

# WATCHMAN ALERT

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Volume 29, Number 7—July 2025

## *The Watchman*

The prayer ministry we are involved with as a “watchman” is titled “Watchman on the Wall.” The word “watchman” appears multiple times in the Bible according to my research, particularly in the book of Ezekiel. In Ezekiel 3:17 we learn that God appointed Ezekiel as a watchman for the house of Israel. The verse reads, *“Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore, hear a word from My mouth, and give them warning from Me.”*

According to W.A. Criswell’s study Bible, “Ezekiel’s unique ministry to Israel was to be a divinely appointed “watchman,” one who not only warned the nation, but also issued directed warnings to individuals. It was the duty of the watchman to scan the horizon and sound the alarm for any impending danger.” To that description Criswell then adds this, “A man measures his responsibility by his knowledge and opportunities. Thus, the “watchman” carried an awesome responsibility.”

As a “Watchman” at Shadow Mountain Community Church, we have been given a challenging and awesome responsibility. Each month our Pastoral staff updates the critical prayer needs for their ministry and we are dependent upon each “Watchman” to diligently beseech the “throne of grace” to ask God for His guidance and favor in our ministries. We are grateful for your commitment to faithfully pray and fulfill your role as “watchman.”

In Psalm 130:5-6, the Psalmist uses the imagery of a watchman awaiting the morning to express the longing for God’s salvation. He writes, *“I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I do hope. My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning—Yes, more than those who watch for the morning.”* Here we find the Psalmist testifying that he waits patiently for the Lord. He compares his wait to that of a city’s watchman looking for the first rays of dawn, for then they would be relieved of their duties by other guards.

As we pass the watchman role to the one who comes after us on the wall, let’s fulfill our responsibility by joyously passing the responsibility. And may you find rejoicing in your own heart as you realize once again you fulfilled your role as a “Watchman” for the ministries of Shadow Mountain Community Church.

**Pastor Ray Benton**

Pastoral Care

## PRAISE & PETITION...

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### *Pastor, Dr. David Jeremiah*

- Give thanks for our nation's independence and the freedoms God has given to us. Pray that He will grant us wisdom and direction in using our liberties to proclaim the timeless truths of His Word!
- Our study on the Promise of Heaven has been a great encouragement! Give thanks for our hope and worship Him for his goodness.
- Our Summer Blast ministry to children takes place the last three weeks of July across our various campuses. Ask God to provide ample workers and use our speakers, dramas, games, music, and crafts to draw many to Him as we host over 1500+ children.
- We anticipate a record enrollment in our schools this fall for which we are thankful. Let's trust God to shape the giftedness of every student and to seek His will for their life.
- Pray for revival.
- Trust our God to protect every aspect of the ministry He has granted us.

*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.
- Please pray for our leaders and the needs of all who attended our GriefShare and DivorceCare groups as we take a summer break. Pray for those who have lost loved ones or are going through separation or divorce.

*"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**

- We have 12 people signed up for our 20th discipleship class. After this class we will have over 150 new Christians who have come through the class.

#### **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.

*"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 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, Loretta Emert, Carolyn Hunt, Betty Preston, Dave and Yolanda Schoenfeld, Jim Nemec, Elizabeth Carrillo, Ruth Cast, Suzanne Bennett, John Paradise, Tom Henry, Arlene Vollmer, Don Harrison, Ken Howell, Jeanette Eddery, Larry Weinstein, Shirley Pickney, Jack Kriege, Jordan Verhoeve, Jonothan Jones, Glenda Parker, Marilyn Campbell, Mark Kuker, Christina Bowman, Joel Schrum, Bea Keller, Krystal Emery, Lee White, Sue Buffington, Lorraine Hanley, Mary Hodge, Sam Gaea

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

**Pray for families who have lost loved ones:** Bruce Swanson, Anita Ludington, Donna Coombs, Chuck Emert

*"Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful." Psalm 147:1*

## *Director of Servant Ministries, Joyce Tepler*

- Thanks to God for His faithfulness in bringing class after class of new members each month to Our Family.
- Thanks to Watchmen who faithfully pray for the effectiveness of this ministry.
- Thanks to the Ministry Advisors who faithfully juggle their schedules to meet the interview appointment times of new members with a Servant's heart.
- Thanks to incredible Dawn Virgilio who faithfully administrates numerous details for smooth sailing of the ministry.
- Thanks to SMCC for being the kind of Family that welcomes, embraces and guides newcomers into the many LITTLE families that make up the BIG one!
- **It's our 21st Birthday!** With hearts running over we shout: **THANKS GOD!**

## *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*

- Pray for our technical team as they serve in each of our weekend services.
- 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.
- We have been able to navigate staffing changes with grace, and God is providing for our needs to maintain a strong team to lead our ministry.

### **Prayer Requests:**

- We are full steam ahead, gearing up for Summer Blast 2025!
  - Pray for all the planning, coordinating and preparations being made.
  - Pray for a great harvest for the Lord! We hope to have more kids than ever before.
  - Please pray specifically for many adult volunteers to be able to join us, as they are essential for our success.
- A need for more reliable adult volunteers in all weekend programming.
- 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 Groups, Dale Bacon*

- **A prayer of thanks for a great season of small groups!** Praise God for the growth, the new relationships formed, and the spiritual transformation we've seen in so many lives. He has been faithful to work through each leader and group.

- **Pray that our leaders and their families would find rest and refreshment this summer.** Ask God to renew their strength, protect their time, and fill them with joy and peace during this break.
- **Pray that God would begin stirring anticipation in our hearts for the next season of groups.** Ask Him to give us fresh vision, deepen our dependence on Him, and prepare new opportunities to reach and disciple others in the fall.

## *College Ministry, Trey Cole*

### **Prayer Requests:**

- That God would provide 14 adult couples who desire to serve on Thursday Nights in the College Ministry to host tables, lead prayer, and facilitate discussion.
- For college students to continue developing relationships with one another that extend beyond church events.
- For the incoming freshmen at Shadow Mountain and those coming to the area for school, that God would prepare their hearts and give them a desire to be involved in a local church while they are here.

### **Praises:**

- Students have developed new relationships and asked for more opportunities to spend time together as a ministry!
- The Student Leadership Team is developing and already recruiting volunteers to serve within the ministry!

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

### **Praises**

- For many answered prayers within our ministry, and that God is using the community to meet one another's needs.
- For our amazing volunteer leaders who serve YA's. May the Lord bless them richly.
- For robust small groups that act as the lifeblood of our ministry. It's been a blessed first half of the year.
- Thank you that we HAVE a ministry to this vulnerable and challenging demographic. This is a good group of YA's who are pursuing the Lord!
- For a blessed Alaska Missions trip.

### **Prayer requests**

- **Continued Spiritual and physical growth** in our ministry.
- **For Summer 2025. Our Beach Bible Study bonfires** are a big outreach and opportunity. Pray for our speakers and worship leaders, and that we get the amphitheater down at Vacation Isle each week.
- **Summer Beach Bible Studies:** Starting in July. For a blessed and fruitful Beach Bible Study season, and that we'd have the resources and meeting place we need each week.
- We need to develop more **leaders** from within our group. Pray for new table and small group leaders to emerge.
- **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.
- **Protection** for our Young Adults serving in the military.
- **For opportunities to minister to our military more directly** and gain base access.
- **Mental, emotional, and spiritual health for Young Adults** who are assaulted everyday by the world.
- **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 our men to be surrendered and be Men of God who LEAD. For our women to be Women of Honor, and surrendered to God; May patience, honor and virtue to define their lives. Pray especially for the men in our group, that God would give them more mentors and that they'd embrace genuine, godly manhood.
- **For Pastor George: clarity and endurance** as he leads his group and others. **Wisdom** to navigate the demands of ministry and family. **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.
- **A car** for Jasmine as she starts driving this summer.
- **That all our vehicles continue to operate well.**
- **Prayers for the Local Fire Departments** that Pastor George serves as Chaplain. Safety for the crews and opportunities to hear the gospel.

## *Middle School Ministry, Chase Eurich*

### **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, Phase 1 & 2, Troy Leeman*

### **Praise:**

- Growth in the YMC community and fellowship of couples.
- Prayers have been answered for several babies needing medical attention.
- Several new babies were born in the last month.
- Phase 1 and Phase 2 have grown and are experiencing momentum into the summer season.

### **Prayer:**

- Prayer for Summer family events (Family Life Live and Beach Bon Fire).
- Prayer for new YMC leaders beginning this fall.
- Prayer for military couples with spouses deployed.
- Prayer for new moms and babies.

## *Women's Ministries, Lisa Paulson*

### **Praise:**

- Praise God for the many families that came to our Active-duty Military Family Picnic!
- Praise God for an incredible ending to our summer Bible study in person and on your own, Becoming—Part 3!
- Praise God for our Joyful Hearts Spring Event!
- Praise God for new ladies ready to connect, grow, and serve!

### **Prayer:**

- Women would desire to grow in God's Word and be part of a small group Women's Bible study this Fall.
- Many new women will attend Coffee Connect on Saturday, July 26th! Ladies would feel so much love and joy as we serve and connect them to the SMCC family. God would cover all the details concerning volunteers, technical support, set-up, and tear-down.
- God will give the increase through our disciple-makers program, and the joy of investing in women's lives will create a ripple effect throughout Women's Ministries.
- God will provide more leaders and volunteers for the Fall, and momentum will be built in equipping and investing 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!
- Women's Ministries will stay true to its mission: Connecting women to God, His Word, and women who will help them grow!
- Protection over all that surrounds SMCC!
- God would be glorified through His people and His church!

*"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, Pastor Manny Sanchez*

### **Praises:**

- Finished the summer Bible study season with more than 300 in weekly attendance—great for the summer!
- We added 3 salvations through the men's ministry which brings our total to 72 for the year. Our goal is 100 by the end of the year.
- Father's Day at Shadow Mountain was the best ever with over 180 cars for the car show, Pastor Jeremiah's book giveaway and great attendances during the weekend services.

### **Prayers:**

- We are launching our first ever Men's Summer Workshops. There are 4 topics for men to choose from, and it goes for 5 weeks. Dates are July 22-August 19th. Pray for many men to attend and grow through these offerings.
- We are offering a Marriage Conference on Aug 8-9th and we have 150 available spots. Pray for a sold-out event and for marriages to be strengthened. Many marriages are struggling right now in our church and community.
- We are preparing for the Fall Season of the Men's Bible study through the book of Ephesians. We are praying for a first night of 500 men and to keep the trajectory of growth in the ministry.



## *Campus Operations, Bryan Snow*

*"In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation..."* (Ephesians 1:13a) This month, thousands of men, women, and children will hear the gospel here at Shadow Mountain, many for the first time. Praise the Lord that He has called us to labor in his fields, and that we get to take part in the amazing work that He is doing!

### **Let your requests be made known unto God:**

- We desire God's blessing and power upon Glenn Martin, Jesús Rodriguez, Jeff Cothran, Mark Summers, Dan Buell, Joseph Arriola, Mark Kuker, Nathan Leffew, Paul Circo, Taylor Olson, Eric Nickerson, Joseph Krute, Blake Mathe, and Abraham Mata Garcia as they serve on the facilities and maintenance team.
- This month, we will have Summer Blast at all campuses, Youth Night, and the Women's Ministry is hosting Coffee Connect. This will be an intense month of ministry, and we covet the Lord's power and wisdom. Most of all, we want Him to be glorified in everything that we do.
- *"The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory"* (Psalm 64:10). Let us trust the Lord together for safety this month. There is much trouble in the world, but the Lord is not worried (and neither should we be worried). While asking for His protection, let's not forget to glorify Him for the security that we have enjoyed for so long!

## *Missions, Dr. Gary Coombs*

- Pray for our 3 families serving on the mission field in Israel. Pray for their safety, effectiveness in sharing the Gospel, and for them as they raise their children through uncertain times.
- Pray for the Guess family, who are currently in the US and seeking affordable medical help for Mihi and their daughter Abby.
- Pray for the Flanagan family who serve in Papua New Guinea. The Flanagan's daughter, Nya (17), may need to fly to the US for possible orthopedic surgery.
- Pray for Jim Shankula, who is out of office recovering from hip surgery.
- Pray for our Global Teams happening in July:
  - Albania Summer Camp: July 18th—August 6th
  - Japan VBS: July 19th—July 28th

## *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.

### **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 upcoming Sports Summer Camps: Soccer Camp in June, Basketball Camp in July, and Multi-sport in August. Pray for the impact of the messages and relationships with the players and their families.
- Pray for the volunteers and coaches who will help serve in the upcoming Youth Summer Camps. Pray for their teamwork and communication while coaching and leading.



## *Cares Ministry, Kevin Gowing*

*"Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while He is near. —Isaiah 55:6*

### **Praises**

- That God continues to bring those in need of Him and food right to our steps, we do not have to go seeking in the community, He brings them right here!
- We continue to receive food at wholesale cost from our vendors, and free produce from Feeding San Diego!
- Donors continue to bless this ministry, so that we are able to do more!
- For amazing volunteers who faithfully show up week in and week out.
- God answered prayer on some folks who did not really need the food and we were able to create room for others.

### **Prayers**

- That we would continue to boldly proclaim Christ to those who need a Savior, and that the Spirit would give them understanding. Luke 24:45, "Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures."
- That God would continue to keep integrity in those seeking help so that the Cares team can keep focused on ministering to those in who come to us.
- For the health of volunteers and recipients as some have still been experiencing serious health ailments (always a need).
- May God keep volunteers safe as they serve our diverse community.
- For a smooth month of July as there are several schedule changes for Cares with the 4th of July and with Summer Blast.

## *Hispanic Congregation, Pastor Erick Zaldaña*

### **Praise:**

- Praise God for the time shared with Aixa Garcia, our guest speaker from Guatemala. She came to share her work and testimony with our Women's Ministry, "Virtuosa."
- Praise God for the Father's Day celebration and the special message and worship given that day.
- Praise God for all the graduates from High School, that now are part of College Ministry.

### **Pray:**

- Pray for our Discipleships taking place all summer. For the leader Carlos López and his family. For God to give him strength and wisdom for all the work that he does.
- Pray for SMCC Hispanic Youth Ministry retreat "Avivanos 2025." It is taking place on July 11th—July 13th in Julian Oaks.

## *Arabic Congregation, Pastor Robert Helou*

### **Praises:**

- We thank the Lord for the successful open-heart surgery to repair the aortic aneurysm in our daughter Damaris, which was caused by a congenital condition.
- Praise God that Damaris was discharged just three days after surgery and is now recovering well at home.
- We're grateful for the regular attendance in our four different discipleship groups, each studying a unique topic along with Bible studies.
- We give thanks for the four individuals who are faithfully taking turns in teaching and preaching during our Friday and Sunday services.
- We rejoice over the many church members who are joyfully volunteering in various church ministries and activities.
- We praise God for the recovery of two church members who were hospitalized after contracting mysterious viral infections.

**Prayer Requests:**

- Please pray for the complete recovery of our daughter Damaris, who underwent open-heart surgery on June 5, 2025, and is now recuperating at home.
- Pray for Jason, a 24-year-old young man, who suffered a severe accident that left him nearly paralyzed.
- Lift up our discipleship groups, that each member remains committed and successfully completes their respective courses.
- Pray for the various church ministries, especially Kids Care, and for more volunteers to join and serve in this vital area.
- Continue to pray for our sisters Afaf and Heyam as they face ongoing health challenges and receive cancer treatments.
- Remember in prayer our sister Nihad Gammoh, who was afflicted by a mysterious virus that caused hearing loss in one ear.

### *Alpine Campus, Pastor Kekoa Grover*

**Praises:**

- We're praising God for the incredible response to Summer Blast signups! We've officially reached capacity on registrations and now have a healthy waitlist of kids eager to attend. We're thrilled for the opportunity to reach our community through this exciting outreach event and can't wait to see what God will do!
- We're praising God for the exciting and encouraging response from volunteers for this year's Summer Blast! We are now fully staffed with a dynamic team ready to pour into the lives of every child attending. It's a joy to see so many willing hearts stepping up to serve and make this outreach event possible.

**Praying For:**

- We're praying for everyone attending and serving at this year's Summer Blast—that God will keep us safe and healthy, bless our faithful volunteers, help us reach our missions goal, and that many kids will come to know Jesus as their Savior.

### *Encinitas Campus, Pastor Adam Brodwolf*

- Pray for more kids to sign up for our Summer Blast. Pray God will use it to break spiritual strongholds in Encinitas, and that the light of Jesus would shine from this place.
- Pray for wisdom, how we can reach Generation Z. A recent Gospel Coalition article said, "The digital age has made us more connected than ever before, and yet Gen Z is the loneliest generation of all time." Many of them are hungry for sound Biblical doctrine which David Jeremiah provides.

### *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 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.

## *South Bay Campus, Pastor Fausto Garay*

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

- Successful Father's Day celebration with increased attendance.
- An increased number of volunteers to help with the Thursday Kings Crew.
- Approval of modifications on our campus to include Christian Unified school in August.
- Women stepping up into leadership, trusting God to guide them as they lead other women.

### **Prayer for:**

- New Admin Assistant at South Bay.
- Summer Blast 2025 preparations and volunteers.
- Youth Leaders to seek God for guidance as they lead the youth.

## *Central Coast Campus, Pastor Kevin Begley*

### **Prayer:**

- For all the development of our Summer Blast team to be covered.
- Pray for the many broken families in our community. We have many single moms attending the campus with young children. We have 4 children whose fathers live in vehicles. Pray that older women would connect and care for these moms.
- Continued prayer to reach the community.

### **Praise:**

- Small groups are all going strong.
- Fellowship is a strong point of the campus experience every week.
- Consistent attenders getting involved with worship, tech, teaching kids and serving.

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

### **Praise for:**

- **The Blessing of Ministry through Shadow Mountain:** We are grateful for the opportunity to serve as a ministry of Shadow Mountain, and for the partnership in sharing the gospel.
- **Pastor Jeremiah's Inspiring Leadership:** Praise for Pastor Jeremiah's faithful leadership and ministry, including his role as chancellor of Southern California Seminary, which continues to inspire and guide many.
- **Dedicated SCS Students and Alumni:** Gratitude for students and alumni who are faithfully serving in local churches, missions, counseling ministries, and Christian schools and colleges. We celebrate the grace, peace, and wisdom God grants them as they minister to others.
- **Faithful and Skilled Faculty:** Praise for the dedicated faculty who diligently equip students with biblical knowledge, Christian character, and ministry skills, ensuring they are well-prepared to serve in their fields.
- **A Servant-Minded SCS Team:** We are thankful for the joy of serving alongside SCS staff and faculty, who create a working environment marked by a servant-hearted attitude and commitment to helping students succeed in their ministry calling.
- **A Fruitful TRACS Accreditation Visit:** We give thanks for a truly encouraging and successful week as we hosted the TRACS Evaluation Team for our ten-year reaffirmation site visit. The faculty, staff, students, and alumni who participated were an outstanding representation of the heart and mission of Southern California Seminary. Their warmth, professionalism, and Christlike spirit were evident throughout the visit. We are deeply grateful to God for His favor and for the blessing of completing another milestone in our ongoing commitment to excellence in biblical higher education.

**Prayer Requests:**

- **Blessing and Wisdom for Seminary Leadership:** Pray for Dr. Gary Coombs (President), Dr. Gino Pasquariello (Provost and Chief Academic Officer), Dr. James Fazio (Dean of Bible and Theology), and Dr. Elizabeth Elenwo (Dean of Behavioral Sciences) as they lead with vision, integrity, and effectiveness in their ministries.
- **Encouragement for SCS Students and Families:** Lift up students and their families, asking for strength, encouragement, and faithfulness in their academic studies, ministries, and personal spiritual growth as they navigate life's changing circumstances.
- **Gratitude and Support for Donors:** Pray for continued generosity and faithfulness from donors, whose giving provides scholarships that enable students to receive biblical training and spiritual formation at the seminary.
- **Ministry Opportunities for Alumni:** Ask for doors to open for graduating alumni to step into meaningful ministry roles and to stay connected with one another through the Alumni Association, fostering ongoing support and collaboration.
- **Doctor of Ministry Intensives and Symposium:** Please be in prayer for our Doctor of Ministry students as they gather on campus for a week of intensive classroom study. This significant time of deep theological engagement and ministry formation will culminate in a one-day symposium on June 23, featuring a special guest speaker. Pray for meaningful learning, rich fellowship, and renewed vision for ministry among all participants, as well as God's blessing over the faculty leading these sessions. Thank you for joining in prayer for these important needs!

## *Christian Unified Schools, Bob Ruhlman*

**Praise:**

- Praise for the safe and successful CHS mission trips that have recently returned from Puerto Rico, Paraguay and Zambia.
- Praise for an expanding South campus and a robust enrollment for the 25/26 school year.

**Prayers:**

- Please pray that God will continue to bring faithful, gifted and called Christian educators to serve at CUSSD.
- Please pray that God lifts up our new teachers in preparation to serve, inspire and educate our students from a Christian worldview. Pray that their hearts would be fully aligned to the Word of God and to His children, our students.
- Continued prayer for the new school year and enrollment. That each school would be able to balance the enrollment demands with the spiritual and educational needs of their campus. We have limited space remaining and ask for prayer that the Lord would bring exactly who needs to be at Christian Unified for those spots.
- Please pray that our students, parents and staff have a summer filled with joy, rest, renewed strength and great family memories.
- Please pray for our leadership team and maintenance staff as they plan and prepare for the coming school year.