

# WATCHMAN ALERT

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Volume 28, Number 10—October 2024

## *The Constancy of Our Prayers*

Often when we talk about prayer, we're talking about seeing God work to change something. Consider this—we pray more when life is tough than when it's great. We pray more when we're poor than when we're rich, and less when life is good than when it's rough. We pray because there are situations that we have no control over, and divine intervention seems to be the only solution. Oswald Chamber writes, "We tend to use prayer as a last resort, but God wants it to be our first line of defense. We pray when there's nothing else we can do, but God wants us to pray before we do anything at all."

Paul reminds Timothy to ***Pray without ceasing***, 1 Timothy 5:17.

More and more our culture is inundated with a constant stream of information—from the news feeds on social media, to notifications and alerts on our phones, it's possible to know what's going on with who, pretty much all the time. But it's easy in all this constant noise to miss the voice of God. So, we have to make it a practice to engage in prayer—in communication—with God. And the Bible challenges us to keep the line open all the time—to "pray without ceasing." That means not only can we talk to God whenever we need to, but we can hear from God whenever we need to.

God wants us to have a vital and effective prayer life. He encourages us to pray, and not just when we're in trouble, but as the guiding force of our lives. To seek God in all places, about all things. Corrie Ten Boom asks, "Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?" My challenge to you is this —pursue God in prayer. Make it as much a part of your life as breathing. Keep your relationship with God close and right so that you can go to him whenever you need and receive from him whatever he sends. Francis of Assisi said, "We should seek not so much to pray but to *become* prayer."

It's so vital to maintain a connection with God through prayer. If there's something I'm usually uncomfortable doing, it's reaching out to people I hardly know. Asking a stranger for help is hard. Sharing intimate struggles with someone you hardly know is hard. And seeking the guidance, blessing, and grace from a God who you rarely spend any time with becomes awkward. So, maintain a relationship with Him by staying in communication. Pray to Him and listen to what he's saying back. Consider that person you text most throughout the day—even the little things. What would it look like to maintain that level of intentionality with God?

The church of God, and the lives of its people will be transformed by ceaseless, effective prayer. Martin Luther said, "No one can believe how powerful prayer is and what it can effect, except those who have learned it by experience. Whenever I have prayed earnestly, I have been heard and have obtained more than I prayed for. God sometimes delays, but He always comes."

May our lives be shaped by the constancy of our prayers, and the closeness of our relationship with God.

**George Helewa**  
Pastor of Young Adults

## PRAISE & PETITION...

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### *Senior Pastor, Dr. David Jeremiah*

- I look forward to our continued study of the Life of Joseph. Let's trust God to speak into our lives as we consider the example of a life well lived.
- Your prayers for my health are a great encouragement to me. Thank you!
- Our schools are at record enrollment. Pray for safe campuses and that we will make an eternal impact, Biblically and academically, on every student God has sent our way.
- Our Small Groups recruitment drive in September was very successful. Thank you for praying.
- Ask our God to stir His people to vote with a Biblical worldview and place the candidates of His choice in places of leadership during the upcoming election.
- Pray for revival.
- Trust God for His protection of Shadow Mountain Ministries from the forces of evil.

*Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people. (Proverbs 14:34)*

### *Family Ministries*

#### **Praise:**

- For the opportunity to provide biblical counsel and encouragement to individuals who are facing challenges.

#### **Prayer:**

- Pray for wisdom and discernment for our counselor as she connects with people seeking guidance.
- Those who are attending GriefShare and DivorceCare. Please pray for healing, comfort and strength for those who attend and for godly wisdom and for our leaders.

*Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22-23*

### *Evangelism, Connections, Discipleship, New Members & Baptism, Pastor Scott Pittman*

#### **Praise Report**

Here are the numbers for the decisions made so far this year for all our campuses.

- Salvations/Rededications      391
- Baptism                                104
- Membership                          104

#### **Prayer Requests**

- Pray for our Evangelism/Connections team, that God will continue to guide them in their efforts.
- Pray for the deacons and deaconesses who help with baptisms.
- Pray for our discipleship groups, that they would be able to build a strong foundation to their new faith and that we would be able to connect them into other ministries of the church.
- Pray for Toni Vowels our Administrative Assistant who cares for all the details surrounding assimilations.
- Pray for all our first-time guests, that God would meet them where they are and help them find a home at Shadow Mountain.

- Pray for everyone involved in the New Member's Class as they process the details of the class during this season.
- Pray for all the altar counselors and pastors, that they would be encouraged, and that God would give them many opportunities to minister to people in our weekend services.

## *Pastoral Care, Pastor Ray Benton*

Pray for Pastor Ray Benton and Pastor Gareld Murphy and Pastor Tim Powell as they seek to be an encouragement to those going through difficult physical challenges and those who are shut in. Pray our calls will provide encouragement and comfort

Pray for our tele-care team members who connect weekly over the phone with encouragement by means of prayer and scripture to those who are shut-in from our congregation. These calls are more important than ever because of the isolation many are experiencing.

**People home/hospital recuperating:** Dawn Wilson, Jordan Roberts, Chuck and Loretta Emert, Carolyn Hunt, Betty Preston, Dave and Yolanda Schoenfeld, Jim Nemec, Elizabeth Carrillo, Matthew Carrillo, Ruth Cast, Donna Coombs, Suzanne Bennett, John Paradise, Tom Henry, Arlene Vollmer, Sterling Smith, Don Harrison, Ken Howell, Gwenda Brown, Jeanette Eddery, Larry Weinstein, Shirley Pickney, Jack Kriege, Terry Noyes, Jordan Verhoeve, Jonothan Jones, Sandy Saunders, Glenda Parker, Nancy Johnson, Bea Keller, Al Garrett, Terry Ulmer, Marilyn Campbell

**Pray for shut-ins:** Sally Barber, Sue Jarrett, Barbara Hendrix, John Goetz, Cliff Swanson, Doug Ayres, David Morris, Alice Cook, Karena De La France

**Pray for families who have lost loved ones:** Chuck McIntire, Carol Hightower, Stan Mickaelian

*"The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"* Psalm 27:1

## *Director of Servant Ministries, Joyce Tepper*

- Join us in thanking God for the new additions to our team.
- God is bringing the right people to strengthen Servant Ministries with rightly gifted servants.
- The desire for so many of the new members to be eager to serve, is a lovely gift and beautiful to witness.
- Pray for the right fit for each individual as they ask questions, observe and seek God's guidance.

## *Business Office, Josh James*

### **Praise:**

- God's continued favor and blessing on Shadow Mountain, Christian Unified Schools, and Southern California Seminary.
- The congregation's faithful giving and His provision for the ministries at Shadow Mountain.
- The congregation's support of the Benevolence Fund and the Deacons' discernment and compassion in the administration of this fund.
- The dedicated staff that God has called to serve in the Finance, Payroll, and Compliance/Benefits Department.

**Prayer:**

- God's counsel in our stewardship of that which He has entrusted to us. May we use it according to His will to reach people locally and world-wide with God's Word, the Gospel message, and knowledge of His love. That many would come to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.
- Provision for those at SMCC who are struggling financially.
- Counsel for daily wisdom and discernment for our staff.
- Prayer for discernment and consistent joy for our educators at the school and seminary.

## *Music Ministry, Tobin Davis*

- Praise God for the ministry of the Children's Choirs and Students Choirs as they reconvene this Fall.
- Praise God for the Music Ministry team as we begin a new season of worship.
- Pray for health and protection of the families of the music ministry staff.

## *Kids Ministries, Jesse Abeel*

**Praises:**

- We regularly hear encouraging stories from families about kids coming to faith, wanting to get baptized, and enjoying their time at church while learning and growing in their faith.
- We have a vibrant team of staff and volunteers, which is a huge praise!
- Our Kids Blast (and Kids Blast Jr.) large group program continues to be a success and has attracted many new kids to church.

**Prayer Requests:**

- We are struggling to find enough volunteers on the weekends, especially on Saturday nights.
- We have experienced a lot of sadness with staff and volunteers losing loved ones lately. Please pray for their hearts and for God's peace (Phil. 4:6-7).
- For our staff and volunteers to joyously communicate the love of Christ to our kids, their parents and each other.
- For kids to have a genuine relationship with God, build a Biblical foundation for their lives, grow with friends and leaders, and develop a community at church that they love being part of.
- Pray for the power of God's truth to permeate deeper in the hearts and minds of our young ones than any of the lies surrounding them in this culture we are living in!

## *Small Groups, Dale Bacon*

- As we begin this new season of small groups, pray for all the new members who have joined. Ask God to help them find community and meaningful connections that lead to spiritual growth and life change.
- Pray for our leaders who graciously open their homes each week. Ask God to strengthen them and give wisdom as they shepherd their groups and provide a space for connection and growth.
- Pray for our small group coaches who diligently support, encourage and pray for our small group leaders. Pray for their discernment, and continued reliance on God as they invest in the lives of our leaders.

## *College Ministry*

- Please pray for our students and for their protection from the cultural forces prevalent on college campuses.
- Pray for our students who are seeking hope and truth in a world that seems divided to them.
- Please pray for our weekly small groups, monthly activities and fellowship gatherings.

## *Young Adult Ministry, 20's – 30's, George Helewa*

### **Praises**

- Thank you that we HAVE a ministry to this vulnerable and challenging demographic. This is a good group of YAs who are pursuing the Lord!
- Our ministry continues to grow! There is great momentum and community.
- For many answered prayers within our ministry, and that the group is sharing them with each other!
- For our amazing volunteer leaders who serve YA's. May the Lord bless them richly.

### **Prayer requests**

- **For our Fall ministries:** life change and growth in our Young Adults this fall.
- **For our Small Groups** as we develop our lessons, train **leaders**, and ask God to put together our groups. We want them to be places where YA's will experience life-changing relationships; healthy and encouraging spaces where God honoring community happens through Bible Study. We need leaders, homes, and faithful commitments from people.
- We need to develop more **leaders** from within our group. Pray for new table and small group leaders to emerge.
- For our men to be surrendered and be Men of God who LEAD. For our women to be Women of Honor and Surrendered to God. Patience, honor and virtue to define their lives.
- **Protection** for our Young Adults serving in the military.
- **Mental, emotional, and spiritual health for Young Adults.**
- **Spiritual** and **physical** growth and **revival** in our ministry.
- **Relational wisdom** for the YA's that God is calling into more romantic relationships. That they would put God first and their significant other second.
- For our Events, YA Café, and small groups, to impact lives every time we're together.
- **Spiritual discernment** as our community lives and works in the world.
- **For Pastor George: clarity** and **endurance** as he leads his group and others in the new year. **Wisdom** to navigate the demands of ministry, family, and school. **Wisdom** as he prepares teaching lessons.
- **Also, for Pastor George and his wife Krysten** for a strong marriage, and wisdom as they navigate parenting their two daughters. For valuable time together as a couple, and for their daughters to find their value, strength, and hope in Christ every day. Pray their marriage itself serves as a ministry.
- Pray for some financial needs for car repairs to be met.
- **For Pastor George's oldest, Amira** (20). Bless her with authentic relationships, spiritual mentors, and a sense of purpose. Guide her as she finds the right job and considers going back to school. Encouragement as she navigates Young Adulthood. Pray her volunteer service turns into a paid position.
- **For Pastor George's youngest, Jasmine** (16), Jasmine has seen great improvement with the medical challenges with her left leg. Pray for miraculous healing and continued improvement. Wisdom and discernment as she goes to her hybrid high school/college program in a public school. Grace, strength, and wisdom as she navigates that, as well as Christ's light to shine through her!
- **For the San Miguel Fire Dept. where Pastor George serves as Chaplain.** For opportunity to share God's hope with the firefighters as they navigate the challenges they face personally and professionally. Protect their minds, bodies, spirits, marriages, and families. Pray they get the raise they need and deserve. Pray for the department's new Chief as he takes on this important role.
- **Administrative help** for the Young Adult ministry as we continue to provide connection and events for YA's at SMCC.

## *Middle School Ministry, Chase Ewrich*

### **Prayer requests:**

- Pray that God would continue to bless Middle School Ministry and the momentum of reaching new students and new families.
- Pray for spiritual growth in those attending our mid-week small groups.
- We have lots of new students joining us—please pray they feel welcome and comfortable.

- Pray that students would have a tenderness toward the Gospel.
- Pray for the parents of our middle schoolers—they have a hard job and need support and encouragement!
- Pray for more volunteers to join us in reaching middle schoolers for Christ.
- Pray for continued safety and health for our staff, volunteers, and students.

**Praises:**

- Our ministry to middle schoolers is continuing to grow!
- Students seem to be really connecting and are finding a sense of community in our ministry.
- We have an exceptional team of staff and interns. I thank the Lord for them!

## *Shadow Youth High School Ministry, Pastor Grant Todd*

**We need prayer for the following concerning the Youth Ministry:**

- For the Lord to use the High School messages to help our students connect and grow.
- We want to pray for students to connect, grow, and serve the Lord.
- Asking God to energize and use our staff to reach out to our students.

## *Young Married Ministries, Troy Leeman*

**Praises:**

- We have 20 healthy and growing table communities in the ministry.
- Our recent events have been well attended, and we have had great fellowship times.
- For the new couples attending the ministry. We have seen new couples almost every week this year.

**Prayer Requests**

- We have nine ladies who are pregnant in the ministry. We need prayers for healthy babies and pregnancies.
- Prayers for new leaders as we continue to expand our table communities.
- Prayers for several families in the ministry who have recently lost family members.
- Prayers for several individuals in the ministry going through considerable health challenges.

## *Women's Ministries, Lisa Paulson*

**Praise:**

- Praise God for a great start to our fall Bible studies!
- Praise God for new and returning ladies who desire to be in the Word!
- Praise God for the power of prayer!

**Prayer:**

- Women's Ministries will stay true to its mission: Connecting women to God, His Word, and women who will help them grow!
- More women would desire to serve and be trained to lead a small group.
- Revival begins in the heart! Pray that women would have an accurate view of who they are in Christ and see their value in the home, the workplace, marriage, and family. That God would protect and guide them as they navigate through life's challenges.
- God's wisdom, guidance, and protection over Lisa, Jennifer, Kasey, and Council as we seek His will in ministering to the needs of His women.
- The discipleship program will continue to grow and produce more Disciple-Makers.
- God will confirm the right speaker for our spring outreach.

- Our fall Global Connect Event will connect women's hearts to our missionaries.
- Protection over all that surrounds Women's Ministries and SMCC!

*"For the equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro carried away with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love." Ephesians 4:12-16*

## *Men's Ministries, Manny Sanchez*

### **Praises**

- We had a great start to our Men's Bible Study! Packed to capacity in the Event Center again! Lots of newcomers too! We are now averaging 550 men when we combine El Cajon and the other campuses! Praise God!
- Our Discipleship Ministry had a stellar kickoff with about 20 men signing up to be disciplers and many signing up to be disciplined.
- We had almost 100% recommits to our Men's Council for the 2024-2025 season and looking forward to a God honoring and fruitful year!
- Praising God for the growth of our "venues men's studies" with almost 100 men meeting in addition to our El Cajon Bible study.

### **Requests:**

- We are planning for our next Men's Outreach in March 2025 - praying for God's guidance as we select speakers and plan for the event.
- Praying for 100 salvations through the men's ministry in this next fiscal year.
- Pray for the launch of new dads and kids ministry opportunities and events to help dads disciple their kids. We have one dads and kids bible study and two special events in the works.
- Pray for our goal and dream of 1000 men in Bible study here at Shadow Mountain! We stated this goal 2½ years ago that in 5 years we would see this happen. So, we have 2½ more years to add 450 more guys. Every man in Bible study at Shadow and beyond would be so awesome to see!

## *Campus Operations, Bryan Snow*

*"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen" (Doxology, Thomas Ken, 1674).*

It's easy to let our prayer time become like reading through a telephone directory. There are so many needs, so many things to bring before Him. Paul said to bring our requests with thanksgiving (Phil 4:6). Bringing praise, worship, and thanksgiving along with our requests reminds us to whom we are speaking, keeps the focus on Him, and keeps things fresh.

### **Please pray with us:**

- That God would pour out His blessing and power upon Eugenio Mata-Montes, Jr. Mata-Guerrero, and Gabriel Nuñez as they maintain the landscaping and grounds.
- That God will grant us safety: "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31)
- This month, Shadow Mountain will host the annual AWANA conference for our area. Christian High will also hold their Homecoming event. Please pray that these will glorify the Lord and be used by Him to raise up a new generation of Godly men and women.

## *Missions, Dr. Gary Coombs*

### **Prayer**

- Pray for our Missionary Kids who are attending college away from their families (Madison and Carly Nelman, Oliver Buckman, Rebecca Lee, Ash Leatherwood, and Daniel, Josue, and Alex Herrera) to thrive in their studies and discern God's leading in their lives.
- Pray for safety and effectiveness for our missionaries in Israel. Specifically, pray for them as they parent their children and guide them through moments of potential fear and uncertainty.
- Pray for Jason and Jody Olver to find a new place to live and for their transition to new ministry.
- Pray for the overall health of our missionaries who either do not have health insurance or are far from adequate medical care.
- Pray for strong marriages and parenting relationships for our missionaries and their families.
- Pray for our Global Teams staff as they prepare for the next year of short-term mission trips and for God to prepare the hearts of those who will serve on those teams.

## *Sports Ministry, Tim Brown*

### **Praise**

- Praise God for the relationships we have been able to build through our Summer Sports Camps: Soccer Camp from June; Basketball Camp from July; Multi-sport Camp from August.
- Praise God the 400+ participants that attended our Summer Sports Camps.
- Praise God for the coaches and volunteers who have given their time and talents to coach up the participants.
- Praise God for the resources available on our campus to facilitate our Sports Programs.

### **Prayer**

- Pray for those serving in the Sports Ministry to represent Jesus Christ well during our sports programs.
- Pray for opportunities to share the Gospel, both one on one and in our team settings, with the families who will be involved in our sports programs.
- Pray for the recruitment of godly, mature coaches for the upcoming Youth Basketball League starting in November.
- Pray for the volunteers and coaches who will help serve in the Youth Basketball League. Pray for their teamwork and communication while coaching and leading.
- Pray for the families that participate in the Youth Basketball League. Pray that they would be open to visiting other programs at SMCC. Pray for the relationships that we would build with them and the influence of the Christian community in their lives.

## *Cares Ministry, Kevin Gowing*

### **Praise**

- With donations our Cares Ministry finished the fiscal year under budget!
- We did a slight change in box size several months ago and it has proven effective in combating the rising food prices while still giving over 18 meals per box. This has enabled us to serve more people and our list is currently at almost 1,100 families per month. Here are some praises for Fiscal Year 2024:
  - 19,500 Volunteer Hours
  - 13,237 Cares Food Boxes
  - 370,636 Lbs. of Food
  - 308,863 Meals Distributed
  - 157,500 Lbs. Donated Fresh Produce



**Prayer Requests:**

- That donations continue strong this new fiscal year so that we can continue to bless so many currently in need.
- For our recipients that they would continue to have hearts softened by the Spirit and that many would come to know Jesus.
- That I would be better at remembering which of the 130 volunteers are out because of sickness so that I can pray for them.

## *Hispanic Congregation, Pastor Erick Zaldaña*

**Praise:**

- God for our **Noche Hispana** and the hundreds of families who attended this massive evangelistic outreach; Glory to God for such a blessing to reach people from all over San Diego and for having the chance for them to hear the Good News.
- God for our **New believers Discipleship class “Introducción a la fe,”** where in a four-session class our brothers and sisters new to the faith had the opportunity to learn and ask questions with knowledgeable pastors.
- God for the **Deacon and Deaconess Ministries**, where volunteers share their kindness and love for God by serving on Sunday’s and at all church related events, by making sure everyone is assisted and comfortable in the house of the Lord.
- For **Women’s Ministry**, who are finishing their last small groups discipleships of the year, may God continue to help them grow in obedience and knowledge so that they can become effective Christians and bear fruit.

**Pray:**

- For our **10-week Discipleship Arje for all campuses**, our active members and servants will have access to this great Biblical source as a basis to building a strong foundation in their Christian faith.
- Our Mens’ Ministry Retreat MORIAH, where a small group will dedicate a few days disconnected from daily life to connect with God.
- For the upcoming **WHITE** event on October 31st where each year, our kids are invited to celebrate the light of the world and be surrounded by family members and friends.

## *Arabic Congregation, Pastor Robert Helou*

**Praises:**

- For the two people who accepted Christ: One American, one Iraqi, Parkway Plaza Ministry.
- For three people who rededicated their lives to Christ: One American, one Mexican, and one Iraqi.
- For the blessings enjoyed at the special weekly meeting for twelve young married couples every Monday evening.
- For the increase in our weekly Sunday service. Several guests who are new to our congregation became regulars.
- For the four young people who are remotely studying at two different seminaries in Lebanon and Jordan.
- For three Muslim families who are regularly attending our various weekly services and growing in the faith.
- For being able to end our Arabic church annual budget and close the fiscal year in the black.

**Prayer Requests:**

- For our Evangelism Team to have more freedom sharing the Gospel at Parkway Plaza in El Cajon.
- For our sister Nehad who was attacked by a strange virus in her left ear and her hearing was affected.
- For our two sisters: Nadia and Heyam who are going through some hard health challenges and treatments.
- For sister Suha who lost her job four months ago and is looking for a job. She must support her aged mother.
- For the critical situation in Lebanon as the limited war is still going on between Israel and the Palestinians.
- For all those who are involved in the various ministries as volunteers and the part-time job employees.
- For the ordination service of the associate pastor of our Arabic Ministry who just graduated from seminary.

## *Alpine Campus, Kekoa Grover*

### **Praises:**

- We thank God for our Small Groups and Small Group Leaders who are facilitating community and deeper spiritual growth this Fall at the Alpine Campus.

### **Praying For:**

- Pray for all those participating in a Small Group—that they will connect with others, feel a sense of belonging, and grow in their walk with the Lord.
- Pray for wisdom as we navigate facility challenges during the rainy season, specifically installing adequate drainage for water to flow out of our playground area and back patio, as well as addressing leaks in the fellowship hall that may pose a slip hazard.

## *Encinitas Campus, Paul Murray*

### **We are thankful for...**

- A great Labor Day Summer Celebration!
- Great commitment and enthusiasm for our Fall season of ministry.
- Many guests are returning and attending the Encinitas Campus.

### **Requests:**

- For the street construction to not be a nuisance or difficulty for people attending.
- That our Fall schedule of events will serve as a catalyst for families to start attending our campus.
- For the health and well-being of many of our members.

## *Online Campus, Rod Gray*

### **Praises:**

- For over 15,000 viewers worldwide each weekend on our online platform, Facebook, and YouTube.
- For those who accept Christ and those who make recommitments through our online ministry.
- Praising God for 15 small groups operating this season.

### **Prayers:**

- For many who are homebound and shut-in to find a place to belong at Shadow Mountain Online.
- Continued increase for new online small group leaders and continued growth of our online small groups.
- For unchurched non-believers to come to Christ through our online platforms.

## *North Park Campus, Todd Hitchcock*

### **We are thankful for...**

- Our small group times on Tuesday and Thursday nights; they continue to be transforming and for all those in attendance
- The spiritual growth and commitment seen in those attending North Park.

### **We are praying for...**

- God to open doors for us to reach our community and to find creative ways of connection.
- The remodeling and refurbishment of the facility. Praise God for all those who have donated items and time to update our facility.
- Our weekly Bible studies and children's ministry programs which are beginning in September.

## *South Bay Campus, Pastor Fausto Garay*

### **We are thankful for...**

- Continued growth of our kids ministry.
- Successful, Game Night Ministry that continues to increase in size every time they meet by providing a fun evening of food and fellowship.

### **Prayer for:**

- New Youth Group Leader.
- Reaching our community through the Shine the Light of Jesus Event.
- More Small Group Leaders.

## *Central Coast Campus, Pastor Kevin Begley*

### **Prayer & Praise:**

- Continued prayer for a part time kids ministry leader.
- Pray for the continued ability to serve needs of our families.
- Pray for a part time office administrator.

### **Central Coast Praise:**

- Our worship team grows each month.
- Many of our property's renovations are completed or scheduled for completion.
- We continue to have great fellowship.
- One small group has grown by welcoming Filipino Catholics who are hearing the Bible for the first time.
- We have a diverse attendance every Sunday including older couples and young families.

## *Southern California Seminary, Dr. Gary Coombs*

### **Praise for:**

- The privilege of serving as a ministry of Shadow Mountain.
- Pastor Jeremiah's leadership and ministry, including his role as chancellor of Southern California Seminary.
- SCS Students and Alumni who are serving in local churches, in missions, in counseling, and in Christian schools and colleges. Grace, peace, and wisdom in serving.
- Our faithful faculty who work diligently in equipping believers with biblical knowledge, Christian character, and ministry skills!
- The joy of serving as SCS Staff and Faculty. Providing a working environment full of servant-minded people ready and available to serve the student body in their education to succeed in spreading the gospel in their ministry fields.
- Call to Care Scholarships are coming in! Church lay training continues to grow as the requests from local churches are blessed to have the training and begin Helping Ministries for their congregations.
- Transnational Association of Christian Colleges & Schools (TRACS) site visit took place with great accolades. We are now fully implementing and engaged in the institutional self-study process.

### **Prayer for:**

- Effective ministry for Seminary Leadership: Dr. Gary Coombs, President, Dr. Gino Pasquariello, Provost and Chief Academic Officer; Dr. James Fazio, Dean of Bible and Theology; Dr. Elizabeth Elenwo, Dean of Behavioral Sciences.
- SCS students and their families to be encouraged and faithful in their academic studies, ministries, and personal faith development as they navigate many shifting circumstances.
- Continuing generous support of donors through faithful giving for scholarships to help students attend seminary for Biblical training and formation.

- Ministry opportunities for graduating alumni as well as a connection with others through the Alumni Association.
- The annual Call to Care Conference is taking place on Friday, Oct. 11th for the partners of C2C banquet and Saturday the 12th kicking off with two keynotes: Brad Hambrick and Kristine Chapell and 18 workshops to train people of the church who want to help others through life's challenges with a biblical emphasis.

## *Christian Unified Schools, Bob Ruhlman*

### **Praise:**

- School is off to a great start, faculty and support staff are all settling in and many of the projects that were needed over the Summer are complete and accomplished. Praise God!
- Our weekly chapels continue to be a highly anticipated part of our school week. Our theme this school year is Rise Up: Living From a Higher Call based on Daniel 1:20, "In all matters of wisdom and understanding about which the king examined them, he found them ten times better."

### **Prayers:**

- Please pray for two students at CUSSD, one with leukemia and one with cancer, for complete healing over both and for comfort for their families and the students and wisdom for the doctors that are treating them.
- Please pray for safety over our families, students, and campuses.
- Please pray that our students would place their worry and anxiety in the Lord and rest in His promises and that our parents would have Godly wisdom in how to best support their children during the many stresses of adolescent life.
- Please pray for health, safety, and prepared hearts as the West and East campuses take 6th graders to camp. Pray that the kids have fun and most of all grow in their walk with Jesus or come to have a relationship with Him if they do not have one. Strengthen the teachers and adult leaders to be with the kids this week and to stay healthy and encouraged.
- Please pray for unity among our campuses and that we remember the why in serving and who we are serving.
- Please pray that we finish the first quarter of the school year strong!