



BE *the* BLESSING

CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 20, 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 Service via YouTube
- 2:00pm Sunday Afternoon Hoops

Upcoming Events

- Aug 20 Student / Teacher Blessing
- Sep 3 Fall Kickoff Sunday and Breakfast
- Sep 10 YG Back to School Bash
- Sep 15-17 HS Pismo Retreat

Birthdays This Week

Judy Tapper	8/20
Haylie Douglas	8/21
John Stephens	8/21
Jon Burke	8/25
Sonia Smithers	8/25

It's Your Turn

Andy Wall

Amazing things, these modern gadgets. Take, for instance, the Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) enabled apps that come preloaded on most smartphones. You enter your destination address by voice or on the touch-screen, then simply follow the on-screen images and turn-by-turn voice instructions as they guide you on your way. If you overshoot your destination, or make a wrong turn en route, no problem. The system will “think” for a bit, then begin to provide recalibrated directions based upon your current location, all without snarky comments reminding you that if you had simply listened to the directions, you wouldn't be in your present predicament. I'm pretty sure these navigation apps are destined to save more than a few marriages.

Consider how in the grand story of Scripture something similar is at work. Time and again, God presents his people with a way in which to walk, a path toward godliness. Though people have the freedom to walk on that good path, they often choose to go their own way. Fortunately, when people stray from God's path, God doesn't say, "Well, that's it for you. You're on your own now. Good luck getting to where you're going now." Instead, God shows a remarkable and creative patience in recalibrating and saying, in essence, "OK. You have not chosen the easiest way to get to where you need to go. But now that we're here, this is how you can get home."

One important Biblical word for this recalibrated journey back to God is “repentance.” This word conveys the idea of turning or returning, as in a rebellious people returning to serve their rightful king or an unfaithful spouse returning to her marriage. More than a simple change of mind, such biblical turning includes turning away from willful sin and intentionally turning toward righteousness. Like the GPS-guided driver, repentant believers are not simply ceasing to move in the wrong direction but are also purposefully moving toward a specific destination. Such a return can include the reorientation of one's whole life and the adoption of a new way of treating others.

Anne Lamott relates a story that her minister shared: “When she was about seven, her best friend got lost one day. The little girl ran up and down the streets of the big town where they lived, but she couldn't find a single landmark. She was very frightened. Finally, a policeman stopped to help her. He put her in the passenger seat of his car, and they drove around until she finally saw her church. She pointed it out to the policeman, and then she told him firmly, “You could let me out now. This is my church, and I can always find my way home from here.”

God's grace is like this. There is no place in life to which you could travel which would cause God to say, “You can't get there from here.” Granted, God's GPS may indicate that you have a long way to go to get home but for all who are willing to turn and repent, God is always willing to recalibrate. May God ever grant us ears that listen to divine directions and hearts that are quick to turn when we get off course.

What's Happening At Conejo



Summer Sermon Series: "Living the Questions of Faith"

Today, Conejo's own Connie Horton is preaching, sharing a message titled "Do You Want to Be Well?" from John 5.

"Do you want to be well?" This question that Jesus asks the man who had been ill for 38 years is one that we might do well to ask ourselves. More importantly, we want to not miss what this story shows about the nature of Jesus and remember that John tells us the reason he wrote about miracles like this is so that "we might believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing we may have life in his name."

Summer Adult Education Class

Our summer auditorium class is titled, "Sunday Morning Book Club." In this class, a variety of people will be sharing about a favorite book they've read (fiction or nonfiction) that has impacted, blessed, challenged, or deepened their faith. This week, Mark Scarberry will be reflecting on C.S. Lewis's *Screwtape Letters* and John Milton's *Paradise Lost*. If you're interested in leading one of these summer classes, please contact Andy Wall.

Calling Young Adults

If you are a high school graduate who is off to college, a college student who is at Pepperdine or in the Conejo Valley and attending CVCC, or a college grad living here in the area and attending CVCC, we want to bless you! Our ADOPT-A-YOUNG-ADULT program is for you. Please click [this link](#) or use the QR code to show your interest and we will connect you with a Conejo member or family!



What will this entail? Very little from you. Just fill out the form with your info, and someone will get in touch. You may receive periodic encouragement in the form of texts, cards, care packages, gift cards, or other signs that someone is thinking of and praying for your wellbeing. That's it! We are so glad to have you at Conejo.

Sunday Morning Coffee and Donuts

Thank you, Bob and Kay Falletta, for delivering donuts for several weeks while David Green was out of town. Welcome back, David. We appreciate the weekly service (preparing coffee, picking up donuts, cleaning up after worship service) that you provide for the church. Thank you!

Fifth Commandment / August 29

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 on Tuesday, August 29 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](#).

Fall Kickoff Sunday / September 3

Our Fall Kickoff Sunday is slated for September 3. Our plan is to share in a backyard potluck breakfast and fellowship time during our Bible class hour.



On that day, the academic-year praise team will resume and small group ministries will be highlighted. Please contact Andy Wall and/or the church office if you are planning to have a small group (weekly or monthly) for the coming year.

Attendance and Giving

Due to summer travels of staff members, the details for attendance and contributions for the past few weeks were not able to be provided. Below, is the update of these details:

July 30, 2023

In-Person at Bldg:	129
Online Viewing:	168
Contribution:	\$11,940
2023 Weekly Average:	\$12,161
Be the Blessing:	\$1,650,989

August 6, 2023

In-Person at Bldg:	109
Online Viewing:	144
Contribution:	\$13,219
2023 Weekly Average:	\$12,194
Be the Blessing:	\$1,651,089

Thank you for your understanding as the ministers and staff had a time of rest and refreshment for the journey.

Service and Recreation Summer 2023



High School + Middle School

Youth Group Bible Classes

Please help our students participate, learn, grow, and encourage one another by taking part in our weekly bible classes each Sunday at 9am. This week, Nico Heard will be teaching the class. Please come!

Back-to-School Bash / September 10

On Sunday, September 10, all members of the youth group are invited to the home of Seth and Jolyn Hays to have an afternoon of fun together as the new school year begins. This event will run from 3-6pm at 1733 Classic Rose Court in WLV.

Anchor Meet Up

The middle school and high school guys recently had an outing with Mark Davis on the lake.



Family and Friends Surf Lesson

On Saturday, August 12, many CVCC members and friends gathered at Malibu Makos for surf lessons. Thank you to all who came out to enjoy the beautiful day, have fun in the ocean, and build deeper friendships with one another!



High School Pismo Retreat / September 15-17

On the weekend of September 15-17, the high school group will head to Pismo Beach for their annual retreat. The cost for the retreat is \$90 per person. This offsets housing, transportation, and food costs for the weekend. RSVP no later than Sunday, September 3, so that those planning will have time to prepare.

Children's Ministry

Sign In, Please!

Parents, please remember to sign your children in for Bible class and worship! There are green sign-in sheets in the foyer on the way back to the Children's Ministry area.

Current Children's Class Offerings

Bible Classes 9-10am

2s/3s/4s - Haylie Douglas, Sarah Green

Elementary - Staci Daringer

Worship Classes are available for children during the sermon.

Nursery - _____

2s/3s/4s - Rosie Patenaude, Sarah Green

Elementary - Mark Davis

Updated Roster Information

Parents - Please fill out this [Google form \(https://forms.gle/S6yojvVZ2K6y8Y9T9\)](https://forms.gle/S6yojvVZ2K6y8Y9T9) so we have updated and accurate information on all of our children! Thank you!

Rattlesnake Awareness

Just a reminder to our parents and children. As the weather gets warmer, there are snakes on the property from time to time. **Parents, please be sure that children stay out of the flowerbeds and plant areas between the upper and lower parking lots.**

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."
Psalms 13:5-6

Summer Fun for CVCC Kids



Prayer Corner

Devote yourself to prayer being watchful and thankful. Colossians

PRAISES

PREGNANCIES: **Kaitlyn Williamson** (September), **Rob and Alyssa West** (November)
BIRTHS: **Palmer Tate Williamson** was born to **Caleb and Morgan Williamson**
Carol McNutt – received 100% cancer-free report from 10-year follow-up appointment

THOSE GRIEVING

Andrew Clark – loss of mother, Kerrie Clark
 Friends and family of **Barbara Schlosser** (former member)
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
Mark and Suzanne Scarberry – loss of daughter, Caitlin Scarberry

FIGHTING CANCER

Dede Koldyke (cousin of Steve Scott) – her cancer has returned

Charlie Smith (brother-in-law of the Arganos) – undergoing chemo for colon cancer
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

Brandon Starkey – recovering from burst appendix
John Willis (father of Tim Willis) – receiving hospice care; prayers appreciated
Residents of Maui – as they recover from devastating fires
Ryan Gunderson (grandson of Bob and Susan Pratt) – recovering from brain surgery
Doug and Kathia King – as they move to Oahu for a new job
Peggy Alsup (friend of Wall family) – regaining of appetite and strength as she fights late stage COPD
Susan Kenny (sister of Kimberly Thomson) – fighting Babesiosis
Reilly Phillips (son of Phil and Heather Phillips) – recently diagnosed with Type I Diabetes
Jerry Roby (grandfather of Bonnie Rockey; father of Brett Roby) – dealing with problematic heart issues

Tammy Roby (mother of Bonnie Rockey) – recovering from hand surgery
Jack Horn (coworker of Robert Charles) – lineman seriously injured by high voltage wire; prayers requested for his physical, emotional, spiritual healing and hope as well as for his wife and 3 small children as he recovers at home
Joe Reynolds (father of Brittany Joyner) – heart failure
Calvin Hill (friend of Haylie Douglas) – 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 surgery and recovery
Healing, peace, and justice in our nation and communities
Barb Suhr (friend of Char Hurley) – dealing with memory loss 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
Caleb Rodriguez (son of Marcus

and Julia) – ongoing seizures
Carol McNutt – neuropathy

MISSION EFFORTS

Raul and Betty Alvarado – mission efforts in Panama
Baja Missions – Baja California, Mexico
Julie Broyles – Bible English Study Center (BEST) in Cambodia
City of Children – Ensenada, Mexico
Charles and Darlene Coulston – Made in the Streets Ministry in Nairobi, Kenya
Medical Clinic Mission Support – Ghana
Daniel and Karly Napier – Thessaloniki, Greece
Megan Randolph – Associate Director of Teacher Services, TeachBeyond
David and Danna Willis and family (brother of Tim Willis) – mission work in Samoa

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

August 13 Attendance		August 13 Giving	
On-Site Service	113	Weekly Giving Average	\$12,379
Online Viewing	124	Weekly Giving Budget	\$14,406
		Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)	\$1,651,624
		Property Settlement	\$225,000

CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

(805) 371-1381 Office | (805) 371-1384 Fax
www.conejochurch.org

Haylie Douglas
 Children's Minister
 (979) 676-1529 cell
haylie.douglas@conejochurch.org

Rene Heard
 Worship & Media Manager
 (818) 665-8598 cell
rene.heard@conejochurch.org

Travis Moore
 Youth & Family Minister
 (520) 591-8246 cell
travis.moore926@gmail.com

Andy Wall
 Preaching Minister
 (805) 331-0187 cell
andy.wall@conejochurch.org

Jack Williamson
 Spiritual Formation Minister
 (805) 331-0183 cell
jack.williamson@conejochurch.org

Elders: Michael Ditmore, Bill Foster, Chris Heard, David Rhoades, Mike Rivas, Chris Stivers, Tim Willis – elders@conejochurch.org



CHURCH

2525 E. Hillcrest Drive
 Thousand Oaks, CA 91362