



# CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

# BE the BLESSING

November 17, 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
- 12:00pm Young Adults' Lunch at BJ's
- 5:30pm CVYM Dinner and Devo "Resilient Living"

### Upcoming Events

- Nov. 18 Monday Guys' Group
- Nov. 18 Women's Bible Study
- Nov. 20 Flourishing Families
- Nov. 20 Life Group at the Reynolds'
- Nov. 21 Conejo Academy Tutoring
- Nov. 21 Life Group at the Fosters'
- Nov. 23 Guys' Golf Outing
- Nov. 23 Anchor / Flourish Meet Up!
- Nov. 24 Armloads of Love

### Upcoming Birthdays

- |                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| Josie West      | 11/14 |
| Michael Ditmore | 11/19 |
| AJ Rivera       | 11/19 |
| Jett Landis     | 11/23 |
| Sydney Socquet  | 11/24 |

## Borderline / Woolsey: Six Years Later

*Andy Wall*

Six years ago, on November 7-9 of 2018, our local communities experienced the double trauma and heartbreak associated with the shootings at the Borderline Bar and Grill along with the Woolsey and Hill fires. Conejo families opened their homes to one another, checked in on each other, and offered many gestures of kindness. A number of our Conejo members worked long hours to comfort grieving Pepperdine students and to provide support as the campus sheltered in place for several days. For over a day, we weren't sure if our church building had survived the fires (it was singed on three sides). The fire wasn't fully contained until November 21.



I'll never forget our worship assembly on November 11. Our church building was still under evacuation and so we secured one of the AMC theaters at the Oaks Mall, which the management graciously comped us. We gathered and shared hugs and tears, laments and prayers, as well as songs of grief and hope. For a community that was feeling worn thin, wrung out, and bone weary, that time together was a healing balm.

As I reflect back on that most unusual week, I'm reminded of several important lessons.

For starters, when we suffer trauma and loss, we grieve. And I believe we're at our best when we grieve together, bearing each other's burdens, praying and caring for one another, singing and lamenting in major and minor keys. We do all this especially as a church family, but we also grieve in our neighborhoods and larger communities as we remember our shared humanity.

Secondly, we help one another. We dig out and rebuild. We listen and learn. We share our stories and our resources. We seek to make a better world

by binding up wounds, helping heal emotional scars, creating more just laws, and overcoming evil with good. That same week, Carrie had a friend who rear ended another driver as she was evacuating the fires. The other driver, after pulling over, looked at Carrie's friend and said, "It's been a hard day. Let's just let this one go."

Third, we celebrate God's grace wherever we find it. We thank God for the small miracles in the midst of big tragedies. We look for the hidden ways in which God brings good out of evil. We honor heroes who stand tall and heroes who fall in the line of duty. We say "thank you" to all who opened homes, offered safety, shared information, cooked food, made thoughtful preparations, and effectively carried out emergency plans. We celebrate how when life and nature give us their worst, we humans have the capacity to come together and give our best.

We won't soon forget November of 2018. My prayer is that as the future continues to unfold, we will continue to grieve together, to help one another, and to celebrate God's hidden grace. May we also continue to find the miracle of new life sprouting up wherever death and destruction have threatened to overwhelm us.



# What's Happening At Conejo



## Current Sermon Series: *Present Grace, Future Promise*

Jesus' eighth beatitude concerns the theme of being persecuted for righteousness' sake. Jesus' oxymoronic blessing includes any who are rejected or despised due to their faithfulness to the kingdom of God. Because this kingdom is not based on military power, Jesus' followers are sometimes persecuted by state authorities, particularly where Christianity is not recognized or protected by law. Jesus acknowledges this for his first century listeners, though the persecution for Christians has taken place throughout church history. Showing joy in hardship and suffering is a distinctive teaching of Jesus and can be seen in the saints and martyrs through history. In Matthew's gospel, it is above all Jesus who is reviled/spoken evil of and who serves as the prime example of faithfulness through persecution and martyrdom.

## Fall Adult Education Classes

In our adult auditorium class, Suzanne Scarberry will be leading the class titled "Faith, Imagination, and the Natural World: Scientific Reflections on God and Our Universe" in Matt's absence today. 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.

## Young Adults and Friends Lunch / November 17

All CVCC Young Adults are invited to "Sunday Lunch" at noon on November 17, at BJs restaurant located at 3955 Thousand Oaks Blvd in Westlake Village. Come share in an opportunity to visit, build community, and get to know each other better. If you have finished high school and are younger than 30, you fit into this group. Please click "[I'm coming to lunch!](#)" to RSVP.

## Fall Small Groups

Our small group program is in full swing 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.

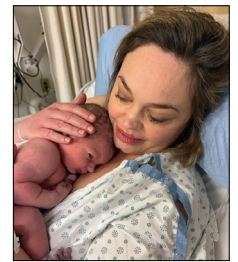
## Tutoring at Conejo Academy / Thursdays at 6pm

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](mailto:tutoringatconejo@gmail.com) for additional information.

## Welcome to the World, William!

William Hartley Wiens was born to Jacqueline Dillion and Jason Wiens on October 31st at 7:01 p.m., weighing 7 lb 10 oz. His parents are overjoyed and thank God for the blessing of his healthy birth.

Jacqueline and Jason thank everyone at Conejo for the beautiful gifts, and for the love that was shared at the baby shower back in September. Thank you especially to Paula Marrs and Rene Heard for organizing this lovely gathering. While Jacqueline plans to continue maternity leave next semester in Calgary, Canada, she loves hearing from you all, and looks forward to bringing young William to meet our Conejo church family.



## Armloads of Love / November 24

As we approach Thanksgiving, we have a wonderful opportunity to provide holiday meals for families in need from the neighborhood Conejo Academy. Next 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.

## Armloads of Love

### SHOPPING LIST FOR NOVEMBER 24, 2024

- LOAF BREAD (2 LOAVES PER FAMILY)
- CEREAL (24 OZ. BOX CHEERIOS OR CORN FLAKES)
- CORN TORTILLAS (50 COUNT)
- FRUIT (3-POUND BAG APPLES OR ORANGES)
- JUICE (1 GALLON APPLE JUICE OR ORANGE JUICE)
- MASA FLOUR (4.4 POUNDS)
- NUTS (2 POUNDS)
- POTATOES (10 POUNDS)
- RICE (10 POUNDS)
- VEGETABLE OIL (48 OZ.)
- \$30 GIFT CARD FOR TURKEY

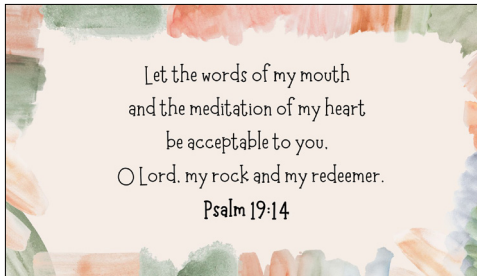
PLEASE HELP US PROVIDE THE ITEMS LISTED ABOVE FOR **21 FAMILIES** IN OUR NEIGHBORING COMMUNITY.



# High School + Middle School

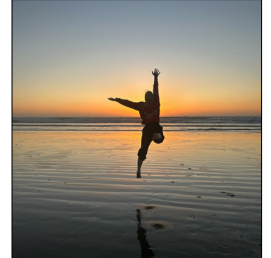
## Youth Group Bible Class / Today

The November Bible class will be taught by Jim and Penny White. They will teach lessons about "David and His Psalms." We hope that everyone will learn the memory verse that they've chosen for this month's verse: Psalm 19:14.



## Resilient Living / Today at 5:30pm

The dinner and devo series will come together for a class on resilient living taught by Connie and Tim Horton from 5:30 to 7pm today as well as on 12/1. You can think of this series as a teen version of the Sunday morning resilience class for adults.



## Anchor & Flourish Meet Ups! / November 23



The next Anchor & Flourish gathering will be a "combined bowling event in the evening on Saturday, November 23. We will meet at Lucky Strike (706 E. Los Angeles Avenue in Moorpark). Parents, we need an accurate headcount so that the planners can set everything up with the bowling alley. Please sign up for the event here: [November Anchor / Flourish](#).

## 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.

## CVYM Connect Calendar

Parents, please help us know your kids' extra-curricular schedules by sending them to Kari Odenath ([kariwhit@gmail.com](mailto:kariwhit@gmail.com)). Kari has created a calendar to help us connect at our various events for our teens. You and other members can also quickly view the [CVYM Connect Google Calendar](#) here. Thanks, Kari, for helping us all be able to support the teens in their activities. What a blessing it is to be able to be a more present encouragement for our teens!



# 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 - \_\_\_\_\_ and Lexy C.

2's -5's - Shaya B. and Sarah G.

Kinder-5th Grade - Penny W.



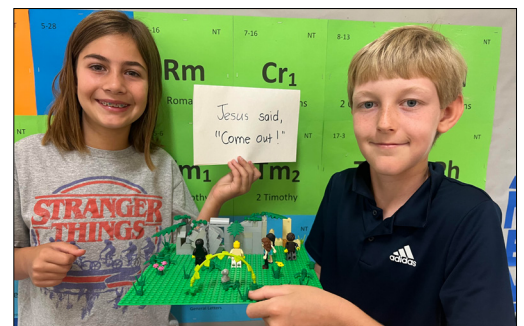
## Memory Verse

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](https://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.



# Prayer Corner

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

## PRAISES

**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

**Births** – William Wiens (son of Jason and Jacqueline Dillion-Wiens)

Avery Salvador Urquia (grandson of Guy and Rosie Patenaude)

## THOSE GRIEVING

**Jan Willis** – loss of sister-in-law, Rosemary Davis, following brief battle with brain cancer

**Chris Heard** – loss of mother, Linda Heard

**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

## 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

**Diane Owen** (friend of Seth Haye) – recovering from double-lung transplant

**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, Firemen** – during the recent fires and strong 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

**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

**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

November 10 Attendance		November 10 Giving	
On-Site Service	147	Weekly Giving Average	\$12,525
Online Viewing	50	Weekly Giving Budget	\$12,502
		Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)	\$1,675,771
		Property Settlement	\$225,000

## CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

(805) 371-1381 Office | (805) 371-1384 Fax

[www.conejochurch.org](http://www.conejochurch.org)



## CHURCH

2525 E. Hillcrest Drive  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

**Haylie Douglas**  
Children's Minister  
(979) 676-1529 cell  
[haylie.douglas@conejochurch.org](mailto:haylie.douglas@conejochurch.org)

**Rene Heard**  
Worship & Media Manager  
(818) 665-8598 cell  
[rene.heard@conejochurch.org](mailto:rene.heard@conejochurch.org)

**Andy Wall**  
Preaching Minister  
(805) 331-0187 cell  
[andy.wall@conejochurch.org](mailto:andy.wall@conejochurch.org)

**Elders:** Michael Ditmore, Bill Foster, Chris Heard, David Rhoades, Mike Rivas, Tim Willis – [elders@conejochurch.org](mailto:elders@conejochurch.org)