

# CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

# BE the BLESSING

July 20, 2025

## 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
- 3:00pm Sign-in for Students at King's Kamp

### Upcoming Events

- July 20-26 King's Kamp
- July 27 Welcome Darby Family
- July 27 Won By One and Fellowship
- Aug 5 Dockweiler Bonfire
- Aug 17 Back To School Sunday
- Aug 17 Kindergarten Blessing

### Upcoming Birthdays

- |                        |      |
|------------------------|------|
| Laura Estes            | 7/19 |
| Chris Heard            | 7/19 |
| Brynn Kliest-Blankfein | 7/22 |
| Tim Horton             | 7/23 |
| Phil Phillips          | 7/23 |
| Wes Johnson            | 7/24 |
| Stu Warford            | 7/25 |
| Paula Marrs            | 7/27 |
| Catie Stephens         | 7/27 |

## Why Do We Need The Church?

Andy Wall

*But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. Ephesians 4:15-16*

Following his embrace of Jesus as Messiah, the apostle Paul spent the rest of his life planting and nurturing churches. Whatever it was about being a follower of Jesus Christ, Paul was convinced that it could not be done alone. Paul carried out his ministry as part of an extensive network of missionary co-workers. His letters, most of which are included in the New Testament, served to instruct, exhort, correct, and encourage various congregations and individuals in the practice of their faith.

In that spirit, I offer my reflections on the question, Why do we need the Church? My answers below reflect several ways of thinking about the Church. One is as the Church Scattered, as we serve God in our vocations throughout the world. The other is as the Church Gathered, as we worship God together as his community. I pray that in a world that pulls us into ever narrower interest groups, our shared life in and as the Church may help us reach spiritual maturity even as we point our lonely and aimless world to God's great purposes for us.

- Because we need to belong to a community that is rooted in something deeper than just "the moment."
- Because we need to acknowledge and worship a power greater than ourselves namely God!
- Because we need to corporately tell the truth about our sin and our need for God.
- Because we need help and encouragement in doing the right thing.
- Because we tried doing life on our own and that didn't work out so well.
- Because we're hurting and we need to see in the eyes of others that God's grace is real.
- Because God intends for his people to embody in the world his good plans and gracious purposes for the future.
- Because the Lord's Supper cannot be properly experienced alone.
- Because God has called us to embody now the promises of his future Kingdom.
- Because we'll never mature as God wants us to if we don't regularly practice the virtues needed to love one another despite our differences.
- Because younger Christians and older Christians need each other.
- Because we need regular reminders that our deepest loyalties are not of this world.
- Because the world needs to see that Christ unifies us in ways that shared ethnicity, similar social status, and common interests cannot.



# What's Happening at Conejo



## Sermon Series: New Testament Cameos

The writings of the New Testament are populated with a wide-ranging cast of major and minor characters who serve as exemplars (and occasionally warnings) for how to live faithfully as followers of Jesus. For the next month and a half, we'll be meeting a smattering of some of the lesser known characters whose lives were impacted and changed by Jesus the Messiah.

For the first sermon in this series, we are delighted to have Conejo's summer preaching and ministry intern, Zoe Williamson, sharing the Word today in a message titled "Phoebe: An Agent with a Sacred Commission." We have much to learn from the beautiful attributes that we see in Phoebe in Romans 16. She reminds us of the importance of being committed to the Gospel mission and being generous and self giving as we use our influence for the Kingdom of God. Phoebe was a model for the Church in Rome, but she is also a beautiful model for us today!

## Adult Education / Summer Auditorium Class

Our summer auditorium class is titled "Spiritual Practices that Shape Our Faith." Each week, various members of Conejo Church share about disciplines of the faith that have shaped them in significant ways. This week, Laura Estes will lead the class exploring "The Spiritual Practice of Divine Guidance."

## Thank You, Church!

This past Thursday, several of our members spent a few hours grilling burgers and hotdogs for 70 children at a summer camp at one of the nearby Many Mansions locations. Thank you so much for being a blessing in the community. God's light shines through you as you serve others!

## Supplies for City of Children / Final Call!

Final opportunity this Sunday! This year's VBS service project included collecting items needed by the City of Children. Our church family is invited to participate by bringing in one or more of these items and placing them in the marked box in the foyer. Mark Davis plans to travel to the City of Children on Sunday evening, July 20. Please bring any of the supplies listed below to help the children have the supplies that they are currently needing.

## 2025 VBS Mission Project

Please help us gather the following items for the City of Children throughout the week of VBS.

Q-tips  
Shampoo  
Conditioner  
Volley Balls



Twin Bed Sheets (Blue or Gray)

Body Soap  
Deodorant  
Body Lotion  
Razors

## Thank You Zoe!

This Sunday is the final Sunday that Zoe Williamson, our summer preaching and ministry intern, will be with us, and so it is appropriate that we express our heartfelt appreciation to her. Thank you, Zoe, for your heart of service and ministry—we can see the joy and love of Jesus in your smiles, your friendship, and your service. Your name means "life" and you have radiated Christ's abundant life among us all summer! Thank you for your involvement with all ages and life stages while you were among us this summer—you jumped in with VBS, the Mexico Mission Trip, Teen Camp, King's Kamp, small groups, and personal relationship building. You have been a blessing to all you have touched and we as a congregation have been richly blessed by your time with us; we're even a bit sad at how quickly it has gone. We pray for God's ongoing discernment, shaping, and preparation as you continue your educational pursuits at Harding University. And we look forward to seeing how God continues to work through your life and ministry for the sake of the Good News of Jesus. We love you, Zoe!

## Building and Grounds Update

The decorative trees are scheduled to arrive this coming week. Please be aware that Monday through Saturday parking at the building will be limited while landscape work is being done.

## Welcome the Darby Family & Won By One Concert

On Sunday, July 27, we will welcome Chandler Darby as our new youth minister. Please pray for Chandler and his family as he completes his work at Pepperdine University and prepares for ministry at Conejo. Please also pray for our teens and their families as they prepare to welcome Chandler, Yvonne, Luci, and Banks.



That Sunday evening, Won by One, a six-member a capella performing group from Pepperdine University, will join us for the final concert of their summer tour. Following the Won By One concert, everyone will be encouraged to stay for a time of finger foods, desserts, and fellowship. This will be a great opportunity to get to know the Darby family better.

## Summer Joys at CVCC

With schools out, many of our members are free to travel, go to camps, participate in mission trips, and enjoy a different pace of life in the summer months. To help us keep things running smoothly at Conejo, please inform the office ([office@conejochurch.org](mailto:office@conejochurch.org)) of the weeks that you will be available to help with details here—whether teaching, leading a prayer, reading scripture, sharing a communion meditation, or serving communion. Thank you in advance for your help.

# Middle School and High School

## Youth Ministry Bible Classes

Today the teens' Bible class will be led by Mike Rivas.

## Beach Bonfire / August 5



During the summer, youth groups from Hilltop, Culver Palms, CVCC, and University Church come together for bonfires at Dockweiler Beach. Both middle schoolers and high schoolers are invited to attend the bonfires. This is a great way to meet new friends from other churches who have been or will be at the summer camps. The fun begins around 5pm and continues until about 9:30 or 10pm. For this event, we encourage that the CVYM

parents pull together and create some ride share opportunities so that everyone who wants to go will be able to join in the fun.



## Upcoming CVYM Events and CVYM Newsletter

Please click [CVYM Current Newsletter](#) to see information for all upcoming events (including dates, times, locations, and costs).

Here's an "at a glance" listing of upcoming teen events:

- July 20-26 King's Kamp
- August 5 Dockweiler Beach Bonfire
- August 17 Back-to-School Blessing Sunday

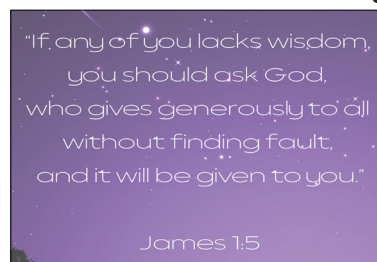
## Teen Events this Summer

With a break from school, our teens have had opportunities to show up and participate in activities that deepen their understanding of God, love for each other, and provide service for others. Thank you, teens and adults for participating in camps, bonfires, Amor mission to Mexico, and a variety of other activities to help make the world a better and more love-filled and God-honoring place.



# Children's Ministry

## What Our Kids Are Learning



During **July**, the big picture for the children's ministry classes will center around: When we don't know what to do, we can ask God and He will give us wisdom! The scripture focus for July will be **James 1:5**.

## Summer Volunteers Needed

We're looking for volunteers to help with our summer Children's Bible Classes and Children's Worship! Teachers and teacher's helpers are needed to guide and support our kids as they grow in faith during the summer months. Whether you can commit to one Sunday or several, your help makes a big difference. Please consider signing up to teach or assist at [tinyurl.com/summerhelp25](http://tinyurl.com/summerhelp25).

## King's Kamp 2025 / July 20-26

This week, several of our children, teens, and adults—Brooklyn Baird, Melissa Foster, Alyssa Hunnicutt, Calleigh Hunnicutt, Bronn Landis, Charee Landis, Jett Landis, Bonnie Rockey, Ella Rockey, James Rockey, Jojo Rockey, Tim Rockey, Everly Van Atta, Kellie Van Atta, Paxton Van Atta, Zoe Williamson, Clark Zola, and

Luke Zola—will be at King's Kamp in Idyllwild, CA. Please pray for all who are at King's Kamp this week, for safety, wonderful times of worship, encouragement, friendship, and fun.

## Children's Ministry Parent Planning Sessions

Amber will be holding parent meetings during Bible Class on July 27 and August 3. Parents will need to attend only one of these sessions. The goal of the meeting is both to listen to the parents' hopes for the CVCC Children's Ministry program and to share details about the plans and needs for the coming months as we work together.

## Kindergarten Blessing / August 17



On August 17, we will have a very special time of blessing for our students who are entering kindergarten this year. This will take place after our Sunday morning worship service. Lunch will be provided, so as the day draws nearer, we will need to have a head count of who will be staying so that there will be food for everyone present.



# Prayer Corner

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

## PRAISES

**New Members** – Jonathan Pearce; Arlene Leedy

**Pregnancies:** Jordan Cho (August), Brian and Molly Sanders (October), Jenna Jolly (November)

**Baptisms:** Calleigh Hunnicutt, Gwen Hunnicutt, Brandon Starkey, Cash Landis, Sky Landis

**Summer Intern:** Zoe Williamson

**Hiring of new Youth Minister**

## THOSE GRIEVING

**Chris Heard** – loss of father, Robert Heard (July 2025) and mother (November 2024)

**Tami Williamson** – loss of father, Tom Bonner

**Eliza Erickson** – loss of infant nephew, Shepherd Wright

**Bonnie Rockey** – loss of grandfather, Donald Skipper

**Arlene Leedy** – loss of husband, Bill Leedy

**Javon Johnson** – loss of sister, LaShaunia Pross

**Matt Joyner** – loss of grandmother, Joyce Joyner

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

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

**Jan Willis** – loss of sister-in-law, Rosemary Davis

## FIGHTING CANCER

**Marilyn Aurand** – cancer has returned; recovering from broken ribs following recent fall; physically and mentally battle-weary

**David Malinowsky** (brother of Jeanette Starkey) – stage IV pancreatic cancer

**Becky Russell** (grandmother of Haylie Douglas) – breast cancer

**Maria Baake** – breast cancer

**David Green** – biomarker tests every other month yielding positive results

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

**Kurt Krebs** (friend of Ed Sanders) – multiple myeloma

## VARIOUS CONCERNS

**David and Danna Willis** (brother of Tim Willis) – as they adjust to life in the US after 20 years of mission work in Samoa

**Jeff Emery** (brother-in-law of Chris Heard) – recovering from recent triple bypass surgery

**Peggy Carter** (grandmother of Christina Eng) – recent surgery removing infected gallbladder; complications due to atrial fibrillation and congestive heart failure

**Brittany Joyner** – safety, stamina, opportunities to encourage those around her on the castle-building team in France

**Sarah Lovett** (niece of Rene Heard) – recovering from recent surgery

**Brian and Molly Sanders** (son and daughter-in-law of Ed and Sheryl Sanders) – twins due in October!

**Shirley Pacifici** (mother of Charee Landis) – ongoing heart issues

**Susan Pratt** – recovering from knee replacement surgery

**Brandon Starkey** – recovering from recent back surgery

**Sharon Gatchell** (mother of Sheryl Sanders) – help and discernment in finding a caregiver who is a good match for Sharon

**Patricia “Gamma” Foster** (grandmother of Noel Tomlinson) – prayers for peace and comfort while she’s in a memory care unit

**Eliza Erickson** – problems with thyroid function

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

**Carol Overton** (mother of Daniel Overton) – recovering at home from effects of a brain infection

**Steve Simpson** (brother of Lorna T., Stephanie S. and Claudia dB.) – rare and aggressive autoimmune disease, ANCA-Associated Vasculitis

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

**Peace and safety** for the world in turbulent times

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

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

**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

## MILITARY SERVICE

**Javon Johnson** - serving as chaplain at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington

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

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

Attendance  
+ Giving

July 13 Attendance		July 13 Giving	
On-Site Service	103	Weekly Giving Average	\$12,604
Online Viewing	62	Weekly Giving Budget	\$13,550
		Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)	\$1,690,878

## 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

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

**Amber Johnson**  
Interim Children's Minister  
(310) 463-3252 cell  
[amberjohnson02@gmail.com](mailto:amberjohnson02@gmail.com)

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

**Zoe Williamson**  
Preaching & Ministry Intern  
(732) 858-4735 cell  
[zwilliamson@harding.edu](mailto:zwilliamson@harding.edu)

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