



# BE *the* BLESSING

CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 14, 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
- 6:00pm Combined Youth Group Meeting at CVCC building

### Upcoming Events

- May 15 Women's Bible Study
- May 17 Flourishing Families
- May 18 Life Group at the Fosters'
- May 19 Moms Better Together
- May 20 Hiking Ministry "Sycamore to the Sea"
- May 29 Memorial Day Picnic
- Jun 4 Promotion Sunday
- Jun 11 Senior Celebration Sunday
- Jun 11 Baby Shower for Brendin and Kaitlyn
- Jun 19-22 Vacation Bible School
- Jun 25-30 Mexico Mission Trip

### Birthdays This Week

- Justus Baird 5/15
- Seth Hays 5/17
- Elaine Overton 5/18

## Looking Out for Mom's Needs

*Andy Wall*

In a survey conducted by Mothers of Preschoolers, a thousand moms were asked what they need the most. Some of their needs included:

- Adult conversation.
- To know that I'm normal.
- Time off.
- To know that I am a good mother.
- Time with my husband.
- Time with God.
- A dishwasher that loads itself.
- Support.
- Someone who understands what I feel.
- Encouragement.
- To know that being a mother is important.

This survey turned up a number of recurring hungers many moms share:

- **Significance:** sometimes I wonder if mothering matters.
- **Growth:** sometimes I long to develop who I am.
- **Intimacy:** sometimes I need to be understood.
- **Help:** sometimes I need to share the load.
- **Recreation:** sometimes I need a break.

I share this to remind us that moms have needs too. Too often, the needs and hungers of moms are the last to be considered. One of the best gifts we could give to a mom is to look at the list above and pick one need we could meet. Could we affirm moms more? Could we volunteer to do the shopping or laundry more often? Could we arrange the babysitting and take mom out for a date? Could we make it a regular practice to check in with mom, giving her the opportunity to vent frustrations and share joys? Could we provide moms with a night to take a class, go out with the girls, participate in Moms Better Together (our next one is this coming Friday) or just "chill?"

Paul once wrote, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2). May we remember, today and often, that among others, the phrase "one another" includes our moms.

# What's Happening at Conejo

## Conejo 50th Anniversary Celebration Thank You!

Thank you to all who joined us to celebrate our congregation's 50th year of ministry in the Conejo Valley! We're grateful for all who participated in our worship service, helping us remember those who went before us. A special thanks to Paula and Rick Marrs for reminding us of how God has worked through Conejo for 50 years while also inviting us to follow God's lead into our shared future. Thank you also to Joy Rhoades, who oversaw the luncheon, as well as all who outdid themselves with the wonderful potluck dishes!

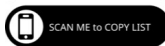


## Sermon: O Love that Will Not Let Me Go!

God is often described as a father in Scripture, and that image/metaphor is good, useful, and powerful. Even so, God is sometimes described as a mother, as well (e.g. a mother eagle in Deuteronomy, a woman searching for a coin in Luke, a nursing mother in Isaiah). In Hosea 11, God reflects on all the devastation wrought by Israel, all the heartache God has endured in relationship to them. In the midst of (justified) righteous indignation against them, God remembers what it was like to teach little Israel to walk just like a mother would, caring for Israel as a helpless unaware baby, and God, with a mother's love, asks, "How can I give up on you?" We learn that God loves so deeply that he cannot let his people go, that he will fight to keep them. On a day that honors mothers, it's worth honoring the God who mothers all God's children so well.

## Medical Hope Chest for Ghana / Today

Conejo is sponsoring five mobile medical clinics each year to remote villages in northern Ghana through the Yendi Church of Christ Medical Clinic as part of their community outreach and church planting efforts. Michael Williams and Mark Davis are traveling there on May 16 and will take basic medical supplies for the clinic. Please help us fill two "hope chests" by this Sunday, May 14. There's a list of needed supplies in the chests in the church foyer or you can [click this link](#) or scan the QR code. Please contact Mark Davis at (310) 892-9986 if you have any questions.



## Prayer Class

Rodney Smithers is leading a class titled, *Developing a Closer Relationship with God through Prayer*. This discussion-oriented class is taking place in the overflow classroom. Remaining classes include:

- May 14 – The Language of Prayer
- May 21 – Prayer Dilemmas
- May 28 – The Practice of Prayer

## Scripture Up Close Class / Ruth Mini-Series

In the auditorium, we are continuing our 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. Last week, Rick Marrs began a three-week study of the book of Ruth.

## Moms Better Together / May 19

Moms of all ages are invited and encouraged to be a part of Moms Better Together. The next meeting has been scheduled for Friday, May 19, from 5:45 to 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.

## Spring Sycamore to the Sea Hike / May 20

This month's hike will be the Sycamore to the Sea Hike. It will begin at 4121 Portrero Road in Newbury Park at 8:30am on May 20. We will meet at the trailhead at the Rancho Sierra Vista / Satwiwa parking lot. Jack plans to drive a church van to the beach so that many of the hikers can ride back together to the trailhead. People who are interested in riding the church van need to RSVP by Thursday, May 18. An email with the sign-up link will be sent soon. Bring your lunch for a picnic at the beach after the hike, water for the 8-mile walk, and sunscreen.

## Baby Shower for Brendin and Kaitlyn / June 11

There will be a baby shower for Brendin & Kaitlyn on Sunday, June 11, 1-4pm at the home of Joy and David Rhoades, 6035 Kerrmoor Drive, Westlake Village. This is co-ed and a come and go event. Click the [Baby Gift Registry](#) to see the items that Brendin and Kaitlyn have selected for their coming baby.

## Annual Pismo Beach Trip, July 5-8, 2023

For more than 20 years, a group from our church has enjoyed an annual trip to Pismo Beach where we camp right on the beach (or some stay at a local hotel) and spend time visiting around the campfire, playing on the beach, and riding in the dunes. It's a very casual outing, and it's fine to come up for the day or bring your own tent or trailer and stay the whole time. For details and how to make your required online reservation at Pismo Beach, please contact Mark Davis at (310) 892-9986 or [mrkwdvs@gmail.com](mailto:mrkwdvs@gmail.com).

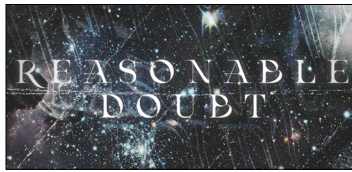


# High School + Middle School

## Youth Group Bible Class

Throughout the month of May YG is studying a series called "Reasonable Doubt."

[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 and 6pm each Sunday.



of Seth and Jolyn Hays (1733 Classic Rose Ct. Westlake Village, CA). Dinner will be provided by the Hayses. Swimming is also available, so those who want some pool time should bring their swimsuits and a towel. Looking forward to another night of worshipping together!

## Summer Camps: Registration Open

It's time to sign up for summer camps! Camp can be a profound spiritual experience for our kids and is a place in which we continue to see God work in powerful ways in our kids' lives.

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. On-time prices end on June 4, so please register now!



## Mexico Mission Team Meeting / May 21



Sunday, May 21, is our third 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 obtain your passport if you don't already have one. This year's mission trip theme is

"Strength in the Building." [Click here](#) for more information on mission-team expectations and mission-team meeting dates. Looking forward to another great trip!

## Dinner, Worship, and Student Devotional / May 21

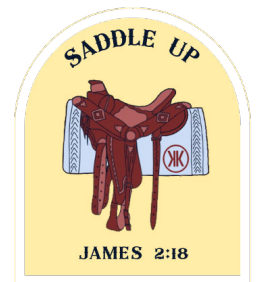
Once a month, the middle school and high school groups combine for a worship and devo night at various locations. They will gather from 5-7pm on Sunday, May 21 at the home

## 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 registration by connecting to the links on the website.

## 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](#) and register there.



# Children's Ministry

## Sign In, Please!

Parents, please be sure to sign in your kiddos for Bible class and worship time. 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., 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.

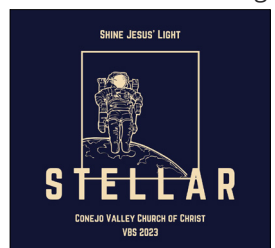
## Memory Verse

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

## 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 June 19 through June 22. 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. We encourage teens and adults to join the fun for our kids!



# Prayer Corner

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

## PRAISES

**PREGNANCIES:** **Holly Chambers** (May), **Morgan Williamson** (July), **Kaitlyn Williamson** (September)

**BIRTHS:** **Martin Donald Joseph Sanders**, son of Brian and Molly Sanders and grandson of **Ed and Sheryl Sanders** was born on April 21

For a wonderful **50th anniversary celebration** of our Conejo Church family

## THOSE GRIEVING

**Susie Lindley** – loss of husband, Jim Lindley

**Dena, Elissa, Luke McAllister** – 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

**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

**Lucinda Hodges** (sister-in-law of Darlene Rivas) – multiple myeloma and cardiac amyloidosis

**Kurt Krebs** (friend of Ed and Sheryl Sanders) – multiple myeloma

**Justice Howard** (cousin of Yashica Budde) – thyroid cancer

## VARIOUS CONCERNS

**Jerry Roby** (grandfather of Bonnie Rockey; father of Brett Roby) – in hospital with heart issues

**Mary Goodner** (aunt of Chris Heard) – recovering at home from recent stroke

**Tammy Roby** (mother of Bonnie Rockey) – recovering from hand surgery

**Jack Horn** (coworker of Robert Charles) – lineman seriously injured by high voltage wire

**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

**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

May 7 Attendance	
On-Site Service	168
Online Viewing	104

May 7 Giving		\$11,405
Weekly Giving Average		\$13,828
Weekly Giving Budget		\$14,405
Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)		\$1,648,605
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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