



BE the BLESSING

November 3, 2024

Welcome!

Thank you for joining us for worship. We pray you will encounter God as we worship together.

Today

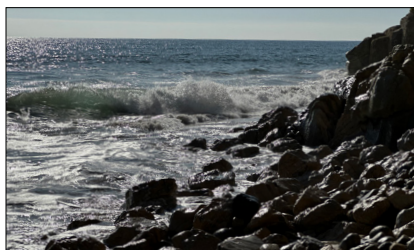
- 9:00am Bible Classes for All Ages
- 10:00am Virtual Meet-and-Greet via YouTube Chat
- 10:15am On-Site and Virtual Worship Service via YouTube
- 4:00pm ETA of Teens from Pismo Retreat

Upcoming Events

- Nov. 4 Monday Guys' Group
- Nov. 4 Women's Bible Study
- Nov. 6 Flourishing Families
- Nov. 6 Life Group at the Reynolds'
- Nov. 7 Conejo Academy Tutoring
- Nov. 7 Life Group at the Fosters'
- Nov. 9 Guys' Golf Outing
- Nov. 10 Adult Education Meeting
- Nov. 15 Moms Better Together
- Nov. 17 Young Adults' Group Lunch
- Nov. 23 Anchor / Flourish Meet Up!
- Nov. 24 Armloads of Love

Upcoming Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Tim Willis | 11/3 |
| Matt Davis | 11/4 |
| Raquel Daringer | 11/5 |
| Eliza Erickson | 11/6 |
| Julie Waters | 11/11 |
| Josie West | 11/14 |



Can You Count to One?

Andy Wall

"Live so that when your children think of fairness, caring, and integrity, they think of you."

—H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

When it comes to important financial investments, we like to spread financial risk across multiple types of investments in order to reduce potential loss. We call this "hedging our bets", which is another way of saying we want to minimize our risks and reduce our chances of losing money. In conventional wisdom, hedging our bets as investors is viewed as a wise way to protect against big losses.

But when it comes to faith, "hedging our bets" doesn't work so well. Jesus warned that "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other." In the 9th century BC, Elijah the prophet called out the people of the northern kingdom of Israel for hedging their bets religiously: "How long will you go limping with two different opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." Loving God with all our heart, soul, and strength means we're not giving our highest loyalty to any other ultimate concerns.

Our English word integrity is related to its mathematical cousin, the integer, which is defined as a whole number that can be written without a fractional component. The connotation of integrity of faith, then, is to have one's heart wholly committed to its highest cause, to be undivided in one's loyalty, to have no fractional components that are given to other ultimate commitments. In Jesus' beatitudes, "purity of heart" describes complete devotion to the one true God. "Purity of heart" means we don't place side bets on Baal, Mammon, the principalities and powers, or any other so-called gods.

Jesus gives three negative examples of how our purity of heart can be disrupted in Matthew 6:1-18. He warns us to beware practicing our piety so that others can see us, for such performative faith betrays its true motive: seeking human respect and honor. Thus, practices such as giving to the needy, praying to God, or fasting for reasons of faith, need not be pointed out for others to see and be impressed. They are to be kept between God and us, as much as is possible.

The "pure in heart" whom Jesus blesses understand they are performing for an audience of One. Their hearts' affections and deepest loyalties are in pursuit of loving and serving God, not hedging their bets or burnishing their reputation with the grade-givers of our world.

May God bless each of us as we seek to live with such purity of heart.



What's Happening At Conejo



Current Sermon Series: Present Grace, Future Promise

Jesus' sixth beatitude teaches, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Of this beatitude, Soren Kierkegaard famously said, "Purity of heart is to will one thing." The aspiration of the pure in heart is to be known by their unalloyed integrity, undivided loyalty, and full allegiance to God. Purity of heart is more than having clean thoughts or living a good moral life, though those are valid pursuits. The pure in heart show undistracted devotion to God. Jesus' promise to the pure in heart is that "they will see God" wherever and whenever his purposes are completed on earth. There is also a future promise that one day, the pure in heart will enjoy a joyful, face-to-face encounter with the Eternal One.

Fall Adult Education Classes

In our adult auditorium class, Matt Joyner is leading a class titled "Faith, Imagination, and the Natural World: Scientific Reflections on God and Our Universe" an exploration of the intersection of faith and science. Join us in this series and examine the interplay of scientific ideas with personal faith in Jesus Christ and how we understand the Bible.

In our north overflow room, Connie Horton is teaching a class titled "Raising Resilience." The class discusses real-life concerns and practical strategies to help children, teens, and young adults grow up equipped to become resilient adults. All ages are welcome.

Adopt A Young Adult Program

We are resuming our Adopt a Young Adult program. Even if you participated last year, please sign up again this year. We would suggest that you "adopt" a different young adult this year. But if you want to stay with the same person, contact Rodney Smithers at wmphs4@aol.com or (901) 674-3582.

How This Works For Young Adults

If you are a high school graduate, a college student, or a college graduate living here in the area, we want to bless you! For additional information about this, please click [tell me more](#) for the details and click [sign me up](#) or use the QR code (under tell me more) to show your interest. We will connect you with a Conejo member or family! |

How CVCC Members Can Bless Our Young Adults

At Conejo we want to take care of our young adults, whether they grew up here, have moved to the area, or have moved elsewhere. If you're interested in blessing some of our younger members, please click [tell me more](#) for additional details and click [sign me up](#) or access the sign-up page through the QR code. It's that easy!

Fall Small Groups

Our small group program is in process with groups meeting around the Conejo Valley and beyond. These groups meet for a variety of purposes including prayer, Bible study, fellowship,

service, mentoring, and outreach. Please click [Fall 2024 Small Group ministries](#) for a detailed listing of the small group ministries.

Welcome to Conejo!

We're delighted to welcome Scott, Johnelle, Nora, Oliver, and Logan Opel to the Conejo Church! We look forward to sharing in ministry and community with each of you. Our prayer is that you will be blessed by your association with this church family and that you will be encouraged to grow in faith, love, and service to others. Contact Information for the Opel family:

6266 Calle Bodega, Camarillo, CA 93012

Scott: (805) 915-9382 • SF.Opel1@gmail.com

Johnelle: (805) 390-0789 • johnelle.e.o@gmail.com

Moms Better Together / November 15



Moms of all ages are invited and encouraged to be a part of this Conejo ministry. This meeting has been scheduled for Friday, November 15, from 5:45-7:45pm at the CVCC church building. Watch for a

sign-up for this meal with friends for an evening of fellowship and refreshment. One should be available soon on the CVCC Facebook page and in next week's Family News.

Young Adults Luncheon / November 17

All CVCC Young Adults are invited to "Sunday Lunch" on November 17. The exact restaurant and location will be shared in next week's Family News bulletin. We'd like an opportunity to visit, build community, and get to know you a little better. If you have finished high school and are younger than 30, you fit into this group.

Armloads of Love

As we approach Thanksgiving, we have a wonderful opportunity to provide holiday meals for families in need from the Conejo Elementary School. On Sunday, November 24, you're invited to bring various food goods to church with you. Please click [printable grocery list](#) of the food items we will be providing. Please [sign-up online](#) for the specific items you can bring. Thank you for your willingness to take part in the tangible expression of gratitude to God for his many blessings.



Tutoring at Conejo Academy / Thursdays at 6pm

Tutoring is in process at Conejo Academy on Thursday nights. We are looking for both weekly volunteers and substitute tutors. Being a tutor means spending an hour each week with first grade students, helping them with reading or math, as well as playing games. Contact Rob West at (805) 657-2911 or email tutoringatconejo@gmail.com if you would like additional information.

High School + Middle School

Youth Group Bible Class / Today

For Bible class, we'll launch a new four-week study on the first Sunday of each month for the rest of 2024. November will be taught by Jim and Penny and they will teach lessons about "David and His Psalms." In December we will return to the gospels for Christmas-themed lessons.

Memory Verse

Let the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Psalms 19:14



Return from Pismo

The ETA for the teens from their Pismo Retreat is around 4pm today. Because of the full weekend they've had with one another (HS in Pismo and MS at Sky Zone), there will be no dinner and devo scheduled at the building this Sunday, but these will meet again on 11/10 and 11/17.

Youth Ministry Calendar

Click [Youth Ministry Calendar](#) to access the revised youth ministry calendars. Please be thinking about which events you might help with through the end of 2024.

CVYG Connect Calendar

Parents, please help us know your kids' extra-curricular schedules by sending them to Kari Odenath (kariwhit@gmail.com). Kari has created a Google calendar [rnh add link in Indd]to help us connect at our various events for our teens. You and other members can also quickly view the calendar via a QR code on the youth room doors. Conejo wants to support the teens, so send all the info to Kari so we can be more present with your families outside the church walls.



Anchor & Flourish Meet Ups! / November 23

The next Anchor & Flourish gathering will be a "combined bowling event in the evening on Saturday, November 23. Final details/plans will be communicated soon.

Chili Cook-Off Summer Mission Trip Fundraiser

Thank you, church, for always supporting the youth group's mission effort to Mexico. A total of \$3,036.96 was given toward this mission effort. If you were unable to attend but would like to contribute to the mission fund, please do so through the QR code on the right. Thank you for your continual encouragement to our teens.



Donate funds

Children's Ministry

Children's Bible Class Offerings

Children's Bible Class Offerings

Nursery - Noel T.

2's-5's - Leslie S. and Sarah G

Kinder-5th grade - Paula M. and Co W.

Worship Classes are available for children during our sermon time.

Nursery - Maxi M. and _____.

2's -5's - Rene H. and Sarah G.

Kinder-5th Grade - Dwayne H.



Memory Verse

Our memory verse is Deuteronomy 7:9:

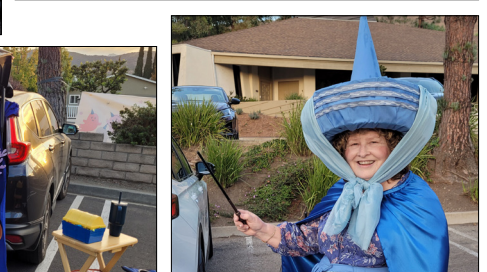
So I want you to realize that the Lord your God is God. He is the faithful God. He keeps his covenant for all time to come.

Updated Children's Ministry Roster

If you have children in the Children's Ministry, please fill out the Google form at tinyurl.com/cvccroster24. This is for the new school year, so please fill this out even if you've done so in the past. Thank you for helping us keep accurate records as we endeavor to serve your family.



Trunk or Treat
2024



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

New Members – Derek, Laura, Miles, and Henry Estes; Clay, Aubrey, Milo, and Ellis Smith; Scott, Johnelle, Nora, Oliver, and Logan Opel

Birth – Avery Salvador Urquia (grandson of Guy and Rosie Patenaude) was born to Alex and Robin Urquia on October 17

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

FIGHTING CANCER

Shirley Comia (friend of Bob and Kay Falletta) – recently diagnosed with cancer

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

Maria Baake – recovering from surgery for breast cancer

David Green – cancer suppressor working; semi-monthly biomarker tests yielding positive results

Sandra Brasher (friend of Rene Heard) – breast cancer

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

Cindy Hall (cousin of Matt Joyner) – stage IV metastasized breast cancer; recovering from hip replacement surgery

Kurt Krebs (friend of Ed Sanders) – multiple myeloma

VARIOUS CONCERNS

Linda Heard (mother of Chris Heard) – recently placed on hospice care, Alzheimer's Disease

Penny White – recovery from recent abdominal surgery

Carol Overton (mother of Daniel Overton) – trying to determine the cause of a brain infection

Brenda White – recent surgery to remove skin cancer

First Responders, Linemen, All who work outside – during the extreme heat, earthquakes, fires, and upcoming winds

Kendra Davis (sister of Suzanne Scarberry) – home recovering from serious complications from recent abdominal surgery

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

Elizabeth Cowan (mother of Christian Socquet) – memory issues, infections, difficulty understanding medical care

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

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

October 27 Attendance		October 27 Giving	
On-Site Service	134	Weekly Giving Average	\$12,561
Online Viewing	56	Weekly Giving Budget	\$12,502
		Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)	\$1,675,061
		Property Settlement	\$225,000

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