

WATCHMAN ALERT

Volume 30, Number 4—April 2026

Four Words

The Gospel of Matthew chapter 15 recounts a remarkable encounter between the Lord Jesus and a Canaanite woman from the region of Tyre and Sidon. The people of that pagan territory were historically hostile toward the Jews. All we are told about her is that she was the mother of a demon-possessed daughter; her name and social standing remain unknown.

In her desperation, she came to Jesus and pleaded for her daughter's healing. At first, He seemed not to respond, allowing her to pass through a difficult test. Yet she persisted with humility and brokenness of heart. In the end, before His disciples and the surrounding crowd, Jesus declared four unforgettable words: **"Great is your faith."**

Another individual who received similar praise was the Roman centurion in Capernaum, who asked Jesus to heal his paralyzed servant. Jesus replied, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered that only a word was necessary. Then Jesus announced, **"Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith."**

Imagine a young painter hearing Pablo Picasso look at his work and say, **"Great is your painting."** Or a young musician hearing Wolfgang Mozart say, **"Great is your playing."**

Now imagine an ordinary person like you or me, living in faith and wholehearted surrender to God. One day that person meets Jesus Christ, the Author and Perfecter of faith, and hears Him declare those same four words, **"Great is your faith."**

In Scripture, we read of the Lord commending the faith of a Canaanite woman from a pagan background and a Roman officer from a pagan world. We also read of many heroes of faith listed in the Epistle to the Hebrews chapter 11. The encouraging truth is that the story of faith is not yet finished. The **"Hall of Faith"** is not complete without us.

What, then, is the Lord Jesus' testimony about your faith and mine? What will He say when we meet Him face to face?

It is not ultimately important what others say about you. If they are your enemies, they may undervalue you; if they are your friends, they may exaggerate your virtues. Whether they love you or hate you, praise you or criticize you, their opinions carry no eternal weight. What matters far more is God's assessment of you and of the quality of your faith.

What do you hope the Lord will say to you when you stand before Him? Do you strive to hear from His gracious lips the words, **"Great is your faith"?**

Have you ever considered what you would want written on your tombstone? Would you want it to read, **"He was of great wealth?"** And then watch as others divide what you spent a lifetime accumulating?

Would you prefer, **“He was of great reputation?”** Perhaps people would sincerely praise your character—yet soon afterward, they would return to their lives, and you would be forgotten.

Or would you rather it say, **“He was of great faith?”**

If so, your life—and even your death—will leave a lasting impact. And you will pass into a place where faith is no longer needed, because you will see the Lord face to face. Then you will hear Him say, in His gentle voice:

“Well done, good and faithful servant...enter into the joy of your Lord.”

Pastor Robert Helou

Arabic Congregation

PRAISE & PETITION...

Pastor, Dr. David Jeremiah

- HE IS RISEN! Praise Him for the new life He brings and trust Him to use our services over Resurrection weekend to introduce many to our Savior.
- Our studies in the Book of Jonah have been a great encouragement. Give thanks to our God for His mercies, that He is the God of second chances.
- Continue to pray for the turmoil in the Middle East, that God would intervene and stop the loss of life, using these events to draw many to Himself, the only source of peace.
- The Shadow Mountain Nominating Committee is busy as they seek to fill positions of leadership. Let's look to our God to direct their activities and grant open hearts to those He is calling to serve.
- Our High School Ministry hosts their annual River Trip outreach on April 24th—26th. Trust God for safety and for many to be drawn to our Savior.
- Shadow Mountain will be reaching out through short term missions trips to several distant places of ministry (Albania, Alaska, Senegal and Ecuador) this spring/summer. Pray that each team will be fully staffed and prepared.
- Pray for revival.
- Continue to pray for God's protection around all He has called us to do.

“He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, “saying, ‘The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.’” (Luke 24:6-7)

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.
- Pray for our Marriage Mentor program; for those who are preparing for marriage and for our mentor couples.

- Please pray for all those who are attending our DivorceCare and GriefShare groups who have lost loved ones and for those going through separation or divorce. And please pray for our group facilitators as they minister to the groups.

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 and Baptism, Pastor Scott Pittman

Praise Report

- Our Evangelism Team goes to Parkway Plaza every other Wednesday night to share the gospel. On average, we see 2-3 people give their lives to Christ each time we go out. Over the last month alone, around 8 people have trusted Jesus as their Savior. Our goal is not only to see people come to faith at the mall, but also to help them get connected to Shadow Mountain so they can grow in their new faith.
- We also recently completed our 22nd Discipleship Class for new Christians. Over the past five years, we have discipled more than 250 new believers. Our most recent class was our largest yet, with 16 people attending all six weeks of the class.
- We have had 80 people become members of Shadow Mountain over the last four months.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for our new Administrative Assistant, Karrie Almeida, that her transition to our team would be smooth and a great blessing to her and her family.
- Pray for our Evangelism/Connections Team, that God will continue to guide and empower their outreach efforts.
- Pray for the Deacons and Deaconesses who faithfully assist with baptisms.
- Pray for our Discipleship Groups, that they would build strong foundations for new believers and connect them into the life of the church.
- 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 those involved in the New Members Class, that they would clearly understand and embrace the mission and vision of our church.
- Pray for all the Altar Counselors and Pastors, that they would be refreshed, encouraged, and used mightily as they minister during weekend services.

"Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be above all the earth." —Psalm 57:5

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 that 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: Loretta Emert, Carolyn Hunt, Betty Preston, Jim Nemece, Elizabeth Carrillo, Ruth Cast, Suzanne Bennett, John Paradise, Tom Henry, Arlene Vollmer, Don Harrison, Jeanette Eddery, Shirley Pickney, Jean Kriege, Jordan Verhoeve, Marilyn Campbell, Mark Kuker, Krystal Emery, Lee

White, Lorraine Hanley, Mary Hodge, Ellis Grant, Janet Lawry, Pat Dorroh, Andy Pheasant, Rex Gatrach, Gary Coombs, Kent Sturgeon, Sam Geha, Ray Cole, Bill Davis, Wayne Hendrickson

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

Pray for families who have lost loved ones: Glenda Parker

“Jesus said to her, I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?” John 11:25-26

Director of Servant Ministries, Joyce Tepper

Because Christ Lives...

- We get to serve Him with the gifts supplied by Him.
- We get to watch Him go before and prepare the way for loving new members into the family.
- We get to have your prayers supporting the interviews by valuing new members.
- We get to see people fulfilled in finding their niche, loving it and feeling a part.

What could be more rewarding than watching all the moving parts come together for so many and for God to get so much glory?

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.
- Pray for discernment and consistent joy for our educators at the school and seminary.

Music Ministry, Tobin Davis

- Praise God for His blessing over all the music groups at our church. Ask God to continue to guide the leaders and the members of the Shadow Mountain Choir and Orchestra, Shadow Youth Choir (Grades 9-12), Resound Middle School Choir (Grades 6-8), Children’s Choir (Grades 1-5), and Praisemakers (Age 4- K).
- Pray for the ministry and outreach of our Easter services on April 4th and 5th. Pray that the message of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ would be evident in every element of the service and that lives will be changed.
- Pray for the Children’s Choir as they prepare to present their Spring Musical “Sermon on the Mound” on Sunday night, May 3rd. Please also pray for the Children’s Choir as they sing the National Anthem at the opening of the Padres game on April 9th!

- Pray for Rob Whitlock and his wife Amber as she has had some serious health challenges this past year, particularly with her heart and lungs. Rob plays either piano or organ in the worship services each week and has been a part of our rhythm section for many years. Pray for the doctors who are consulting with Amber and for her strength and healing.
- Pray for the music ministry team, for wisdom and discernment, as they plan and prepare for upcoming services and outreach events.

Kids Ministries, Jesse Abeel

Praises:

- Our Kids Blast and Kids Blast Jr. programs continue to thrive, drawing many new children to our church.
- Our dedicated team of staff and volunteers is a true blessing, united in our passion for working together.
- We're thrilled to see children embracing faith, wanting to get baptized, and thriving in their church experience as they grow spiritually! We're grateful for the opportunity to serve entire families.

Prayer Requests:

- With Easter around the corner, we ask for a great harvest as we share the gospel with children at all four services.
- Pray that the Lord would stir the hearts of our congregation to serve in our ministry. We need more student and adult leaders to help us continue to grow and reach more kids.
- That our staff and volunteers joyfully share Christ's love with children, parents, and one another.
- For children to develop a deep, authentic relationship with God, establish a strong Biblical foundation, form meaningful connections with peers and leaders, and cherish their church community.
- That God's truth would deeply impact our children's hearts and minds, overpowering the falsehoods in today's culture!

Small Group Central, Dale Bacon

- Pray that every member of our small groups would grow deeper in their relationship with Christ, developing a stronger love for God's Word, a consistent prayer life, and a desire to live out their faith daily.
- Pray for our small group leaders. that they would be encouraged, and faithful shepherds. Ask God to give them wisdom, and discernment as they care for those in their groups.
- Pray that our groups would be places of genuine connection, trust, and vulnerability, where people feel safe to share, be known, and experience the love of Christ through one another.
- Pray that our small groups would have a heart for reaching others, that new people would be welcomed in, lives would be transformed, and new leaders would be raised up to start additional groups.

College Ministry, Trey Cole

Prayer Requests:

- That God would provide 10 more adult couples to serve on Thursday nights from 6pm-8:30pm, investing in our students, and facilitating our prayer and discussion times during Thursday CM.
- Continued spiritual growth of our students.
- Save San Diego Spring 2026: For our students to step out in faith to share the Gospel, and for the hearts of the students who will hear the Gospel, that they would be receptive and respond in repentance and submission to Jesus.
- The students on our leadership team are facing some difficult life circumstances and discouragement.

Praises:

- Sunday CM has been well received by students. They are reading their Bibles more consistently during the week, discussing the Sunday sermons, and coming together to discuss their Bible reading as a group.
- Our student leadership team is struggling, but they are learning to struggle together. They are being used effectively for the Gospel and the enemy is not overtaking them.

Young Adult Ministry—20s & 30s, George Helewa

Praises

- For many answered prayers within our ministry, and that God is using the community to meet one another's needs and helping people **Pursue their Purpose**.
- **Celebrations for many engagements.** We have 4-5 couples moving towards their wedding day!

Prayer requests

- **Continued Spiritual** and **physical** growth of our ministry.
- Prayers that God would send new members and **new leaders to our ministry**.
- We need to develop more **leaders** to step up from within our group. Pray for **new table** and **small group leaders** to emerge.
- **Spiritual Revival.** There is something hindering our ministry. Pray for the Lord to reveal it and remove it.
- **Vision for what the next iteration of Young Adults** looks like, as we strive to serve our singles, military, and engaged people at Shadow Mountain.
- Healing for some damaged interpersonal relationships—that the Spirit would bring unity, healing, and conviction.
- **For our 2026 Small Groups study on Holiness**—That it would lead people closer to Jesus, and that we can find places for everyone who wants to be in one.
- **Administrative help** for the Young Adult ministry as we continue to provide connection and events for YA's at SMCC. Consistent help to manage the “business” of the ministry so Pastor George can focus on the people of the ministry (ala Acts 6).
- **For our 2026 Alaska Missions Trip.** For God to put our team together and provide all the necessary resources.
- **For our summer ministries:** If we don't get some help, we may not be able to do some of the ministries we've done in the past, including perennial favorite, Beach Bible Study.
- **Protection** for our Young Adults serving in the military.
- **For opportunities to minister to our military more directly and** gain base access.
- **Spiritual discernment** as our community lives and works in the world.
- **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. Also, wisdom and grace for those that come to us out of failed relationships
- **For Pastor George: clarity** and **endurance** as he leads his group and others. **Wisdom** to navigate the demands of ministry and family. **Healing** from frustration and burnout.
- **Focus** as he prepares teaching lessons. **Also,** for a strong marriage to **Krysten** and wisdom as they navigate parenting their two daughters, Amira and Jasmine. Pray for valuable time together as a couple, and for their daughters to find their value, strength, and hope in Christ every day.
- **Jasmine turns 18 this month!** Prayers for a great month as well as we are praying for a small SUV when she starts driving to help accommodate her physical needs. Endurance to finish her senior year well!
- **Amira in her College program.** She has a powerful opportunity to shine the light of Christ in her major. Pray for spiritual, mental, and emotional protection and opportunity to share Jesus.
- **Prayers for the Local Fire Departments** that Pastor George serves as Chaplain (San Miguel, Santee, Sycuan). Safety for the crews and opportunities to hear the gospel. Also, opportunities to expand the influence of the Chaplains in the San Diego area.

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.

Family Life Ministry, James Darnell

Praises:

- Praise for the wonderful Family Life, men's spiritual disciplines, discipleship and meals.
- Praise for our leaders who consistently are faithful and outgoing.
- Praise for our volunteer team, who have been a great blessing this year.

Prayer:

- Pray specifically for military families and many spouses in workups or on deployment.
- Pray for the parents in the ministry and their children.
- Pray for the marriages in the ministry and their growth.

Young Marrieds Ministry, David Todd Jeremiah

Praises

- Growth in number of families and growth within families.
- Creating a sense of community, friendship, and discipleship.
- New Leaders have stepped up in the New Year.

Prayer

- Baby and family health as we have families whose children are undergoing surgeries soon.
- Prayer for discernment for upcoming teaching series and events.
- Prayer for the young marriages in our church and our community.

Women's Ministries, Lisa Paulson

Praise:

- He is Risen!
- Praise God for His Word that continues to bear much fruit!
- Praise God for all the new ladies who attended Coffee Connect!
- Praise God for the ongoing work of our Discipleship program!
- Praise God for our Leadership Training that challenged ladies to stay involved and be equipped!

Prayer:

- Our spring Girl Time event with guest speaker Jada Edwards will draw many women to Christ. Her message will impact women of all ages, and the gospel will be clearly communicated as she gives the invitation. This event is on Friday, April 17! Please pray that all the details would come together through tech support, Provider (in-house catering), worship, maintenance, volunteers, and event promotion via mailers, social media, email, slides, word of mouth, etc. A spirit of unity and love would be reflected through all that we do as we reflect God's love onto others.
- Our Pastor's Wives breakfast event is on Saturday, April 18, and will be a blessing to all our Pastor's Wives under SMCC. The ladies would feel loved and blessed through this special time together.
- God would raise more women who want to get involved and serve!
- Our Leadership Training would continue to build momentum and challenge every leader to pass the baton by investing in others and raising more leaders for the future.
- Please pray for the summer Bible study. We will be studying the book of Titus. Trained by Grace— Becoming a Godly Woman in an Ungodly World. Registration opens April 17. This 4-week study would open hearts to hearing and receiving God's truth.
- The Coffee Connect events will continue to foster an atmosphere where new women connect with SMCC and find a place to grow, belong, and build a relationship with Jesus.
- God will raise more Disciple-makers for 2026 and challenge us to invest in the next generation.
- Caring for Kids, Needlecrafters, Joyful Hearts, Discipleship, Military Wives, and Global Connect groups will provide opportunities for women to connect, grow, and serve!
- 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. Loving, leading, and serving women would be on full display!
- Please pray for protection over all that God is doing through Women's Ministry.
- God would be glorified through His church and His people!

"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." Eph. 4:12-14

Men's Ministries, Pastor Manny Sanchez

Praises

- We continue to have record breaking attendance at Men's Bible study on Tuesday nights, and many stories of men being encouraged and transformed. Praise God!
- Dangerous Man was a great blessing with just over 1200 men in attendance and many salvations and decisions made for Jesus. All praise to Him!

- We found a new volunteer leader couple to head up Operation Home Front Ministry that adopts military families who have spouses deployed.

Prayer

- Men's Ministry needs to fill two staff positions—one part-time admin and one part-time coordinator. These are crucial for our growing ministry. Pray that God would bring the perfect people who love Jesus, are greatly skilled and have a heart to minister to men.
- Pray for the Lord to lead and guide our new effort to strengthen marriages through the men at Shadow Mountain. We are starting a small-group community for marriage this month and hope to continue investing in marriages. We've seen an increase in counseling requests and reports of marriages in trouble. We want to be proactive.
- Pray for our troops amidst this war in Iran—several of our men are on alert or deployed. Pray for the families left behind as well.

Campus Operations, Bryan Snow

"And he saith unto them, be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him." (Mark 16:6)

"I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no savior." (Isaiah 43:11)

We serve the risen Savior, the only Savior, and He is a wonderful Savior!

"Ask of me..." (Psalm 2:8)

- Please pray that God would give Richard Perry, Jen Burr, Jordan Knepper and Donald Flanagan wisdom, understanding, and knowledge as they serve on the IT team. Jen is also the Administrative Assistant to Tobin Davis in the Music Department.
- *"Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God"* (Psalm 20:7). We live in troublesome times, and there are many dangers. Let's be diligent to ask the Lord for His protection—He will hear us!
- Easter is one of our largest services each year. Additionally, Women's Ministry is putting on their Girl Time event, and the High School Ministry is doing their annual River Trip this month. Please pray that the Lord will draw people to Himself, whether for salvation or for a closer walk with Him.

Missions, Dr. Gary Coombs

- Please pray for our six missionary families serving in the Middle East. Please pray for them to have wisdom and discernment in difficult circumstances, for their overall safety amid international conflict, and for our church to know how best to encourage them.
- Pray for **Tim Farley's** recovery after breaking four of his ribs in a bicycle accident.
- Pray for **Luke and Jaalah Kanagy** as they transition their ministry from Ecuador to Brazil.
- Pray for **RJ and Janessa Borja** and their family as they prepare for the arrival of their baby girl in April.
- Pray for our team as we plan for the **2026 Global Teams**. Please pray that church members' hearts be prepared for ministry abroad and that our missionaries be encouraged by partnerships with our teams.

Sports Ministry, Tim Brown

Praise

- Praise God for the resources available on our campus to facilitate our Sports Programs.
- Praise God for the servants that God has raised up to help coach, train, and work at our Sports Programs.
- Praise God for the Youth Basketball League Awards Night. Over 800 people in attendance where we got to share the Gospel and invite the community to the different ministries at SMCC.
- Praise God for the 30 teams (~300 participants) in the upcoming Men's Basketball League on Monday nights.

Prayer

- Pray for those serving in the Sports Ministry to represent Jesus Christ well during our sports programs.
- Pray that the sports environments would help build relationships, share the Good News, and draw people to Shadow Mountain.
- Pray for opportunities to share the Gospel, both one on one and in our team settings, with the participants who will be involved in our sports programs.
- Pray for the recruitment of godly, mature coaches for the sports programs.
- Pray for the participants in the Men's Basketball League. Pray for the impact of the relationships with the players and their families. Pray that they might visit SMCC or consider understanding more about God and His Church.
- Pray for the Men's Basketball League (March-June). How we can best minister to the men from the community and be a positive experience for the players.

Cares Ministry, Kevin Gowing

For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things. –Psalm 107:9

Praises

- God continues to amaze us with His blessings financially to this ministry so that we can help so many in our community (1,300 families a month!).
- The privilege of having our ministry on campus where our community can receive their assistance and physically see where we are inviting them to church and other ministries like Men's, Women's and Kid's.
- God has continued to provide vendors that supply food at wholesale prices.
- We are celebrating **6-Years of Cares Ministry** this April 10th!

Prayers

- That the Holy Spirit would continue to work amongst our volunteers and into the hearts of those whom we are serving. For lives changed!
- That God would continue to graciously provide the resources to support this ministry.
- For the health of volunteers and recipients as there is no shortage of people who are sick.
- With everything going on overseas, pray for protection for everyone on campus as we serve a diverse culture in our community.

Hispanic Congregation, Pastor Erick Zaldaña

Praise God for:

- The fantastic response of our church, Shadow Mountain en Español, with our current sermon series, **Differences That Define Us.**
- The new family ministry in our church, called **Agape**, which is truly an answered prayer from God.
- The life of each person that has come to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.
- The families in our congregation that have a job to support their households.
- Every member that supports our different ministries.

- The work of God through “Bajo Fuego,” an initiative by pastor Hayden Lema, that is freeing men from the chains of the enemy through Christ.
- How God is taking care of the lives of the church’s leadership staff, and their families.
- The unity and purpose God has brought to our different ministries, helping us share the Gospel with Boldness.

Pray:

- For pastor Zaldaña’s daughters, Rebecca, who is studying at CBU, and Gracia, who is a senior this year. That God would lead their steps through different challenges.
- For God to continue using His church, Shadow Mountain en Español, to share the gospel with the Hispanic community of San Diego.
- For God to give us wisdom and direction leading the Youth Ministries.
- For the life of each member of our SMCC Youth Community, may they grow in the love of Christ.
- For God to continue to give us grace and passion to serve and honor Him.
- For the wisdom to guide members to Christ through our different ministries.
- For God to open doors everywhere we go to preach the gospel.
- For God’s grace and strength to share the gospel, and to have the entire church getting involved in evangelism.

Arabic Congregation, Pastor Robert Helou

Praises

- Praise God for the opportunity to counsel and share the Word of God with many Arabic-speaking people who come to the Care Ministry.
- Praise God for the touching testimony and joyful baptism of a Muslim convert who courageously shared his personal story of faith.
- Praise God for the several guests who attend and enjoy the worship service every Sunday.
- Praise God for the spiritual growth of those who faithfully attend the Friday evening Bible Study.
- Praise God for the guest speaker from Baghdad, Iraq, who shared the Word of God and gave an update on the current situation in Iraq.
- Praise God for the joyful fellowship and worship on the last Friday of each month, which includes a special program and a wonderful potluck meal.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for the family of Brother Omar, who recently became a Christian and was baptized, asking the Lord for their safety and protection.
- Continue praying for several elderly people and shut-ins who are sick at home or living alone in nursing homes.
- Pray that the Lord will provide a faithful Christian couple to lead our FUEL Ministry and disciple about 20 students, ages 12-16.
- Pray for true peace and stability in the world, especially among nations currently at war, and particularly for peace in Lebanon.
- Pray that all those involved in various church ministries will serve the Lord diligently and faithfully.
- Pray for genuine spiritual revival in our churches, across the USA and Canada, and throughout the nations of the world.

Alpine Campus, Pastor Kekoa Grover

The Launch of our SMCC Alpine Campus Care Team

We're praising God for the launch of our Campus Care Team, led by our Deacons and Deaconesses! This team continues to reflect the love of Christ through practical, hands-on care—coordinating meal trains, making hospital visits, providing transportation, and assisting widows, single parents, and others with needs around the home. We're so grateful for how they come alongside our church family in tangible ways, ensuring that no need goes unnoticed. It's a beautiful picture of the body of Christ working together in love and care for one another.

Encinitas Campus, Pastor Adam Brodwolf

- We still have two young families and 6 kids coming on Sundays, making a very small Sunday School. Thank you for praying! Please pray for more families to join while we have them here.
- We are so grateful for Pastor's emphasis on revival as we study Jonah. Please pray this will be infectious in the hearts of our members, that they will yearn for this for North County.
- We are looking for people who are willing to stand up front on Sundays and lead worship. Please pray that this will happen soon.
- One of our new members has a very bad back problem. Please pray for Nathan.
- Please pray for participation and wisdom as we come into the season of choosing new deacons.
- Praise God for how He has been knitting our congregation together closer with more participation and closeness. We had a good turnout for the Dangerous Man event, and lots of decorated boxes for "Love in a Box." Please keep praying for this and for expansion of our small groups.

Online Campus, Pastor 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 commitments through our online ministry.
- Praising God for 17 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.

South Bay Campus, Fausto Garay

We are thankful for:

- A wonderful and successful Women's Breakfast.
- A successful small groups season.
- A successful Palm Sunday Service.

We are praying for:

- God to raise up leaders with willing hearts and a spirit ready to serve in different ministries.
- The right person to step forward to serve as our Youth Leader.
- God's blessing, preparation, and a powerful move of His Spirit on Easter Sunday.

South Bay Campus—Hispanic Congregation, Pastor Jesus Tiznado

Praise God for:

- We are thankful for the health God has restored in many brothers at church.
- We are thankful for keeping the church united and firm in the study of His Word.
- We are thankful for the body of deacons serving God faithfully.

Pray:

- For the youth, may God awaken a heart of service for others serving those in need including the homeless.
- For the Family events we have every month at South Bay “Together at the table”.
- For the evangelism activity across the border in Tijuana “Coffee & Prayer”.
- For the Tiznado family, so their son Jesus Jr. may be strengthened in Christ through his missionary training.
- For Jesus Jr. as a missionary through YWAM and a transcultural missionary trip in 2026.

Central Coast Campus, Pastor Kevin Begley

Prayer & Praises

- Pray that men and women would feel more connected as a result of Dangerous Man and Girl Time events.
- Pray for our new Kids ministry director as she works with our volunteers and kids.
- Pray for our worship team as they prepare a worship night for outreach.
- Pray that we have a small group in each town represented at the campus.
- Many of our working families have a husband who works on Sunday—pray for these families that the Lord would provide for their needs and help them keep the Sabbath holy.

Southern California Seminary, Dr. Gary Coombs

Praises

- We praise God for the great success of the 3rd Annual Call to Care Conference, which was very well attended. The Lord brought together an excellent group of speakers who thoughtfully taught on the Imago Dei and its importance in Christian counseling. We are grateful for how God used this conference to equip, encourage, and inspire those called to care for others.

Prayer

- The Seminary is working on a short film documenting the history and all that God has done over the last 80 years through SCS. Pray for its production and that it would bring glory to God and his faithfulness.
- Please pray as we also undertake projects to streamline student enrollment and better serve our new students.

Christian Unified Schools, Bob Ruhlman

Praise:

- Praise for a successful Jogathon season. We are grateful for the staff, parents, and students that come together to raise funds to improve our school.
- Praise for a successful sports season with playoff runs for several of our programs including participating in CIF San Diego Championships for our boys’ and girls’ basketball teams and boys’ soccer team.
- Praise for our security team and the provision and safety that the Lord has placed over CUSSD and SMCC.
- Praise for a successful time of fellowship at a recent staff and faculty event.

Prayer Requests:

- Please pray for the health and safety of our staff and students as we finish the last quarter of the school year as well as a special hedge of protection around each of the CUSSD campuses.
- Please pray for students to be respectful to each other and treat each other with a Christ-like love.
- Please continue to pray for our enrollment season for discernment for the families of our prospective students as well as our admissions and business office staff as they make admission decisions. Pray that the Lord would give wisdom to both the school and the families.
- Please pray for wisdom for our leadership team particularly in regard to hiring for the 26-27 school year and that the Lord will bring the candidates that He would like to see join our school community.
- Please pray for wisdom in strategic planning for the 26-27 school year and that we use the summer to consider strategic improvements and implement them.
- Please pray that all of our students and their families would be rooted in a local church, regularly attending and growing in their faith as part of a church family.
- With Easter approaching, our prayer is that our families would be in the habit of worshipping together and celebrating the resurrection of our Savior. We pray that our students and families would join us at SMCC or a similar Christ-centered church and that they would also take the opportunity to invite a friend to one of the Easter services as we rejoice in Christ's triumph over death!