

# CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

# BE the BLESSING

January 28, 2024

## 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 Worship Service via YouTube
- 2:30pm ETA for YG from Winter Retreat
- 5:30pm YG Dinner and Devo

### Upcoming Events

- Jan 29 Monday Guys' Group
- Jan 29 Women's Bible Study
- Jan 30 Fifth Commandment Group
- Jan 31 Flourishing Families
- Jan 31 Reynolds' Life Group
- Feb 1 Fosters' Life Group
- Feb 1 Conejo Tutoring
- Feb 3 Guys' Golf Outing
- Feb 10 Baby Shower for Baby Girl Erickson

### Birthdays This Week

- |                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| Jadyn de Bruyn          | 1/29 |
| Lauren Kliest-Blankfein | 1/29 |
| Becky Rocky             | 1/31 |
| Javon Johnson           | 2/1  |

## The Many Faces of Love

Andy Wall

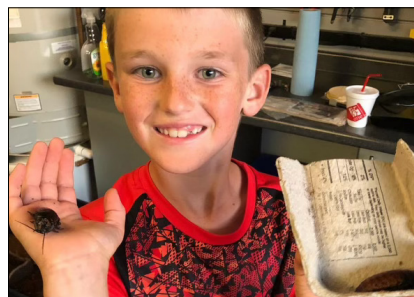
*"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God." 1 John 4:7*

This weekend, Carrie and I are celebrating our 36th wedding anniversary. (My thanks to Kindy DeLong for facilitating this getaway by preaching in my absence.) Our tradition is to take turns planning our anniversary trips and keeping the details a surprise until the actual weekend. With our anniversary close at hand, and with Valentine's Day right around the corner, I want to invite you to think with me about the various forms which love can take: the unconditional love of a parent for a child, a caring love between siblings, a fraternal love between friends, the love between a wife and husband.

We can show our love in a creative variety of ways. Here are some suggestions by author Phyllis Guthrie.

- ♥ Rising at 7am on your day off, with a smile on your face, to prepare breakfast for a spouse who has to work.
- ♥ Getting up in the middle of the night to quiet a baby or care for a sick child.
- ♥ Doing simple tasks for your elderly parents they can no longer do for themselves.
- ♥ Taking time from a busy schedule to listen, really listen, to a friend who is struggling.
- ♥ Agreeing with your spouse on a vacation spot, even if it wouldn't be your first choice.
- ♥ Welcoming your children's friends into your home, even if it's not convenient.
- ♥ Surprising your spouse with an inexpensive gift for no reason—perhaps a bouquet of flowers or a bag of Hershey's Kisses.
- ♥ Sacrificing some extras in order to save for a college education for your children.
- ♥ Having the grace to forgive others who don't apologize when they've done you wrong.
- ♥ Expressing respect and acceptance for your in-laws, even if you don't see eye-to-eye on some things.
- ♥ Going the extra mile when it's needed, either at home or at work.
- ♥ Finding room in your heart and home for your child's guinea pig.
- ♥ Being an example by living each day as one of God's children—reaching out to others in Christian love.

May God enable each of us to reflect his love to those in close relationship to us as well as to those whom God places along our paths.



# What's Happening At Conejo



## Sermon Series: "Envisioning Our Shared Future"

Our current sermon series reflects on the Conejo Church's vision description, which resulted from a collaborative process. Each sermon focuses on one aspect of that vision. Conejo's own Kindy De Long, in a sermon titled "Disagreeing Well," will focus on the following boldfaced portion of the statement: **"The Conejo Valley Church of Christ seeks to be a thick intergenerational community of reciprocal love and grace, embodying the Christ-centered, Spirit-led character and durable unity of the church in times of harmony (Acts 2) and of discord (Acts 15)."** What can we learn from Acts 15 and other New Testament passages in which we see the early church in disagreement? How can we develop healthy, Jesus-centered practices that enable us to disagree about significant topics and yet remain a unified community that witnesses to God's love and grace?

## Welcome to Our Guests!

We are so glad to have you visit with us. Whether you are new to the area or have just chosen to visit with us today, we feel blessed and thankful for the opportunity to spend the morning worshipping God with you.

Please fill out a welcome card (from beneath the chair in front of you) with your name and at least your email address. Then, drop it into the "offering bag" as these are passed or into the wooden box marked "offering" in the foyer. Having that information enables us to share information with you about the upcoming events and ministry of this church.

## Adult Education This Winter

Christina Littlefield Eng is leading the adult auditorium class through a 12-week church history series using Mark Noll's text *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity* (4th edition). Noll and his co-authors, David Komline and Han-luen Kantzer Komline, consider critical moments that shaped the faith, the church, and the larger society. Like the great parade of saints in Hebrews 11, studying the key people who

have led the faith can help us better see the transformational power of God at work in the lives of human beings and help us all better follow Jesus Christ today. This week, the class will cover the Council of Chalcedon and how the early church defined Jesus's two natures as both human and divine. Next week the class will study the impact of the monastic movement by looking at the Rule of Benedict.

Our class in the north overflow room resumes this Sunday and is for those raising kids of all ages at home. The class is titled *"Rooted: Growing the Next Generation Together."* This class is overseen by Bill and Melissa Foster and includes time for prayer and fellowship. Topics for the Spring will include a deep dive into Romans and Ephesians as well as a study on prayer and spiritual gifts.

## Small Groups

We have a variety of small groups that meet weekly or monthly. Please click [2024 Small Groups](#) for the detailed description of the current groups that meet in and around the Conejo Valley.

## Baby Shower for Eliza Erickson / February 10



Eliza and Ty Erickson are expecting their first child in March. A baby shower for them will be held at the home of Suzanne Reynolds on Saturday, February 10 at 2pm. Ladies, please save the date and come

to celebrate with the Ericksons and help them prepare as they begin this new adventure as first-time parents.

To assist the planners, we ask that you RSVP to Eliza's sister by calling or texting **Mackenzie Wright** at (512) 917-6131. Also, please bring a book for Baby Erickson's library in lieu of a card. Click to connect to the [Erickson Baby Registry](#).

## Bowls of Hope Painting Party

Last week's Bowls of Hope Painting party was a great event with all ages joining together for two hours of creative fun in support of the ministry of Many Mansions. To learn more about the Bowls of Hope event scheduled for March, please pick up a flyer from the entry table.



# High School + Middle School

## Youth Group Bible Classes



On Sunday mornings in January we are doing a series called "Eyes to See," looking at how our thinking can distort the truth of Jesus' teachings in the gospels. 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 with tasty treats at the beginning of each class. On Sunday nights, we have dinner and devo from 5:30-7pm. Our Sunday night series is called "Not Yet," focusing on all the questions, fears, frustrations, and excitement that waiting for our futures can bring.

January's Youth Group memory verse: *"I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry." Psalm 40:1*

## Youth Group Winter Retreat



This weekend, the youth group spent some time together up in Big Bear learning about the God who knows them by name. When we understand and believe that God truly knows us and loves us deeply, it changes how we interact with him. He becomes

more than just a name to us. Please pray for safe travel home and pray for the lessons, experiences, and time we had together to be something that will help our teens grow their faith and relationships with God.

## YG Calendar

Teens, there are many opportunities for us to share life, build deeper friendships, and grow in our faith. Please [click here](#) to see the calendar of events for the coming weeks.

## Mexico Mission Trip RSVP deadline / February 25

Mission team assemble! It's almost that time of year where we figure out who will be on our 2024 Mexico mission trip team. The mission trip is for current 8th graders and older. This is also an intergenerational trip, so we are open to others in the congregation who want to go build a home for a family in need. If you plan to attend and haven't gotten a passport yet, please start the process now. More info to come soon!



# Children's Ministry

## Children's Class Offerings

### Bible Classes This Week

Nursery - Noel T.

2s/3s/4s - Leslie S. and Sarah G.

Elementary - Paula M. and Lynn B.

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

Nursery - Katie C.

2s/3s/4s - Amy M.

Elementary - Mark D.



## Valentines for Seniors

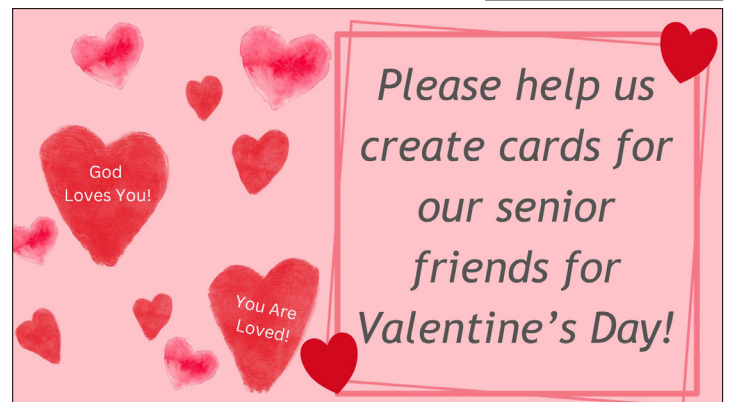
We are excited to be making valentines for senior citizens in our community again this year. We will be making valentines on the playground patio (or classroom if it is raining or too cold) after Bible classes and after worship service each Sunday through February 11.



## Memory Verse

"But build one another up every day.  
Do it as long as there is still time.  
Then none of you will become stubborn.  
You won't be fooled by sin's tricks."

**Hebrews 3:13**



Please help us  
create cards for  
our senior  
friends for  
Valentine's Day!

# Prayer Corner

Devote yourself to prayer being watchful and thankful. Colossians

## PRAISES

**PREGNANCIES:** **Jodi Davis** (Feb.); **Eliza Erickson** (Mar.); **Cassie Horton** (Mar.); **Chloe Sutherland** (Apr.); **Melody Creed** (Apr.)

**BIRTHS:** **Callahan Churchill Sanders** (son of Arthur and Lindsey; grandson of Ed and Sheryl S.); **Isaiah Wyatt Urquia** (grandson of Guy and Rosie Patenaude), **Mila Luisa Starkey** (Brandon and Flora S.)

**BAPTISM:** **Brooklyn Baird**

**NEW MEMBERS:** **Randy, Jennifer, Cameron, and Jacqueline Reed; Joel, Tiffany, Alexey, and Joey Ornelas**

**Carina Grant** (granddaughter of Mark and Suzanne Scarberry) – Carina's cast removed, hip staying in place, now moving freely!

## THOSE GRIEVING

**Kim Milanovich** – loss of grandmother, Alice Michael

**Tammy Ditmore** – loss of mother, Darlene Fielder

**Christy Guilbault** (former member) – loss of brother, David Gonzales

**Jerry Monroe** (former member) – loss of wife, Ann Monroe

**Char Hurley** – loss of nephew, Matthew Horner

**Rockey and Roby Families** – loss of Jerry Roby, grandfather of Bonnie Rocky

**Rodney and Brian Smithers** – loss of nephew / cousin, Jason Knight

**Pepperdine Community and Families** – of Deslyn, Asha, Niamh, and Payton tragic deaths

**Kay Falletta** – loss of brother-in-law, Bill McQuillan

**Tim Willis** – loss of father, John Willis

**Loree Hunnicutt** – loss of mother, Judy Long

**Andrew Clark** – loss of mother, Kerrie Clark

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

**Mark and Suzanne Scarberry** – loss of daughter, Caitlin Scarberry

## FIGHTING CANCER

**Erin Opdahl** – stage II cancer of the tongue; surgery scheduled for Tuesday, January 30

**David Green** – surgery was not entirely successful; facing long-term drug therapies with unpleasant side effects

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

**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 Sanders) – multiple myeloma

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

## VARIOUS CONCERNS

**Griffin McAfee** (grandson of Maxi McAfee, brother of Freya) – recovering from recent kidney

surgery; has follow-up surgery on Tuesday, January 30

**Julie Waters** – recovering from recent surgery to remove kidney stones

**Amy and Kevin Stalbaum** (niece and nephew of Kay Falletta) – returned home to continue recovering from head trauma, broken back, neck, and limbs following bike accident

**Peace and safety** for all in war-torn areas Israel, the Middle East, Ukraine, Russia

**Marty Lince** (brother of Suzanne Scarberry) – congestive heart failure; recovering and healing after leg amputation; infections

**Marilyn Aurand** – nodules in lungs are noncancerous; additional tests in 4 months

**Carol McNutt** – recovery from knee replacement surgery; neuropathy

**Reilly Phillips** (son of Phil and Heather Phillips) – type I diabetes

**Jack Horn** (coworker of Robert Charles) – lineman seriously injured by high voltage wire; pray for healing and hope as he recovers at home

**Joe Reynolds** (father of Brittany Joyner) – heart failure

**Calvin Hill** (friend of Haylie Douglas) – severely burned, many complications

**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

**Mary Zollman** (friend of Lisa Scott) – multiple sclerosis

**Harriet Nutter** (mother of Daphne Green) – depression

## 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

**Made in the Streets** – 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

**Javon Johnson** – six-month deployment to Okinawa

**Michael Warford** – stationed in Spain with the Navy

**Derek Willis** (nephew of Tim Willis) – serving in PA in the Army

Attendance  
+ Giving

January 21 Attendance		January 21 Giving	
On-Site Service	135	Weekly Giving Average	\$8,637
Online Viewing	89	Weekly Giving Budget	\$14,406
		Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)	\$1,662,045
		Property Settlement	\$225,000

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