



BE *the* BLESSING

CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 5, 2023

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 On-Site Worship Service and Virtual Worship Service via YouTube
- 11:45am Virtual Lobby
- 12:00pm College & Young Professionals Lunch at BJ's
- 2:00pm Sunday Afternoon Hoops
- 3:00pm Missions Committee Meeting
- 3:30pm MS Pod
- 6:00pm HS Pod

Upcoming Events

- Feb 6 Women's Bible Study
- Feb 6 Guys' Group
- Feb 7 First Fruits Group
- Feb 8 Flourishing Families Group
- Feb 8 Life Group at the Reynolds
- Feb 9 Life Group at the Fosters
- Feb 9 Conejo Tutoring
- Feb 10 Family and Friends Night
- Feb 11 Guys' Golf Outing
- Feb 11 StrengthsFinder Workshop
- Feb 19 Congregational Vision Workshop

Birthdays This Week

- Christopher Haye 2/7
- Scott Van Atta 2/8
- Ashleigh Baird 2/9
- Charee Landis 2/10
- Paxton Van Atta 2/11
- Heather Phillips 2/12

What Are You Thinking About?

Andy Wall

"The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil person out of evil treasure produces evil; for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks." Jesus, Luke 6:45

"Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life." Proverbs 4:23

What do you think about when you're not thinking about anything in particular? Where does your mind go when you are mentally "in neutral" and don't have a specific thought to focus on? Do your thoughts go toward...

- hopes, dreams, anticipations?
- loved ones, friends, people you enjoy?
- to-do lists, jobs to be completed, action items to check off?
- regrets, disappointments, sorrows?
- grudges, enemies, frustrations?
- scrolling through social media on your phone?

Your thoughts can travel in a number of directions, each of which could dramatically change your day for good or for ill. If you focus primarily on negative emotions, dark thoughts, gloomy memories, and detrimental relationships, your day will proceed very differently than if you center on being grateful, expressing appreciation, practicing thankfulness, and looking out for the good.

In his most joyful letter, written from prison to a church in conflict as he faced the possibility of martyrdom, Paul exhorted the Philippian believers to be mindful of their thoughts: "Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things" (Philippians 4:8).

Such a spiritual discipline could be a tremendous blessing to us as we live in a world ravaged by anger, negativity, pettiness, grudges, injustice, and bitterness. For the next three Sundays, our sermon series, "Think on These Things," will focus on Paul's words in Philippians 4:8-9, inviting us to think nobler, clearer, and better thoughts. Ralph Waldo Emerson offered this observation on the power of a single thought: "Sow a thought and you reap an action; sow an action and you reap a habit; sow a habit and you reap a character; sow a character and reap a destiny." May we remember the importance of what we choose to ruminate and meditate on. And may our transformed thinking empower us to be a greater blessing in our world!

PHILIPPIANS 4:8
whatsoever things are
TRUE
whatsoever things are
HONEST
whatsoever things are
JUST
whatsoever things are
PURE
whatsoever things are
LOVELY
whatsoever things are
OF GOOD REPORT
if there be any virtue, if there be any praise
THINK ON THESE THINGS

What's Happening at Conejo



Sermon Series: Think on These Things

Jack has done a terrific job of starting 2023 by inviting us to reflect on *What Are We Doing Here?* as a church. Next up, we'll share in a three-part series centered around Philippians 4:8-9, where Paul exhorted his beloved Philippians to think on whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, and commendable, as well as whatever is excellent or worthy of praise. Fun fact: Paul appears to have drawn this list from the teachings of the Greco-Roman moralists, appealing to some of the loftiest ethical ideas born of the Hellenistic philosophers of his age. Paul certainly would have weighed these ideas against the gospel and the message of the cross; then having found them suitable for Jesus-followers, he commended them to the Philippian congregation.

Adult Bible Classes

Our adult education program recently began a "meta-series" of detailed scripture studies entitled *Scripture Up Close*. This class meets weekly in the auditorium. We've started with short books and discrete texts (like individual psalms), and will work our way up to longer texts. In each "mini-series," we're working through a biblical text in order, giving careful attention to its content, context, genre, style, and more in an effort to hear more clearly what the biblical authors were trying to tell their readers, and what those messages might mean for us today.

February 5 Habakkuk Up Close - Part 1 (Rick Marrs)
February 12 Habakkuk Up Close - Part 2 (Rick Marrs)
February 19 Habakkuk Up Close - Part 3 (Rick Marrs)

If there's a particular book of the Bible you'd like to see taught in this format, please communicate that to Andy or Chris.

During the month of February, we'll begin an additional four week class in the north overflow room, ***One Body, Many Parts: Appreciating Our Differences in the Body of Christ***. God created us with different personalities, styles, and gifts. Understanding ourselves and others helps us live into our giftedness and calling while appreciating and encouraging our Christian brothers and sisters, spouses, children, and friends. This class will include an introduction of biblical and psychological constructs around difference and then have three weeks in which we reflect on various tools to help with these concepts. Those who sign up for the class will be given instructions to complete the measures in advance so they are fully prepared to engage in the discussion. The class schedule:

February 5 Class introduction (Connie Horton)
February 12 Myers Briggs Type Indicator (Connie Horton)
February 19 Enneagram (Brittany Joyner)
February 26 StrengthsFinder (Doug Hurley)

Free Lunch / Today

Any "college-aged" or "young professional" people worshipping with us are invited to a free lunch at BJ's Restaurant in Westlake

Village today. We will have lunch and talk about ways that the Conejo church can better serve you or help you get connected. If you are interested, please contact [Jack Williamson](#) or [Haylie Douglas](#) for more details.

First Fruits Potluck / February 7

Our next First Fruits food growers meeting will be a potluck hosted at the home of Stu and Co Warford (AKA Warford Farms) this Tuesday from 6 to 8pm. Our theme will be "Planning a Summer Vegetable Garden." All levels of food gardeners are invited.



The Warfords will provide a main dish, and attendees are invited to bring a side dish or dessert. Please let [Stu](#) or [Co](#) know if you plan to attend.

Vision Sunday / February 19

Two weeks ago, our elders introduced a visioning process involving a team of 11 people representing a cross section of our church family. This group includes Jon Mullican, a church consultant from HOPE Network Ministries, as well as Vincent Chambers, Jonathan Ditmore, John Downey, Eliza Erickson, Brittany Joyner, Kipp Landis, Daniel Overton, Suzanne Reynolds, David Rhoades, Andy Wall, and Penny White. This group has been commissioned to research community trends, gather congregational input, and reflect together on the question, "What can our church become to model God's kingdom in the Conejo Valley in 2043?"

As part of this process, you are invited to participate in a congregational input session on Sunday, February 19, from noon to 4pm. This time will include lunch and provide an opportunity for the congregation to participate in this process of envisioning our shared future. Please make plans to come join us for this important time of reflecting, visioning, and prayer. Contact John Downey, the vision team chair, if you have further questions.

Bowls of Hope Painting Party / February 26

Come join us for our annual Bowls of Hope Painting Party! The Bowl Painting Party has been moved to Sunday, February 26 from 3 to 5pm in the church building lobby. This fun event benefits Many Mansions, a major provider of low-income housing within our immediate community. All supplies will be provided, including bowls and paint supplies. This is a great service opportunity for young and old alike, and a fun activity to invite friends to participate in. There is a \$30 per bowl charge to help cover the costs of supplies. Sign up now at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D45AFA82AA6F8C61-bowls>, as there are limited seats available. Contact Stu Warford or Kellie Van Atta with any questions.

Current Small Groups

Our small groups have resumed meeting around the Conejo Valley—some in person, some via Zoom. Please [click here](#) for a detailed description of our small group ministries.

High School + Middle School

Youth Group Bible Class

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.

The middle school meets at the church building from 3:30-5pm and the high school meets from 6-7:30pm each Sunday.

Throughout the month of February, YG will be studying a series called "On the Flip Side." Please [click here](#) to learn more about this month's theme.

Family & Friends Night / February 10

It's time to reconnect with our friends from outside of Conejo. This Friday night, we will head back to **Dave & Busters** in Thousand Oaks for a meal together and some video game fun! The event will be from 5 to 8pm and will include dinner and a game card for each family member. Our desire is to keep working toward creating a culture that continues to invite friends to Conejo events. The event is free for Conejo families who invite a friend/family who aren't members of CVCC. The event is free for the friends you invite as well. Families in the children's and youth ministries are encouraged to attend and invite friends.



StrengthsFinder Workshop / February 11

Those who signed up for the StrengthsFinder Workshop with Malika Begin should complete their online questionnaire and be ready for some self-discovery from 9am to noon this Saturday, February 11. This is an opportunity for us to assess our personal strengths so that we can grow in our understanding of how God has gifted us, how we can envision using our gifts for God's glory, and how we can work better with others who are different from us.

HS Winter Retreat — "Higher Love" / February 24-26

Current 8th graders and the high school group are invited to a weekend in Big Bear for rest, group building, and spiritual refreshment. The cost per person is \$85. The 1980s brought us some of the most amazing love songs and romantic movie scenes the world has ever known. Kids of the 80s grew up learning all about love through big on-screen gestures and rock bands with amazing hair, but several decades later we still don't have a full grasp on what exactly we mean when we talk about love. The word love itself might bring up a different idea or memory for each person who hears it – so what exactly is love? That weekend, we'll look at some words from Jesus and his followers about the freedom that God's love brings us. Out of his great love for us, we are free to love others and in turn we are free to be loved. RSVP no later than Sunday, February 19. Looking forward to a great weekend!

YG Event Calendars Available

[Winter 2023 Calendar](#)

[Spring 2023 Calendar](#)

Children's Ministry

Memory Verse

Our new memory verse is Colossians 3:2.

"Set your mind on things above,
not on earthly things."

Valentines for Seniors

We are excited to be making valentines for senior citizens in our community again this year. We will be making valentines on the playground patio (or classroom if it is raining) after the worship service through February 12. All are welcome to come join our children for this special outreach.



Valentine's Day Childcare

We are offering a few hours of childcare on Valentine's Day from 5 to 7pm in the Children's Worship area. Ages 2 through 5th grade are welcome to join. We will watch a movie, work on crafts, and play with toys.



Feel free to come in your PJs! Please email [Haylie](#) to RSVP.

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 placed on a table in the entry way which leads to the Children's Ministry area.

Current Children's Class Offerings

Bible Classes 9-10am

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

Age 4-5th grade - Paula M., Patti F.

Worship Classes are available for children during the sermon.

Nursery - Katie C.

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

Age 4-5th grade - Mark D., Dwayne H., and Penny W.

Vacation Bible School 2023

Save the date for Vacation Bible School, June 19-22, 2023! We are excited to share that our theme for this year will be "Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light!" Mark your calendars for your kids and for you! It's going to be out of this world!

Prayer Corner

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

PRAISES

PREGNANCY: Holly Chambers (May)

THOSE GRIEVING

Friends and family of Ted McAllister (former member) – following Ted's death after a long battle with cancer

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

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

Charlie Smith (brother-in-law of the Arganos) – recovering from recent surgery for colon cancer; starting chemo soon

Cindy Hall (cousin of Matt Joyner) – stage IV metastasized breast cancer

Lucia Campbell (mother of Guy Patenaude) – recovering from surgery for uterine cancer

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

Sharon Box (mother of Amy Moore) – undergoing tests to determine cause of confusion

Joe Reynolds (father of Brittany Joyner) – heart failure

Jim Norris (father of Carlton Norris) – recovering from broken leg and hip replacement

Kathy Williams (mother of Lynn Burke) – recovering in rehab following recent surgeries for brain bleed

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

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

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

City of Children – celebrating 50 years of service!

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

January 29 Attendance	
On-Site Service	131
Online Viewing	90

January 29 Giving		\$10,992
Weekly Giving Average		\$18,898
Weekly Giving Budget		\$14,116
Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)		\$1,644,537
Property Settlement		\$225,000

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