



## CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

# BE *the* BLESSING

April 23, 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
- 1:00pm Mexico Mission Team Meeting
- 2:00pm Sunday Afternoon Hoops
- 2:00pm Bridal Shower for Jessica Wall
- 5:00pm Devo and Worship at the Moores' home

### Upcoming Events

- Apr 24 Women's Bible Study
- Apr 24 Monday Guys' Group
- Apr 26 Flourishing Families Group
- Apr 26 Life Group at the Reynolds
- Apr 27 Life Group at the Fosters
- Apr 27 Conejo Tutoring
- Apr 30 Youth-Led Service
- May 2-5 Harbor / Pepperdine Bible Lectures
- May 7 Conejo 50th Anniversary Celebration

### Birthdays This Week

- John Downey 4/23
- Nick Zola 4/24
- Tadd Wooton 4/25
- Clark Zola 4/25
- Bob Falletta 4/30

## Re-enchanting the Disenchanted

Andy Wall

Allow me to paint in broad brushstrokes. The world in which we live, the modern West, is a "disenchanted" world in which many people have come to view the world in a mechanized way. Science is seen by many as being able to explain any and all phenomena, from earthquakes and lightning to altruism and human love (brain chemicals in motion). Religion is frequently viewed as passé, a vestige of a more superstitious or less sophisticated time, something that our world has essentially "outgrown."

A disenchanted outlook tends to shut things down, viewing the universe as a closed system of inputs and outflows. There is an understandable order to the world, and whatever seems inexplicable is believed to be the result of ignorance, not mystery. Religion, whose root meaning is "to bind together," is no longer viewed as capable of providing a coherent understanding of life.

But here's something interesting. No matter how disenchanted the world grows, people still yearn for a deeper understanding of life's overarching meaning. As humans, we are endlessly fascinated by what is mysterious and unknowable. Consider how the whole "Star Wars" franchise combines high-tech science-fiction with the mysterious power of the Force. Or how the incredibly popular "Harry Potter" series combines a story of friendship, the struggle between good and evil, and magic. Even as our part of the world trends secular, we humans never outgrow our need for meaning, purpose, and connectedness.

*As believers living in an age of disenchantment, the story of Scripture offers us an enchanting alternative. Follow the narrative arc from creation, to the call of Abraham, to the Exodus, to Israel's monarchy, to the Exile, into the New Testament story of Jesus' birth, life, ministry, death, and resurrection, and finally to the establishment and expansion of the early church. If we learn anything from this biblical journey, I would say that it's a vital sense of enchantment. By this I mean that we should be radically open to God's surprising and ongoing work in the world, to fresh inbreakings of God's Spirit in human history, to God doing something new or fresh among us and within us.*

In the story of Scripture, God is always doing something fresh, something unexpected, something surprising. In our world of disenchantment, we need to cultivate and practice a faith that is open to the God who is not done with transforming the creation. We need to practice living in a dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ, who is very much alive in the New Creation. We need to be receptive to God's Spirit who moves in unexpected and mysterious ways. May we walk with Christ as believers who are enchanted by God's surprising story of grace, reconciliation, and redemption.

# What's Happening at Conejo

## Bridal Shower for Jessica Wall / Today at 2pm

Ladies, please join us today at the home of Paula Marrs at 2pm for a bridal shower honoring Jessica Wall and Richard Smith. The couple's [registry](#) lists items at Target, Amazon, and Pottery Barn. Please join us and celebrate this wonderful time in the life of our dear Jessica as she prepares to marry the love of her life.



## Sermon Series: Making Room for Wonder

Many go through life seeing the world in flat, two-dimensional terms. As grown-ups, we tend to do this far more than kids. In this week's message, I'd like for us to reflect on resisting the loss of awe and wonder of our faith the longer we live. Author Richard Beck uses the language of disenchantment for what has happened as our modern world has lost its sense of the supernatural. In our day, there are fewer people who pay serious attention to God as a living, vital presence in their lives. In such a world, I want us to consider how faith is a way of seeing and of seeking that looks deeper than cells and atoms (though God is surely their creator too!) in order to ask why we are here and what our purpose is.

## Adult Bible Classes

We're wrapping up an eight-week class in the north overflow room based on the book *Counterfeit Gods* by Tim Keller. This class, led by Rick Furino, is exploring what the Bible reveals about our faith and hearts' desires. Through scripture, biblical examples, group and individual exercises, each of us will come face-to-face with our individual counterfeit god, and learn to confront and turn from it.

In the auditorium, we are continuing our detailed Scripture studies series 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. Kindy DeLong is leading our current series focusing on 2 Thessalonians.

## Fifth Commandment / April 25



The fifth commandment tells us to "Honor your father and mother." How do we do that in our adult lives as our parents age, face health challenges, and live hundreds or even thousands

of miles away? Join us this Tuesday at 7pm as we share our current challenges and concerns regarding our aging parents and spend time praying for wisdom, direction, and comfort for those we love. [Zoom Meeting Link](#).

## MITS Update Class / April 30

On Sunday, April 30, we'll have a special combined auditorium class in which Francis Mbuvi, director of the Made in the Streets (MITS) ministry in Nairobi, Kenya, will be sharing an update on this important ministry. Our congregation has supported MITS for many years and we're grateful for this opportunity to hear from Mbuvi, our beloved friend and brother in the Lord.

## Harbor / 80th Annual Pepperdine Bible Lectures

May 2-5 are the dates for this year's Harbor, in which six keynote speakers and over 100 workshop facilitators and class teachers (including 8 Conejo Church members) will explore the theme of "God Loves Forever." Director Mike Cope offers this invitation: "Could anything be more important for the church now as it seeks to recapture its true identity in a changing world than to know that we are the beloved of God?...Please join us May 2-5 as we together contemplate the overwhelming love of God—surrounded by the beauty of mountains and ocean and by the warmth of Christian friends."

## Conejo 50th Anniversary Celebration / May 7

Please mark your calendars for a very special Sunday on May 7, when we celebrate our congregation's 50th year of ministry in the Conejo Valley! This is a wonderful opportunity for us to give praise for God's care, provision, and blessing of this congregation through the years. Rick and Paula Marrs will be sharing memories of our congregational story while also reflecting on its significance going forward. After the worship service, we'll share in a luncheon together—dust off those beloved recipes of yesteryear and let's have an old-fashioned potluck, complete with such timeless classics as crushed potato chip chicken and rice casserole, green bean dish with crispy onions, and banana pudding with Nilla Wafers. Please help us spread the word by inviting former Conejo members you're still in touch with and posting the news on social media. [Click for CVCC 50th flyer](#).



## Church of Christ Foundation Scholarships

Will you be attending a university or college affiliated with the Churches of Christ in the Fall of 2023? If so, we invite you to apply for a scholarship from the Church of Christ Foundation by visiting [www.churchofchristfoundation.com](http://www.churchofchristfoundation.com). Scholarships range from \$1,500 to \$3,000 and can generally be renewed for up to four years. Applications are due by April 30, 2023.

## Spring Sycamore to the Sea Hike / May 20

Save the date! For those of you who remember the Hike and Bike from a decade ago, you won't want to miss next month's hike which begins in Newbury Park and ends in Malibu. In August, this hike was beautiful, but very hot and dry. Following the wet winter, we are hopeful to see beautiful green hills and babbling brooks. We'd love to invite more teens, families, and young professionals to join us on this 8 mile (virtually all downhill) hike which will end with a picnic on the beach.

# High School + Middle School

## Youth Group Bible Class

Throughout the month of April YG is studying a series called "Plot Twist." [Click here](#) to learn more about meeting times and this month's theme. Please help our students participate, learn, grow, and encourage one another by taking part in our weekly times together. The group gathers at 9am each Sunday.

## Mexico Mission Team Meeting / Today at 1pm

Today is our second 2023 Mission Trip Team Meeting. All Mission Team members need to attend the meeting at 1pm. The dates of the 2023 Mexico mission trip are June 25-30. Please remember to begin the process of obtaining your passport if you don't already have one. This year's mission trip theme is "Strength in the Building." There is strength in the building of a house as we labor to complete the task, as we work together, as we look to the interests of others, as we humble ourselves with hard work. We get to be used by God as he builds more than just a house for a family in Mexico. As a part of God's family, we are strengthened as we work to build God's house and become more like Christ in our love and service to the world. [Click here](#) for more information on mission-team expectations and meeting dates.

## Dinner, Worship, and Devotional / Today at 5pm

Once a month, the middle school and high school groups combine for a worship and devo night at various locations. They will gather from 5-7pm on Sunday, April 23 at the home of Amy & Travis Moore (12904 Sleepy Wind St. Moorpark). Dessert and drinks will be provided by the Moores, but those attending should bring a dinner item to share with the group. Looking forward to another night of worshipping together!

## Youth-Led Service / April 30

Next Sunday, April 30, members of the youth group will plan and lead our worship service. Come. Worship God. Be encouraged by our teens. Offer encouragement to our teens.

After the service, the In-N-Out truck will be provide lunch for the congregation. This is an opportunity for us to eat a meal together as a church family, reconnect with friends, deepen friendships, and welcome people who are in town early for Harbor / Pepperdine Bible Lectures. Also, we hope that you will invite your friends who may not regularly come to CVCC.

Teens, please let Travis know if there are specific parts of the service that you'd like to help out with.

## Summer Camps: Early-Bird Registration...Now

Camp can be a profound spiritual experience for our kids. If you desire for your child to grow closer to God, camp is one of the greatest assets we have in helping that become a reality. Websites for each camp are listed for each camp below so that you can learnmore about these great opportunities.

## SoCal Teen Camp 2023 "Collide"

Teen Camp, *July 9-15*, is for students who have finished 8th-12th grades before camp. You can see more info about [Teen Camp](#) and complete the [early-bird registration](#) by connecting to the links. *Early-bird prices end May 1, so please register now.*

## King's Kamp 2023 "Saddle Up"

King's Kamp, *July 23-29*, is for students who have finished 3rd-7th grades before camp. To learn more, please check out the [King's Kamp website](#). Early-bird registration is open through May 1 and forms are accessible on the website.

# 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.

## Memory Verse

But I trust in your faithful love.  
My heart is filled with joy because you save me.  
I will sing to the Lord.  
He has been so good to me.

**Psalm 13:5-6**

## Current Children's Class Offerings

### Bible Classes 9-10am

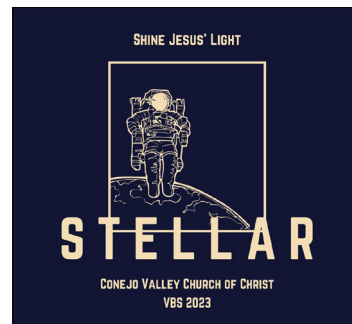
2s/3s - Leslie S., Sarah G.  
Age 4-5th grade - Paula M., Patti F.

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

Nursery - Katie C., Kelsey B., Harmony H.  
2s/3s - Shaya B., Sarah G., Amy M., Kari O, Tami W.  
Age 4-5th grade - Mark D., Dwayne H., Penny W., and Amber J.

## Vacation Bible School 2023 / Volunteers Needed

Please save the date for VBS 2023. The theme this year is "Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light." Mark your calendars for your kids and for you. It's going to be out of this world! If you would like to help with VBS this year, please fill out the form at [tinyurl.com/stellarhelp](http://tinyurl.com/stellarhelp) to let Haylie know of your interest.



# Prayer Corner

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

## PRAISES

**PREGNANCY: Holly Chambers** (May)  
**BIRTHS: Martin Donald Joseph Sanders**, son of Brian and Molly Sanders and grandson of **Ed and Sheryl Sanders** was born on Friday morning, April 21  
**NEW MEMBER: Kim Milanovich**

## THOSE GRIEVING

**Susie Lindley** – loss of husband, Jim Lindley  
**Dena, Elissa, Luke McAllister** (former members) – loss of husband and father, Ted  
**Rene Heard** – loss of mother, Joan Nicholas  
**Jacob, Ella, Kate, Tess Michael** – loss of wife and mother, Joella  
**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

**Dede Koldyke** (cousin of Steve Scott) – cancer has returned  
**Charlie Smith** (brother-in-law of the Arganos) – recovering from recent surgery for colon cancer; undergoing chemo  
**Cindy Hall** (cousin of Matt Joyner) – stage IV metastasized breast cancer  
**Lucia Campbell** (mother of Guy Patenaude) – 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

**Mary Goodner** (aunt of Chris Heard) – in ICU following stroke  
**Tammy Roby** (mother of Bonnie Rockey) – recovering from hand surgery  
**Jack Horn** (coworker of Robert Charles) – lineman seriously injured by high voltage wire at

work

**Judy Tapper** – recovery from most recent abdominal surgery  
**Sharon Box** (mother of Amy Moore) – undergoing tests to determine cause of confusion  
**Joe Reynolds** (father of Brittany Joyner) – heart failure  
**Kathy Williams** (mother of Lynn Burke) – recovering from recent surgeries for brain bleed  
**Calvin Hill** (friend of Haylie Douglas) – hospitalized following car accident; severely burned, many complications  
**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** (granddaughter of Mark and Suzanne Scarberry) – prayers for health, comfort, peace, and caregiving 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** – 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; transitioning 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

April 16 Attendance		April 16 Giving	
On-Site Service	116	Weekly Giving Average	\$14,348
Online Viewing	69	Weekly Giving Budget	\$14,406
		Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)	\$1,647,463
		Property Settlement	\$225,000

## CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

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## CHURCH

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[haylie@conejochurch.org](mailto:haylie@conejochurch.org)  
 R&R Wednesdays

### Rene Heard

Worship & Media Manager  
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 R&R Tuesdays

### Kathia King

Office Manager  
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 R&R Thursdays & Fridays

### Travis Moore

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### Andy Wall

Preaching Minister  
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 R&R Fridays

### Jack Williamson

Spiritual Formation Min.  
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[jack@conejochurch.org](mailto: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)