded this past week that Christmas is not one thing, but many things. Phillips Brooks, in his Christmas carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem," reflects that in Bethlehem's dark streets shines an everlasting light, bringing together the human hopes and fears of all the years. Steven Charleston, a Native American elder and retired church leader, made this observation:

"Every holiday is like a coin: there are two sides. On the bright side, there are all of the usual celebrations and laughter. On the shadow side, there are all those for whom the holiday brings reminders of past hurts and losses. If you are on the joyful side then turn that light to shine as a beacon for as many others as you can, reaching out to welcome, comfort and support them during this season of their struggle. If you are on the shadow side then abide as deeply in the Spirit as you can, remembering the past, but living in the love that surrounds you now, knowing you are safe in arms that will never let you go."

As we enjoy the Christmas season, we have much to contemplate: the hardship of traveling to Bethlehem, the song of the angels, the joy of the shepherds, the hope of the newborn Savior, the peril of King Herod, the hopeful and foreboding blessing of Simeon, the treasuring of moments by Mary, the terror of fleeing to Egypt, and the praises of Anna in the temple. We are wise to leave room for the full gamut of experiences that surround this season. Still, my prayer for each of us this Christmas is that, whether in a major or minor key, we may enter into the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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## Merry Christmas from the Ministry Staff

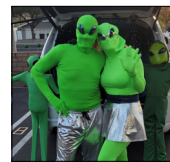
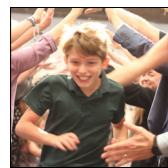
On behalf of the Conejo Valley Church of Christ ministry team and staff members, we wish you and your loved ones a joyful Christmas and a blessed New Year. We appreciate so much our partnership with you in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the opportunities we share to serve our community and world and to build up one another in Christ. We look forward to an exciting new year of ministry together in the year of our Lord, 2023.

Andy Haylie Jack Kathia Rene Travis



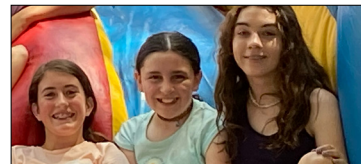
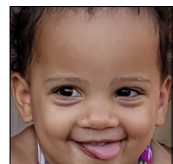
# A Year In Review At Conejo

We seek to worship God. Serve others. Grow in grace and understanding. Commit fully. Love genuinely. Learn deeply. Follow faithfully. Remember often. Encourage continuously. We have been blessed greatly; let's be the blessing!





# Life Together In 2022



May the Lord bless and keep us. May he make his face shine upon us as we awaken to each new day. May he help us see others with his eyes, hear others with his ears, and love others with his heart. We look forward to worshipping and serving with you throughout the year of 2023 as we seek to follow in Jesus' steps.



# Prayer Corner

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

## PRAISES

**PREGNANCY: Holly Chambers** (May)

**BAPTISM: Taylor de Bruyn**

**NEW MEMBERS: Maxi McAfee, Joanna White, Rodney Smithers, Susan Giboney, Chris Chesnut**

**Larry McNutt** – recovery from COVID-19 and balance issues

## THOSE GRIEVING

**Rene Heard** – loss of mother, Joan Nicholas

**Jacob, Ella, Kate, Tess Michael** – loss of wife and mother, Joella Michael

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

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

Friends and family of **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

**Mark and Suzanne Scarberry** – loss of daughter, Caitlin Scarberry

## FIGHTING 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

**Calvin Hill** (friend of Haylie Douglas) – hospitalized following car accident; severely burned, many complications

**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 following additional brain surgery

**Carina Grant** (infant granddaughter of Mark and Suzanne Scarberry) – prayers for health, comfort, peace, and stamina

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

For **moderate rain** 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

**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

December 18 Attendance	
On-Site Service	146
Online Viewing	87

December 18 Giving		\$12,930
Weekly Giving Average		\$14,257
Weekly Giving Budget		\$14,116
Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)		\$1,640,257
Property Settlement		\$225,000

## CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

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



## CHURCH

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