

BE the BLESSING

CONEJO VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 1, 2026

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 CVYM Devo at the Building

Upcoming Events

- Mar 2 Guys' Group
- Mar 2 Women's Bible Study
- Mar 4 Flourishing Families
- Mar 4 Reynolds' Life Group
- Mar 5 Conejo Academy Tutoring
- Mar 5 Fosters' Small Group
- Mar 7 Guys' Golf Outing

Upcoming Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------|-----|
| Braeden Wooton | 3/3 |
| Emmett Hatfield | 3/3 |
| Matthew Johnson | 3/5 |
| Michael Williams | 3/5 |
| Michael Thomas | 3/7 |
| Jim White | 3/7 |

Growing Together In Faith

Kari Odenath

One of the gifts of belonging to a church family that spans generations is witnessing the interactions between the old and the young. For example, a few weeks ago, we watched our young children deliver handmade valentines to our senior members during the service. I noticed laughter and smiles, as well as some nervousness on the part of both the children and adults. It is small moments like these that I love so much about our church family. We prioritize involvement of our children with the whole community, allowing them to experience the joy of giving and to receive our loving encouragement in return. My hope is that this plants the first seeds of God's love in our young ones, while bringing renewed joy and energy to those who are "young at heart."

Many of us first encountered God through the faith of others. Perhaps it was a parent who prayed over us, a Sunday school teacher who told the stories of Jesus with enthusiasm and care, or a mentor who introduced us to Scripture. For a season, faith is something we borrow. But there comes a moment when faith begins to shift. Often, the shift begins with questions and doubt, followed by trust and the courage to say "yes" to God.

But that "yes" is not the finish line. Faith is living and active, shaped throughout each season of our lives. I admire our senior members who continue to show up each week to hear what our teachers and ministers have to share with them about God. They continue to grow in their faith, and spread their wisdom and experiences to others as well. God speaks to us through teachers, ministers, and each other. Even our teens and children participate, often without realizing it! They remind us what trust, joy, and new faith looks like.

For those of us—like me—balancing work, family, responsibilities, and relationships, our intergenerational church family is a great source of comfort. We are not expected to grow in our own faith, or nurture the faith of our children, all by ourselves. We all have so much we can learn from one another. Older believers plant seeds they may never see fully grown. Younger believers ask questions that stretch and refine the faith of others. Together, we reflect a living, breathing body of Christ. May we continue to be a church that encourages faith to grow, whether we have been believers for many years, are new in our faith, or are still discovering what it means to be a follower of Christ.



What's Happening At Conejo



Today's Sermon: "Wherever You Go"

Today's sermon will be brought to us by Andrew Sutherland. Sometimes our feelings outpace our commitment. We enthusiastically set goals or embrace ideals, then realize later that meeting them involves challenges we do not want to face. In Luke 9, Jesus warns three would-be disciples that following him may involve such challenges, and he provides stern rebukes for two who make excuses for delaying their discipleship. But the text is not simply a call for struggling Jesus-followers to buckle up and tough it out. It's a lesson about the kind of challenges we should anticipate.

40-Day Spiritual Adventure

It is the traditional time each year in which Christians around the world spend six weeks preparing spiritually for the remembrance of Good Friday and the celebration of Easter. This time remembers and echoes the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness preparing for his earthly ministry. This season of preparation can include the following:

- deeper and more fervent prayer
- greater engagement in acts of service and hospitality
- greater contrition over sins that push us away from God and neighbor
- deliberate curtailing of distractions and time-wasters
- expanding practices of generosity toward those in need
- voluntary fasting from some of our typical comforts
- the pursuit of reconciliation in broken relationships

Please [click here](#) for this year's flyer of ideas and suggestions of practices and activities for this year's season of Lent. Copies of this flyer are available on the entry table.



Major Lessons from the Minor Prophets

The books of Hosea through Malachi may be short, but they pack powerful teachings about human frailties and divine reliability into their compact frames. The auditorium class is surveying these short books, seeking these prophets' messages for their own times and applications for today. This Sunday, Josh Fullman will lead a class on Obadiah, Habakkuk, and Joel.

Navigating the Dementia Journey / March 1

According to a 2025 NIH report, more than 40% of Americans over age 55 today will eventually develop dementia, and the number of new dementia cases per year is expected to double by 2060. So, there's a really high chance that your family will be dealing with Alzheimer's disease or other form of dementia at some level in the next few years.

As part of Conejo's Health Ministry Team, Christian Socquet and Tammy Ditmore will offer an overview of what it can be like to walk this path with loved ones. We will meet in the overflow room on Sunday, March 1, during the Bible class hour to discuss early warning signs, crucial legal and medical decisions,

care options, and finding joy in the journey. Christian and Tammy have cared for multiple family members with dementia and Alzheimer's and hope to help you avoid some common mistakes and show you how to find the support you need in these situations.

Baptism and Discipleship Class / March 15, 22, 29

Have questions about following Jesus? As part of the 40-Day Spiritual Adventure in preparation for Easter, Nick Zola will be guiding a class on baptism and discipleship from 9-10am for the last three Sundays in March. This discussion is for adults as well as youth. Anyone interested in exploring the meaning of baptism is welcome to join. Questions or want to sign up? [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to the right.



Passing of Silas Shotwell

One of the former ministers of the Conejo Valley Church of Christ, Silas Shotwell, passed away on February 14 in Artesia, NM at the age of 87. Click [Obituary](#) for more about his life.

Potted Plant Giveaway

Variegated Spider Plants from 2-inches to 2-feet tall are going to be given away on the patio after church on Sunday, March 1. You can take as many as you want of these potted plants. They are typically indoor or patio plants that need a bright space but not direct sunlight. Doug Fodor has been cultivating these as a hobby for years and now has an over-abundance of them. He generously wants to give them away to church members, their families and friends. Please consider adopting the plants and helping Doug in the process.

Bowls of Hope Painting Party / March 8

Our annual Bowls of Hope painting party to support Many Mansions is scheduled for Sunday, March 8, from 3-5pm. This is a wonderful and fun intergenerational Sunday afternoon activity. The cost to participate is \$20 per person. Sign up at [2026 Bowl Painting Party for Many Mansions](#) or click the QR code above. The bowls will be fired, glazed, then sold for the annual Bowls of Hope fundraiser for Many Mansions later this year.



Hiking Ministry / March 14

Our next hike is scheduled for Saturday, March 14, at 10am. We will gather to hike to the Sycamore Canyon Falls and meet at the trailhead where Wendy dead ends on Potrero Road. It is about 4-mile round trip; not suitable for strollers.

Church of Christ Foundation Scholarship

The Church of Christ Foundation is accepting 2026 scholarship applications until April 30, 2024. Students who will be attending a college or university affiliated with the Churches of Christ in the fall of 2026 are invited to apply. Scholarships range from \$1,500 to \$3,000, and you can typically apply for a renewal scholarship for up to 4 years. Apply online at [churchofchristfoundation.com](#). If you have any questions or would like additional information, please reach out to Tom Laing at cocfoundationboard@gmail.com.

Middle School and High School

Volunteer for CVYM!

Those who have expressed interest in chaperoning for the CVYM's weekly Sunday Bible classes and devos will be scheduled through the Planning Center app. Please accept or decline each assignment (as you do for services). If you are interested in serving in this capacity and have not yet communicated that with us, please let us know through the Let Me Serve form, or through direct communication with Chandler. His contact info is on page 4.

Youth Ministry Bible Classes

The "40-Day Spiritual Adventure" is underway, and the youth group is taking time to explore the major themes of Lent. Last week, we took a closer look at the biblical concept of repentance. Is it merely a sense of remorse, or does it involve a deeper transformation? This week, we're on to the theme of renewal. By turning away from misdirected ways and walking in step with the Spirit, we experience a process of renewal and

restoration. As we learn to follow Jesus, the old passes away and the "new has come."

Upcoming CVYM Events

- March 1 Rick Furino's Testimony @ 5:30pm, CVCC
- March 8 Bowls of Hope Painting Party 3-5pm, CVCC
- March 15 StrengthsFinder workshop @ 5:30pm, CVCC

Amor Mission Trip

If you are interested in being a part of the Amor Mission Trip this summer (June 21-26), it is imperative that you begin the process of securing your passport immediately! This process takes an extended amount of time and you will be unable to attend the trip if your passport is not current. Reach out to Chandler Darby for more information.



Children's Ministry

What Our Kids Are Learning in Bible Class



Kingdom Kids (Elementary) Bible Class: "Now That's a Miracle!"

Everywhere Jesus walked, people were changed. Over and over the Gospels reveal a flesh wearing God who wasn't preoccupied by where

He was going but was fully present to the people along the way. In this series, kids will encounter a miracle-working Jesus who sees them, loves them, and will stop at nothing to be with them.

Little Lights (Preschool) Bible Class: "Tell Me the Story of Jesus!" Our preschool-aged children are invited to join in Ms. Leslie's Bible class to engage with stories about Jesus. Don't miss out on this opportunity to have a love for Jesus written on your child's young heart and mind.



What Our Kids Are Learning in Worship

Kingdom Kids Worship: "Winter Games!"

"Winter Games!" Sending two pairs of ice dancers out on the floor at the same time, not wearing pads during an ice hockey game, playing dodgeball with a curling stone; these are all clearly bad ideas! By considering these silly ideas, we will learn how to avoid foolishness in our own life and strive to make God-honoring decisions.



Little Lights Worship: "David and the Giant: God is With Me!" We will learn about the early life of David and see that God was with David every step of the way, just as God is with us!



CVCM and CVYM Field Trip / March 1



Join us for a Valentine Field Trip! **Today**, we will enjoy pizza on the playground right after church and then head over to Atria Hillcrest to share valentines made by our children with local senior friends! You don't want to miss this special event!

SAVE THE DATE

FOR VBS

JUNE 15-18 FROM 9-NOON



How great is God—
beyond our understanding!
Job 36:26a (NIV)

Wonder@Home



Scan the QR Code for ways to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more!

Prayer Corner

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

PRAISES

Pregnancies: Alyssa West (May); Lexy Clark (June)

Births: Donovan Al Sanders, son of Arthur and Lindsey, grandson of Ed and Sheryl

Baptisms: Reese Odenath, Emersyn Starkey

THOSE GRIEVING

Joe Cocke – loss of brother, Larry Cocke

Family and Friends of Silas Shotwell

Family and Friends of Steve Rouse

Lynn Burke – loss of cousin, Steve Foster

Will Gaffga – loss of father, David Gaffga

Dwayne Hunnicutt – loss of brother, Kevin Hunnicutt

Chris Heard – loss of parents, Robert and Linda Heard

Tami Williamson – loss of father, Tom Bonner

Eliza Erickson – loss of infant nephew, Shepherd Wright

Bonnie Rocky – loss of grandfather, Donald Skipper

Arlene Leedy – loss of husband, Bill Leedy

FIGHTING CANCER

Marilyn Aurand – additional cancer in the right lung; physically and mentally battle-weary

Rick Marrs – undergoing treatment for prostate cancer

Harriet Overton – undergoing

treatment for leukemia

Bruce McAfee (husband of Maxi McAfee) – undergoing treatment for histiocytic sarcoma

Kiki White (sister-in-law of Jim and Penny White) – recently diagnosed with contained uterine cancer; rheumatoid arthritis

Tony Demuth (brother-in-law of Joe Cocke) – recently diagnosed with renal cell carcinoma

Cheryl Argano – 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

Jackson Cho – recovering from minor surgery

Matt Joyner – torn ACL and MCL; awaiting direction from doctors

Dale Pfremmer (father of Kindy De Long) – recovering at home following recent hospitalization

Tyler Ditmore (son of Mike and Tammy Ditmore) – recovering from surgery to repair significant knee injury

Dot Holden – numerous falls recently; family searching for caregiver to help

Mike Thomas – recovering from recent hip surgery

Jim Green (brother of David Green) – recovering from recent

heart surgery

Peggy Carter (grandmother of Christina Eng) – some limitations due to atrial fibrillation and congestive heart failure

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

Joe Reynolds (father of Brittany Joyner) – heart failure

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

Peace and safety for all war-torn areas around the world

Healing, peace, and justice in our nation and communities

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

Medical Clinic Mission Support – Ghana

Daniel and Karly Napier – Thessaloniki, Greece

Megan Randolph – Associate Director of Teacher Services, TeachBeyond

Brendin Williamson – Trekk Church, Tucson, Arizona

MILITARY SERVICE

Michael Warford – stationed in Spain with the Navy

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

Attendance
+ Giving

February 22 Attendance		February 22 Giving	
On-Site Service	161	Weekly Giving Average	\$10,158
Online Viewing	69	Weekly Giving Budget	\$13,550
		Be the Blessing Giving (To Date)	\$1,699,671

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