



BE *the* BLESSING

CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 12, 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

Upcoming Events

- Feb 13 Women's Bible Study
Feb 15 Flourishing Families Group
Feb 15 Life Group at the Reynolds
Feb 16 Life Group at the Fosters
Feb 16 Conejo Tutoring
Feb 17 Moms Better Together
Feb 18 Hiking Trails Ministry
Feb 19 Congregational Vision Workshop
Feb 24-26 HS Winter Retreat
Feb 26 RSVP Deadline for Summer Mission to Mexico
Feb 26 Bowls of Hope Painting Party
Mar 11 Bridal Shower for Valerie Patenaude

Birthdays This Week

- | | |
|-------------------|------|
| Heather Phillips | 2/12 |
| Troy Odenath | 2/16 |
| Christian Socquet | 2/16 |
| Andy Caldwell | 2/17 |
| Al Harrington | 2/17 |
| Drew Hurley | 2/17 |
| Noah Socquet | 2/18 |

Holy Oversimplification

Andy Wall

There's a lot of oversimplification that goes on in our world, of necessity. When someone asks you how you are doing, they're not looking for your whole life story. "Doing fine" is an acceptable response, even though it is a gross oversimplification. When Carrie asks me how my day went, I'll share a few highs and lows, rather than launching into a blow-by-blow description of the whole day. When we used to give driving directions (for those who can remember a world without Google Maps), we'd try to give enough detail without overwhelming our friends with an excess of landmarks.

When we share the gospel with others, or teach the story of Scripture, we'll engage, of necessity, in some holy oversimplification. In doing so, we won't be the first to do so. Since ancient times, Jewish rabbis have discussed and argued over what is the greatest commandment. Rabbi Jesus discussed this question during his ministry as well.

A story is told about Rabbi Simla, from about AD 250, who made the claim that various biblical authors had reduced the 613 commandments from the Torah down to a more manageable number. Simla said that David took the 613 commands down to 11, as stated in Psalms.

O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill? Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart; who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors; in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear the Lord; who stand by their oath even to their hurt; who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Psalm 15

Simla argued further that Isaiah took the 613 commands down to 6, that Micah took them down to 3, Isaiah to 2, and Amos and Habakkuk to 1.

- *Those who walk righteously and speak uprightly, who despise the gain of oppression, who wave away a bribe instead of accepting it, who stop their ears from hearing of bloodshed and shut their eyes from looking on evil, they will live on the heights... Isaiah 33:15ff*
- *What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8*
- *Maintain justice, and do what is right... Isaiah 56:1*
- *For thus says the Lord: Seek me and live... Amos 5:4*
- *...the righteous shall live by faith. Habakkuk 2:4*

When Rabbi Jesus was asked, "What is the greatest commandment?", he too engaged in holy oversimplification. His response was two-fold: **Love the Lord your God with all you've got, and love your neighbor as yourself.** While Jesus would (and did!) have more to say about kingdom living, this response for the ages is one we would do well to heed and pursue with all diligence!

What's Happening At Conejo



Sermon Series: Think on These Things

This is week two of a 3-part series centered around Paul's exhortation in Philippians 4:8-9, where Paul urges 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. This week's focus will fall on the third through fifth words in Paul's series: "Whatever is just, pure, and pleasing." Paul's exhortation is to let one's mind dwell on these notions in order to allow such virtues to permeate one's thoughts, heart, and behaviors.

Adult Bible Classes

Our adult education program is offering a weekly auditorium class of detailed Scripture studies entitled *Scripture Up Close*. In each "mini-series," we're working through a biblical text in order, giving careful attention to its content 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. Our current series focuses on Habakkuk.

February 12 Habakkuk Up Close - Part 2 (Rick Marrs)

February 19 Habakkuk Up Close - Part 3 (Rick Marrs)

In the south overflow room, we're offering a class titled, *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 while appreciating our Christian brothers and sisters. Class participants are invited to complete the various inventories in advance so they are fully prepared to engage in the discussion. The class schedule is as follows:

February 12 - Myers Briggs Type Indicator (Connie Horton)
Inventory can be taken at www.keirsej.com.

February 19 - Enneagram (Brittany Joyner)

February 26 - StrengthsFinder (Doug Hurley)

Inventory can be taken at <https://store.gallup.com/p/en-us/10108/top-5-cliftonstrengths>.

Moms Better Together / February 17

Moms of all ages are invited and encouraged to be a part of Moms Better Together. The next meeting has been scheduled for Friday, February 17 from 5:45-7:45pm at the CVCC church building. Please [click here](#) to sign up for the event. Since we will share a meal, we need to know how many are coming.

Hiking Trails Ministry / February 18

The Conejo Hiking Trails Ministry focuses on fun, faith, fitness, friendship, and fellowship while enjoying the beautiful gifts that God has given us in the areas that surround us. The next hike, a 3-mile hike, will be at Charmlee Wilderness Park. Meet at 2577 Encinal Canyon Road in Malibu at 8:30am to begin the hike on Saturday. For more information please contact Lynn B. at (805) 273-4565, or Jon B. at (805) 284-1111. See you on the trail!

Vision Sunday / February 19

Three 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?"

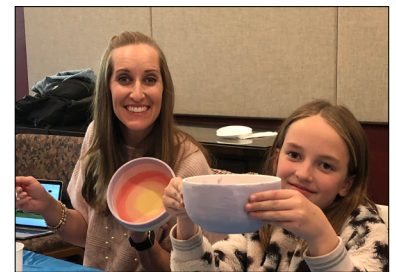
As part of this process, you are invited to participate in a congregational input session on Sunday, February 19, from noon to 4pm. This time will include lunch and provide an opportunity for the congregation to participate in this process of envisioning our shared future. We need for all of those who plan to attend to [sign up here for the lunch](#) which will be provided. Please make plans to come join us for this important time of reflecting, visioning, and prayer. In addition, [please sign up here for childcare](#) if you will need it during the meeting. Contact John Downey, the vision team chair, if you have further questions.

Monday Guys' Group / February 20

The Monday Guys' Group begins a new study on February 20. The books needed for this study will be *Radical* by David Platt and *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans. The group meets weekly at the church building from 6:00-7:30pm.

Bowls of Hope Painting Party / February 26

Come join us for our annual Bowls of Hope Painting Party! The Bowl Painting Party is scheduled for 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. There is a \$30 per bowl charge to help cover the costs of supplies. Sign up now at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COD45AFA82AA6F8C61-bowls>, as there are limited seats available. Questions? Contact Stu Warford or Kellie Van Atta.



Bridal Shower for Valerie Patenaude / March 11

Ladies, please mark your calendars and plan to join us for a bridal shower honoring Valerie Patenaude on **Saturday, March 11**, at 2pm at the home of Paula Marrs. Valerie is engaged to Travis Hanna; they are planning to be married on May 20.

Current Small Groups

We have small groups that meet 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.

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.

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. 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!

Mexico Mission Trip RSVP / February 26

Calling all those interested in joining our 2023 Mexico mission trip team! It's that time of year again when we put our mission team together and begin planning for our summer mission trip. Once again, we have partnered with Amor ministries to build a home for a family in need. Pastors



in Mexico, along with Amor partners, work regularly to reach out to families in need and provide a new home. This enables families to stay together and allows God's love can be shared in a tangible way. Our goal is to be used by God to bless a family with our resources and hard labor. The dates of the 2023 Mexico mission trip are June 25-30. This trip is for anyone in the congregation currently in 8th grade and up. Older adults and young adults that have graduated are welcome to come back and serve. RSVP with Travis by Sunday, February 26 and begin the passport process if you don't already have a valid passport. [Click here](#) for more information on mission team expectations and mission team meeting dates. Looking forward to another great trip!

Lip Sync Fellowship Fundraiser / March 12

It's time to start searching for your songs to lip sync to on Sunday, March 12 at 6pm. This event is for both young and old who are willing to set their pride aside, have a little fun, and show off their lip sync talent. Those participating can sign up as individuals or as a group. You may also create a pre-recorded video of your lip sync to be reviewed before the fundraiser. This is a great event full of fun for the whole family and helps us raise funds for our summer Mexico mission trip. Please consider getting involved, and please at least come support us as we raise money for our trip. Sign-ups and song information should be turned in by Friday, March 10.

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. Today is our last day to make valentines on the playground patio (or classroom if it is raining) after the worship service today. 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

February 5 Attendance

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| On-Site Service | 161 |
| Online Viewing | 81 |

February 5 Giving

Unavailable

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Weekly Giving Average | Unavailable |
| Weekly Giving Budget | \$14,116 |
| Be the Blessing Giving (To Date) | \$1,644,537 |
| Property Settlement | \$225,000 |

CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

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CHURCH

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