

CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

BE the BLESSING

September 8, 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 Virtual Worship Service via YouTube
- 5:30pm YG Dinner and Devo

Upcoming Events

- Sept. 9 Monday Guys' Group
- Sept. 9 Women's Bible Study
- Sept. 11 Life Group at the Reynolds
- Sept. 11 Flourishing Families
- Sept. 12 Life Group at the Fosters
- Sept. 13-15 HS Pismo Retreat
- Sept. 14 Guys' Golf Outing
- Sept. 29 Anchor / Flourish Groups

Upcoming Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Harriet Overton | 9/8 |
| Everly Van Atta | 9/9 |
| Shannon Latson | 9/11 |
| Cassie Horton | 9/12 |
| Jodi Davis | 9/12 |
| Callan Kliest-Blankfein | 9/18 |

The Art of Mending

Andy Wall

"Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good?

Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.

Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it." – Psalm 34:12-14

Years ago, Carrie and I got into a spat as we were getting ready for the workday. I forget the specifics but knowing me, I probably made a snarky comment. Icy silence ensued, a sure sign I was in the doghouse. I knew I had to move into that silence and repair the hurt I had caused. Thinking quickly, I grabbed a broom from the garage, hung a white T-shirt on the end of it, and waved it around a corner as a signal of conciliation. When I heard Carrie chuckle, I knew I had broken the ice and we began the process of apology and rapprochement.

So much of relational care has to do with the work of peacemaking, the humble task of repairing the wounds we inflict when we live in close proximity to one another. Even with the best of intentions, people who care about each other inevitably cause each other pain. Psalm 34 above offers wisdom both for avoiding injuring others ("keep your tongue from evil") and for repairing the injuries we cause ("...seek peace, and pursue it").

Richard Beck is a professor of psychology at Abilene Christian University, the author of eight books, and an insightful blogger. Following a misunderstanding between his wife and son Brenden, he reflected with his son as they drove to church.

"You know son, we can't avoid making mistakes. We can't avoid hurting each other. Even when we are trying to do the right thing we end up hurting each other. For the rest of your life you're going to find out about how you did this, that or the other thing and how, even though your intentions were the best, you ended up hurting someone. Hurting people is inevitable. That's no excuse for hurting people. But it's inevitable.

But what you can do is this. Mending. You can always mend. You can always apologize. You can always try to fix things. To knit and stitch back together what has been ripped. Mending is the secret of life."

I am taken by this notion that "Mending is the secret of life." Mending is certainly appropriate for anyone who struggles with selfishness, insensitivity, or rude talk. Mending is also the only hope for anyone who struggles with sin, which last time I checked includes all of us. No wonder the playwright Eugene O'Neill once observed, "We are born broken. We live by mending. The grace of God is the glue."

Love is simply the art of mending. With this in mind, may we love one another well.



What's Happening At Conejo



Current Sermon Series: *Staying Centered in a Disjointed World*

Today's guest preacher is Conejo's own Connie Horton and her sermon is titled "Be a Peacemaker." Jesus said peacemakers will be called children of God. What an important and challenging goal—to be a peacemaker in today's world! Today's sermon will address what it means to be a peacemaker, what being a peacemaker doesn't mean, and what can be learned from Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

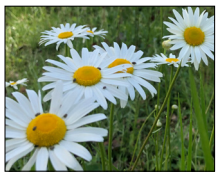
Welcome to Our Guests!

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 sharing life and worshiping 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 tray as these are passed or into the wooden box marked "offering" in the foyer. Having your email address enables us to share information about upcoming events and ministry of this church.

Attention, Conejo Women!

If you are interested in helping to plan a women's retreat, please contact Paula Marrs at paulamarrs@outlook.com or (805) 479-7267 by September 8.



Fall Adult Education Classes

This Sunday in our adult auditorium class, Matt Joyner will begin leading an exploration of the intersection of faith and science. His class is titled "Faith, Imagination, and the Natural World: Scientific Reflections on God and Our Universe." Science is sometimes unnecessarily pitted against faith, creating false dichotomies between the two. This class will seek to provide accurate, scientific information about the physical world and human biology while examining the interplay of these scientific ideas with our personal faith in Jesus Christ and how we understand the Bible.

Starting a week from Sunday, on September 15 through November 24 in the north overflow room, Connie Horton will be teaching a class called "Raising Resilience" open to all adults. We will discuss real-life concerns and practical strategies to help children, teens, and young adults grow up equipped to become resilient adults. Discussion will also include how to raise our own levels of resilience, how to faithfully and confidently navigate the storms of life that come at all life stages and situations. All are welcome.

We encourage everyone to make a renewed effort to come out to our weekly classes to think, reason, grow, encourage one another, and enjoy fellowship with the Conejo church community. And, parents, there are wonderful Bible classes offered weekly for children and teens as well. Let's make the

most of our time together this fall!

Mission Messenger: Metropolitan Church Panama

Please click on [Panama Mission Work](#) to read the latest about the wonderful ministry of Raul and Betty Alvarado with the Metropolitan Church in Panama.

Fall Small Groups

Our small group program is launching over the next several weeks. These groups meet for a variety of purposes including prayer, Bible study, fellowship, service, mentoring, and outreach. Some groups include children, some are for teens, some are for adults, and some include all generations. Please click [Fall 2024 Small Groups](#) for a detailed listing.

Weekly

YG Dinner and Devo	Sundays 5:30pm
Guy's Group	Mondays 6pm
Women's Bible Study	Mondays 7pm
Flourishing Families	Wednesdays 6:15pm
Reynolds' Life Group	Wednesdays 6:45pm
Conejo Tutoring	Thursdays 6:30pm
Fosters' Life Group	Thursdays 7pm
Saturday Guys' Golf Group	Saturdays early mornings

Monthly

Fifth Commandment	Fourth Tuesday 7pm
Playdates with Haylie	TBD
Moms Better Together	Third Friday 5:45pm (most months)
"Walk This Way!" Hiking Ministry	Third Saturday 9am
Anchor Group	TBD Saturday or Sunday
Flourish Group	TBD Saturday or Sunday
Crafty Women	TBD Saturday or Sunday

Zoom Baby Shower For Jacqueline Dillion-Wiens

Ladies, please mark your calendars. On Sunday, September 15, beginning at 2pm, please join us for Conejo's first ever "International Zoom Baby Shower" honoring Jacqueline and Jason Dillion-Wiens. They are expecting a baby boy in October and will be welcoming him to the world in Canada. We are encouraging people to purchase from the Amazon Registry list or send a gift card to:

42 Promenade Way
Calgary SE, Alberta T2Z 3R4
CANADA

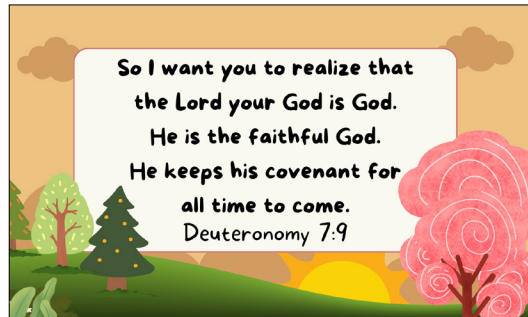
For a variety of links for gifts or gift cards, requested "baby advice and stories" to share with Jacqueline at the shower, as well as some of the details about the Zoom Shower, please click [Zoom Shower Details](#).

If you have questions, please contact Paula Marrs at paulamarrs@outlook.com or (805) 479-7267.

Conejo Women: All Ages and Stages / September 29

Please join us on Sunday, September 29, at 3pm for a time of fellowship and a celebration of sisterhood at the home of Paula Marrs, 11234 Crenshaw Street in Moorpark. Bring snacks or not, as you would like.

Fall Kickoff & Kindergarten Blessing



Prayer Corner

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

PRAISES

Pregnant Mom – Jacqueline Dillion-Wiens (October)

Baptisms – Zach Johnson, Matthew Johnson

Births – Congratulations to **Sam and Sara Jackson** who welcomed 2 new grandchildren to the world this summer: **Whitman Rhodes Maloney (boy)** born on June 18 and **Poppy James Jackson (girl)**, born on August 21

Wedding this weekend – **Matt Williams and Lyrica Blankfein** (former members) are engaged to be married on September 8 in Nashville, TN

THOSE GRIEVING

Michael Williams – loss of father, David Williams

Suzanne Scarberry – loss of brother, Marty Lince

Rick Marrs – loss of father, Roscoe Marrs

Tiffany Ornelas – following the death of her grandmother, Dorothy Cotton

Family of Tim Coupe – following the sudden death of Tim, former Conejo member

Nick Odenath – loss of father, Al Odenath

Phil Daringer – loss of father, Phil Daringer

Stan Thomas – loss of father, Leroy Thomas

Jim White – loss of mother, Joanna White

Vincent Chambers – loss of father, Buford Chambers

Darlene Rivas – loss of Lucinda Hodges, sister-in-law

Daelan Blankfein – loss of father, Fred Blankfein

Kim Milanovich – loss of grandmother, Alice Michael

Tammy Ditmore – loss of mother, Darlene Fielder

Char Hurley – loss of nephew, Matthew Horner

Bonnie Rockey – loss of Jerry Roby, grandfather

Rodney and Brian Smithers – loss of cousin, Jason Knight

Tim Willis – loss of father, John Willis

Loree Hunnicutt – loss of mother, Judy Long

FIGHTING CANCER

Sherry Horner (sister of Char Hurley) – stage IV breast cancer, metastasized to bones

Maria Baake – recovering from surgery for breast cancer

David Green – not a candidate for chemotherapy or radiation; facing long-term cancer suppressor drug therapies

Sandra Brasher (friend of Rene Heard) – breast cancer

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

Cindy Hall (cousin of Matt Joyner) – stage IV metastasized breast cancer

Kurt Krebs (friend of Ed Sanders) – multiple myeloma

Justice Howard (cousin of Yashica Budde) – thyroid cancer

VARIOUS CONCERNS

Shirley Pacifici (mother of Charee Landis) – recently fell and broke hip

Steve Simpson (brother of Lorna T., Stephanie S. and Claudia dB.) – very rare and aggressive autoimmune disease called ANCA-Associated Vasculitis; has attacked kidneys, on dialysis currently; will need kidney transplant soon

Elizabeth Cowan (mother of Christian Socquet) – memory issues, infections, difficulty understanding medical procedures and care; recently placed on hospice

Rosemary Davis (sister-in-law of Jan Willis) – recovering from surgery for brain tumor

Carrie Wall – recovering from knee replacement surgery

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

Marilyn Aurand – spinal stenosis

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

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

Martha Condley (daughter of Janie Condley) – lupus

Harriet Nutter (mother of Daphne Green) – depression

Mary Zollman (friend of Lisa Scott) – multiple sclerosis

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; prayers requested following recent major flooding

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 - serving as chaplain at the Ventura County Naval Base

Michael Warford – stationed in Spain with the Navy

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

Attendance
+ Giving

September 1 Attendance		September 1 Giving	
On-Site Service	142	Weekly Giving Average	\$15,754
Online Viewing	31	Weekly Giving Budget	\$12,502
		Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)	\$1,673,344
		Property Settlement	\$225,000

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