

CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

BE *the* BLESSING

February 19, 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 and Virtual Worship Service via YouTube
- 12:00pm Vision Workshop
- 6:00pm Combined YG Pod

Upcoming Events

- Feb 20 Women's Bible Study
- Feb 20 Monday Guys' Group
- Feb 22 Flourishing Families Group
- Feb 22 Life Group at the Reynolds
- Feb 23 Life Group at the Fosters
- Feb 23 Conejo Tutoring
- Feb 24-26 HS Winter Retreat
- Feb 26 Start of 40-Day Spiritual Adventure
- Feb 26 Crafty Women Group
- Feb 26 RSVP Mission to Mexico
- Feb 26 Bowls of Hope Painting Party

Birthdays This Week

- | | |
|--------------------|------|
| Reese Odenath | 2/20 |
| Jordan Downey | 2/22 |
| Jake Johnson | 2/22 |
| Leslie Stephens | 2/22 |
| Shaya Baird | 2/23 |
| Chris Chesnutt | 2/23 |
| Jacqueline Dillion | 2/23 |
| Claudia de Bruyn | 2/24 |
| Brittany Joyner | 2/24 |
| Matt Joyner | 2/24 |
| Daniel Overton | 2/25 |
| Guy Patenaude | 2/26 |
| Tim Rockey | 2/26 |
| Jack Williamson | 2/26 |

Vision Sunday!

Andy Wall

Every so often, it's helpful to take a step back from the day-to-day flow of life, duties, and obligations in order to reflect on end goals, big picture realities, and changing circumstances. Such times of reflection provide the opportunity to evaluate trajectories, assess effectiveness, and make mid-course corrections. This is true for personal reflections about one's own life, which I like to do around New Year's and early January. It's also true for organizations, communities, and churches.

This Sunday is Vision Sunday, a day in which our whole congregation is invited to share in a process of prayerful reflection as we consider our future together. This, of course, is part of a visioning process our elders introduced in January, when they commissioned a team of 11 church members representing a cross section of our congregation 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?" 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.

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

A question that several have asked related to this visioning process is, "Why are we thinking so far ahead? Twenty years is a long way into the future and it's impossible to anticipate all the twists and turns to come. Plus, who knows where I'll be in 20 years?" These are fair questions. My sense is that we're not trying to answer the "How" question but the "What" question. "How" wrestles with short-term tactics and quick-response solutions to ever-changing circumstances. "What" is about durable commitments and long-term strategies, about "What kind of church does God want us to be 20 years from now?"

As we come out of several years of the pandemic and fully re-engage with our community, now does feel like an opportune time to gather and reflect as a church family on our shared future. May God bless and guide us as we engage together in this process.

What's Happening at Conejo



Sermon Series: Think on These Things

This is the final week of a 3-part series centered around Paul's exhortation in Philippians 4:8-9. This week's focus will fall on the last three of Paul's commendations of virtues: "...whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things." In case we think that Paul is teaching only about the thoughts we keep in our heads, he concludes this section with a call to action: "Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me..." Paul understands that our thoughts feed our actions and connects how important it is for our musings and contemplations to produce Christ-like behavior in our daily living.

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 19 Habakkuk Up Close - Part 3 (Rick Marrs)

In the north 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 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>.

Monday Guys' Group / February 20

The Monday Guys' Group begins a new study on February 20. The next book needed for this group study will be *Radical* by David Platt. The group meets weekly at the church building at 6:30pm. Mike R. has copies of the book for group members.

Crafty Women / February 26

CVCC women are invited to spend time together on Sunday, February 26 from 1 to 6pm, making progress on their crafts or hobbies while deepening friendships with other women from the congregation. Please contact Rene if you plan to come.

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.

Bowls of Hope Painting Party / February 26

Come join us for our annual Bowls of Hope Painting Party! It will be held on 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. Questions? Contact Stu Warford or Kellie Van Atta.



Baptism Class Begins March 5

For many years, we've offered a baptism class during the season of Lent to help both those who are interested in learning more about baptism as well as those who are preparing to be baptized. Though the pandemic has prevented us from offering this class the last couple of years, we'd like to offer a 3-week class starting Sunday, March 5 in the south overflow room. Please let Andy Wall know if you or your child is interested in taking part in this class.

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 and Travis would appreciate monetary gifts made through their wedding website at thehannawedding.com or gift cards to Amazon, Target, or Macy's.



Thank you from Jerry, Kay, and Jeré

To our Conejo Valley church family –

We are so very humbled and grateful for the outpouring of support, love, and prayers for Joella and her family over the past 5 years. Your encouragement of her made all the difference as she faced difficult surgeries or treatments, endured challenging side effects and then ultimately turned her face to heaven as she anticipated her final journey home. When we were unable to be with her physically, we were comforted by the knowledge that she was being cared for so thoroughly by her church family. Witnessing the body of Christ at work through service and sacrifice, using your gifts so extravagantly and selflessly is truly beautiful. We cherish the friendships we have made and hope to be able to fellowship with you all again.

With love and gratitude, Jeré Lamberth, Jerry and Kay Hayes

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. This coming 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 today! 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 to provide a new home so that families can stay together and 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 who 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!

Last Week's StrengthsFinder Workshop

Thanks to all who participated in last week's Saturday morning workshop. We look forward to working together as a youth team which better understands one another's strengths.



Lip Sync Fellowship Fundraiser / March 12

It's time to start searching for your songs to lip sync 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 come support us as we raise money for the trip. Sign-ups and song information should be turned in by Friday, March 10. [Sign up here](#) to perform.

YG Event Calendars Available

[Winter 2023 Calendar](#)

[Spring 2023 Calendar](#)

Children's Ministry

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.

Valentines for Seniors

Thank you, Conejo children, for leading our church in making such beautiful and encouraging Valentines for seniors in our community. Your love for others is shining in each and every card!



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 12 Attendance

On-Site Service	155
Online Viewing	47

February 5 Giving

\$12,607

February 12 Giving

\$6,707

Weekly Giving Average \$16,258

Weekly Giving Budget \$14,116

Be the Blessing Giving (To Date) \$1,645,379

Property Settlement \$225,000

CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

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