



# CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

# BE the BLESSING

November 24, 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 Armloads of Love Distribution

### Upcoming Events

- Nov. 23 Guys' Golf Outing
- Dec 6 Jesus' Birthday Party
- Dec 8 Carols and Candlelight
- Dec 15 All-Church Christmas Party

### Upcoming Birthdays

- |                  |       |
|------------------|-------|
| Tony Baird       | 11/23 |
| Jett Landis      | 11/23 |
| Sydney Socquet   | 11/24 |
| Ella Rockey      | 11/25 |
| Alyssa Hunnicutt | 11/27 |

## Thankful to be Thankful

*Andy Wall*

In November of 2020, David Leonhardt of the New York Times invited his readers to send in six words describing what made them thankful in 2020. The idea was based on the six-word memoir, popularized by author Larry Smith. You may recall that the fall of 2020 was in the middle of the COVID Pandemic and before a vaccine had been discovered. Here is a sampling of the things people were thankful for during that difficult season.

- A furtive hug with a friend.
- My choir still meets on Zoom.
- Saved a lot of lipstick money.
- No shame in elastic-waist pants.
- The backyard haircuts are getting better.
- Teenage son still likes to snuggle.
- Sunny mornings, a window facing east.
- 5329 games of solitaire, won 5286.
- Throwing the football with my sons.
- Postcards crossing the country — real mail.
- My bicycle, the trail, each morning.
- I am bored, but not dead.
- Got sober during 2020, stayed sober.
- Reached age 92, grandson reached 3.
- I held my dying husband's hand.
- Wasn't too late to say sorry.
- Healthcare workers. Healthcare workers. Healthcare workers.
- Pandemic baby after years of trying.
- I watched her learn to read.
- Water cooler chats with six-year-old son.
- I teach funny, resilient 8th graders.
- I am thankful to be thankful.

Sometimes, seeing how far we've come is sufficient cause for gratitude. May you have a blessed Thanksgiving, full of gratitude for the gifts of God that you continue to enjoy.



For God

So Loved

The World!

# What's Happening At Conejo

## Armloads of Love / November 24

This Sunday is our annual Armloads of Love event, a day in which we gather various food goods and share them with families from our neighborhood. Please click [Armloads of Love Sign Up](#) if you need a reminder of what you signed up to bring. We will need a number of volunteers immediately following the in-person service. Please email [office@conejochurch.org](mailto:office@conejochurch.org) if you can help either by distributing food or by walking with the families and assisting them by carrying bags of groceries to their vehicle. Thank you for your willingness to take part in this tangible expression of gratitude to God for his many blessings.



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

Today's sermon, titled "Points of Light," is by Conejo's own Haylie Douglas.

We are called to be salt and light. We are called to love. But that isn't always easy. The people Jesus was speaking to on that mountain didn't find it easy. So before he told them to be a city on a hill, he spent some time reframing and changing perspectives. We've got to do the same.

In Hebrews, the writer is trying to encourage the people of a hurting church and does this in part by spending an entire chapter reminding them of people of faith that have gone before them. When we focus on those around us who are being points of light, it is easier for us to become points of light. Right here in our church, we are surrounded by numerous people shining the light of Christ. We can see Christ in them, because we see love in them.

## Fall Small Groups

Although most of our small groups will not be meeting during Thanksgiving week, 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.

## Adult Education Classes

We have been blessed deeply by our adult Bible classes this fall. Matt's class entitled "Faith, Imagination, and the Natural

World: Scientific Reflections on God and Our Universe" has examined the interplay of scientific ideas with our personal faith in Jesus Christ and how we understand the Bible. Connie's class, "Raising Resilience," has discussed real-life concerns and practical strategies to help children, teens, and young adults grow up equipped to become resilient adults.

Thank you, Matt and Connie, for the tremendous way that you have shared with us from your understanding of life and faith over the past weeks. You are each such a blessing to our church family!

Next Sunday begins the season of Advent. We'll be combining our adult classes for the month of December as we share in an exploration of themes relating to the coming of Jesus, both as a newborn in Bethlehem and in glory at the Second Coming.

## Carols and Candlelight / December 8

At 6pm on Sunday, December 8, you are invited to our annual Carols and Candlelight Service. This special service will feature the singing of favorite holiday carols, the reading of the birth narratives of Christ, the lighting of candles, and the renewing experience of the wonder of Christ's radiant coming. We will enjoy cookies and fellowship following the service. Be sure to invite friends and loved ones to this favorite holiday tradition as we enjoy the season of Advent together.



## All-Church Christmas Party / December 15



The entire congregation is invited to a very special Conejo holiday gathering on Friday, December 15, beginning at 5pm at the home of Rick and Paula Marrs. Make plans now to come share in a delightful evening filled with warm holiday fellowship,

Christmas carols, and tasty treats. Please bring substantial hors d'oeuvres or a favorite dessert to share.

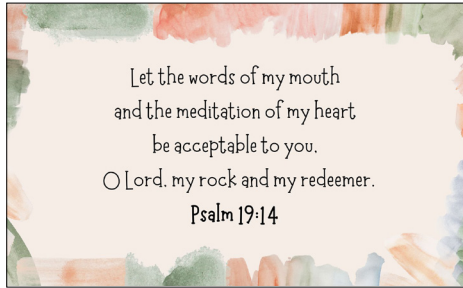




# High School + Middle School

## 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.



## 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 present to encourage our teens at events!



# 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 - Johnelle O. and Nora O.

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

Kinder-5th Grade - \_\_\_\_\_



## 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.*



## Jesus' Birthday Party

Join us Friday, December 6 from 5:30-7:30pm for Jesus' Birthday Party. We'll have dinner, dessert, and lots of fun! Please bring an unwrapped gift for any aged child valued under \$20 to be donated to Raising Hope, an organization serving youth in foster care in Ventura County. RSVP at [tinyurl.com/Jesusbdy24](http://tinyurl.com/Jesusbdy24)

## Updated Children's Ministry Roster

If you have children in the Children's Ministry, please fill out the Google form at [tinyurl.com/cvccroster24](http://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

**Tony Baird** – loss of father, David Baird

**Char Hurley** – loss of sister, Sherry Horner

**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

**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

**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 17 Attendance		November 17 Giving	
On-Site Service	139	Weekly Giving Average	\$12,362
Online Viewing	59	Weekly Giving Budget	\$12,502
		Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)	\$1,675,872
		Property Settlement	\$225,000

## CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

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## CHURCH

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