

WATCHMAN ALERT

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Our Declaration of Dependence on God

As we anticipate the 250th celebration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 2026, although there is no specific prayer recorded at the official signing of the document, the Founding Fathers relied heavily on public days of fasting and prayer during the Revolutionary War, leading directly to the drafting and signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The timeline of these key dates leading to the birth of the nation included the following:

- **March 16, 1776:** The Continental Congress passed a resolution presented by delegate William Livingston, which called for the colonies to set aside May 17 as a day of prayer so that citizens could “confess and bewail our manifold sins” and seek divine guidance in their struggle for freedom.
- **May 15, 1776:** The Virginia Convention voted to instruct its delegates in Philadelphia to introduce a resolution calling for independence.
- **May 17, 1776:** The recommended Day of Fasting, Humiliation, and Prayer was widely observed across the colonies. General George Washington formally ordered the Continental Army to observe the day.
- **June 11, 1776:** Congress officially appointed the “Committee of Five” (Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman, and Robert Livingston) to draft a formal declaration.
- **July 4, 1776:** Congress officially adopted the Declaration of Independence.

At the heart of our nation’s founding was prayer and seeking God for divine guidance. The Lord reminded Solomon of this foundational truth when he said, *“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”* II Chronicles 7:14

What does all this mean to us on the Fourth of July weekend on the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence? If indeed that historic document was the result of months of prayers for dependence on God for guidance, power and courage, then nothing less is required if this is to be the time of the great spiritual and patriotic awakening so urgently needed in our nation today.

Chaplain Lloyd J. Ogilvie responded to that question when he said, “So often in times of crisis, people say, “Well, all we can do now is pray!” All we can do? Prayer is the mightiest force in the world. “If God knows, why pray?” some people ask. We pray because a study of the Scriptures and history clearly proves that God waits to act until people pray. We pray not to change the mind of God but to discern God’s mind and do God’s will. Not only that, but we also pray because it is in prayer for our nation that we accept again that the Lord is the author of the American dream, the glorious vision for all nations of God’s plan for democracy, righteousness and justice. What God began 250 years ago, God wants to continue. God wants to think thoughts through us, speak truth through our words, and enable the best for our nation.”

As we look forward to celebrating the 250th celebration of our declaration of independence, may we renew our commitment of dependence upon God and His leading and seeking Him in prayer for continued guidance and blessing.

Pastor Ray Benton
Pastoral Care

PRAISE & PETITION...

Pastor, Dr. David Jeremiah

- Our teaching series on *The Battle For Your Soul* has been very helpful in equipping us in our walk with our God. Trust Him to use these truths to shape our hearts.
- Summer Blast 2026 takes place the 13th–17th. We are expecting 2000+ kids! Ask our God to keep our campus safe and to work in each life as His Word is presented.
- Give thanks for our country and the freedoms we enjoy! Pray for righteous leadership, that we will be salt and light amidst a perverse generation.
- Shadow Mountain will be sending a Global Outreach Team to Albania from July 23rd to August 9th and Migrant Ministry Trip from July 26th through August 1st. Let's trust God for health, safety, and effective ministry as they help facilitate a VBS programs for children and evangelize in various locations.
- Pray for revival
- Trust God for His continued protection around Shadow Mountain Ministries.

Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. (Romans 13:1)

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 will be attending our DivorceCare and GriefShare groups beginning August 10 & 11. Pray for healing for all who have lost loved ones and for those going through separation or divorce. And please pray our group leaders as they minister to those who attend.

Evangelism, Connections, Discipleship, New Members and Baptism, Pastor Scott Pittman

Praise Reports

- Praise God for those who have followed the Lord in believer's baptism and publicly declared their faith in Christ.
- Praise God for the individuals who have recently placed their faith in Jesus Christ and are taking their next steps in discipleship.
- Praise God for the faithful volunteers who serve on our Evangelism/Connections Team, Altar Counseling Team, and Baptism Ministry.
- Praise God for the many first-time guests who continue to visit Shadow Mountain and for the opportunities to connect them with Christ and the church family.

Prayer Requests

- 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 Karrie Almeida, our Administrative Assistant, who cares for all the details surrounding assimilation.
- Pray for our Discipleship Groups, that they would help build strong foundations for new believers and connect them to 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 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: Carolyn Hunt, Betty Preston, Jim Nemec, 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 Gaea, Wayne Hendrickson, Marla Hutchins, Char Smith, Ken Suffridge, Ron Savage, Neil Tomlin, Mike Lathe, Bethany Perkins

Pray for shut-ins: Sally Barber, Barbara Hendrix, David Morris, Alice Cook, Karena De La France, Ken Cumming

Pray for families who have lost loved ones: Tina Peña, Ron Nay, Larry Martin, Ed Giles, Gary Flor

“I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word.” John 17:20

Director of Servant Ministries, Joyce Tepper

Thanks to God for each and every new member. **Pray** that they would:

- Find our family a place of belonging.
- Discover their Spiritual Gifts and the joy of using them for God’s glory.
- Grow their faith muscles intentionally through some of the opportunities available to them.

Thanks to God for our wonderful Ministry Advisor Team. **Pray** they would:

- Be available and healthy to interview new members.
- Be spiritually refreshed to serve well as listeners and guides.
- Be encouraged as God uses them and their gifts for His glory.

Happy Birthday to Servant Ministries!

- Twenty-two years ago, it was decided to give Servant Ministry a try.
- The Ministry Advisor Team has listened to 5,726 people share their stories and dream with them about how God might use them in our family.

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 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

When I go out and share the gospel, I am often surprised by how many people are open to hearing about Jesus because of a positive experience they had with a church as a child. Sadly, the opposite is often true as well. Those early encounters help shape how people view the body of Christ for years to come. Recently, I met a man at a trolley stop and asked if he walked with God. He replied, "A long time ago, I went to a VBS program at a church on my street. That was the last time I remember hearing the voice of the Shepherd. I heard it though—it was for real." He then allowed me to pray for him and share truth from God's Word. That conversation reminded me that what happens during a week like Summer Blast reaches far beyond a few days on a church campus. The Lord uses these moments to plant seeds that can bear fruit years—even generations—later. What a privilege that God allows us to step onto the battlefield through prayer and participate in His work.

Please join us in praying:

- That Satan's schemes would be restrained and the works of the enemy shattered in Jesus' name.

- That every child God intends to reach would come, and that circumstances would work together according to His perfect plan.
- That volunteers would prioritize time in God's Word and prayer, serving from the overflow of their walk with Christ rather than from an empty pitcher.
- That volunteers would walk in good health, take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ, and increasingly reflect the character of Jesus.
- That grumbling, selfishness, competition, jealousy, and gossip would have no place among us.
- That our staff and leaders would abide in Christ and display the fruit of the Spirit.
- That God would put His Word in the mouth of every leader and prepare the hearts of every child to receive it.
- That any volunteer or leader who does not yet know the Lord would hear and respond to the voice of the Good Shepherd.
- That every ministry area—Bible, drama, music, games, water play, art, snacks, tech, nursing, security, and classroom teaching—would intentionally point children to Christ.
- That children would feel safe, seen, valued, and loved, gaining a glimpse of God's love through His people.
- That the missions project would cultivate generous hearts and a burden for the nations.
- That parents would trust the church and feel confident entrusting their children to our care.
- That God would protect our campus, give wisdom to our security team, and surround this ministry with His care.
- That prayer and spiritual conversations would flow naturally throughout every part of the week.
- That our nursery, preschool, junior campus, and Zone 5 ministries would be filled with joy, patience, love, and meaningful discipleship.
- That families affected by disability would experience the welcoming love of Christ and receive the support they need.
- That salvation counselors would be led by the Holy Spirit in every conversation.
- Most importantly, that many children would place their faith in Jesus Christ and begin a lifelong relationship with Him.

And after Summer Blast, let us continue to pray:

- That the enemy would not steal the seed planted in young hearts.
- That God would complete the good work He has begun.
- That Summer Blast would serve as an entrance not only into the church, but into the Kingdom of God.
- That friendships formed would strengthen faith and encourage spiritual growth.
- That songs learned would continue to be sung in homes.
- That God's Word would be carried into families and conversations would center on Jesus.
- That testimonies of God's faithfulness would multiply.
- That lives would be transformed by the gospel.
- And that, in His perfect timing, God would produce a great harvest for His glory.

"Neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth." (1 Corinthians 3:7)
 May the Lord do what only He can do

Small Group Central, Dale Bacon

- Please join us in thanking God for the incredible Leadership Appreciation Dinner we held last month. We're grateful for the hundreds of leaders who faithfully serve across our ministries, and we pray that they feel encouraged and reminded that their investment in people is making an eternal impact.
- As many of our small group leaders take a well-deserved break over the summer, pray that this season be marked by rest, renewal, and meaningful time with family. Ask the Lord to keep them safe on their travels and refreshed for the season ahead.
- Please pray as we begin preparing for our fall small group semester, that God would raise up new leaders, bring new people into biblical community, and guide every detail as we prepare for another season.

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

- **Our Alaska Missions trip is fully funded!** We leave June 19th.
- **There are several weddings happening in our ministry this summer.**

Prayer requests

- **Planning for our summer activities**—lots of logistics to work out! We need people to help.
- **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.
- **Clarity and 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.
- **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).
- 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.
- **For Jasmine:** Continued healing and strength as she navigates some of her physical challenges.

- **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

Prayer

- We are looking for a way to start a table of younger couples without kids.
- We have many couples being relocated for the military this Summer. Pray for them and their families.
- We have our summer marriage series, and our marriage retreat this month. Pray that it would be a blessing to the marriages in our ministry.

- Some of our leader couples are moving so we are looking for couples to step up in leadership.
- We have many pregnant couples in our ministry at the moment. Many of which are due in the next couple of months.
- One of our couples is having a baby in July and the husband is currently deployed and expected to miss the birth. Pray for the Simpsons.

Praise

- Several couples joined our group over the past month due to our announcement on May 29th.
- Our summer marriage series is off to an amazing start with our couples excited to learn and grow in their marriages.

Women's Ministries, Lisa Paulson

Praise:

- The 250th Celebration of America!
- A wonderful finish to all the ladies who participated in our summer study—*Trained by Grace* through the book of Titus.
- For opportunities to connect, grow, and serve!
- Praise God for the many answered prayers!

Prayer:

- As we take time to pray and plan for 2027, the Holy Spirit will lead and guide every decision.
- Prayer over our administrative support and social media needs as we reorganize and prepare for the fall.
- New leaders will be equipped and trained to lead a small group in the fall.
- Please pray for God's grace as we minister to those who are hurting and in need of extra support.
- The Coffee Connect event on July 25th will foster an atmosphere where new women will connect with SMCC and find a place to grow, belong, and build a relationship with Jesus.
- The details surrounding our Coffee Connect event include: Volunteers, tech support, maintenance, Daniel's Coffee, Provider, set-up, tear-down, registrations, childcare, social media, and email reminders. Please pray for overwhelming JOY would fill our hearts as we come together and serve.
- Prayer for our Disciple-maker meeting on July 9th. Ladies would be encouraged and challenged to keep investing in the next generation!
- The Joyful Hearts (widows) group will feel supported and loved as they meet throughout the summer. God would continue to comfort and care for their daily needs.
- 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 Women's Ministry as we minister to the needs of His women. Loving, leading, and serving women would be on full display!
- 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

- Praise God for our new hire Chip Johnston to help us in the office. He's godly and a great help.
- Praise God for a great Spring season of the Men's study, we had record numbers of men and we studied Philippians.

Prayer:

- Please pray for our upcoming summer workshops. We have four teachers teaching on four specific topics: evangelism, how to study your bible, marriage, and fruitfulness in retirement.

Campus Operations, Bryan Snow

Nations that Praise

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people [whom] he hath chosen for his own inheritance." (Psalm 33:12) We, the people of God, must encourage our nation to seek the Lord. Your neighbors and co-workers need His love, and He deserves their thanks and praise.

Please ask in faith:

- God's blessing and power upon Roy Rogers (shuttles, greeters, and more!), Leonard Page (Receiving & Distribution) and Carla Pittman (hospitality).
- Also, in Psalm 33 (verse 17), we read: *"An horse is a vain thing for safety; neither shall he deliver any by his great strength."* Our military and economy might be mighty, but military and economic power cannot truly deliver us from danger. The answer is found in verse 18: *"Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy."* We—our church and our nation—must turn to the Lord for our security, both temporal and eternal.
- July is a busy month with Children's Ministry putting on Summer Blast and Women's Ministry organizing Coffee Connect. Not only that, but there are summer projects and preparation for the new school year. Please ask our Lord to bless and empower these efforts- without Him, we can do nothing!

Missions, Dr. Gary Coombs

- Please continue to pray for our six missionary families serving in the Middle East (Israel, Iraq, Lebanon, and the UAE). Please pray for them to have wisdom and discernment in difficult circumstances, for their overall safety amid international conflict, and for our staff to know how best to encourage them.
- Please pray for three of our missionary families who are expecting babies this year. Pray for healthy pregnancies and for birth details to be planned easily, since some will need to travel to other countries for delivery.
- Please pray for **Na Tisdale's** upcoming citizenship appointment on July 15th.
- Pray for our **Albania Summer Camp Global Team** from July 23rd through August 9th. The team will consist of eight people who will assist our missionaries, Ty & Lysi Tartaglia, with two weeks of summer camp for middle and high school students at Legacy Hill Camp.
- Pray for our **Migrant Ministry Trip** from July 26th through August 1st. The team will have 64 people from SMCC leading VBS at four churches in Gilroy, CA.

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 participants and families that will be involved with the Summer Sports Camps (June-Aug).

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 Summer Sports Camps. Pray for the families that will send their kids to participate and the influence we might have on them.

Cares Ministry, Kevin Gowing

“And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.” —2 Corinthians 9:8

Praises

- God has been bringing new people to our ministry that we are able to then share the Gospel with. We are seeing fruit from loving on these people!
- As the price of food continues to rise, donations continue coming in to offset the cost.

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, as fuel prices drive up the cost of giving to our community.
- For the health of volunteers and recipients as there is no shortage of people who are sick.
- Continue to pray for protection for everyone on campus as we serve a diverse culture in our community.
- Please pray for spiritual protection over my (Gowing) family, and over the ministry.

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

- We praise God for the improvement of the Youth Ministry. More young people are attending meetings and demonstrating a growing desire to deepen their spiritual lives.
- We thank the Lord for the successful three-day Youth Retreat in Palm Springs, during which several individuals rededicated their lives to Christ.
- We praise God for the swift recovery of a church member who was in danger due to a malignant and mysterious virus.
- We are grateful for the increasing number of newcomers who are attending our Sunday services regularly and enjoying the fellowship of the church family.
- We thank God for the encouraging reports from the Care Ministry's outreach among Arabic-speaking people in El Cajon every Friday morning.
- We praise the Lord for providing a qualified and experienced individual to care for the children in the nursery during Sunday services.
- We thank God for the successful outcome of a delicate surgery undergone by a church member and for their quick recovery.

Prayer Requests

- Please pray for those who attend our Sunday services regularly but have not yet fully committed their lives to the Lord.
- Pray for several elderly women who are unable to attend church due to physical weakness and health limitations that prevent them from leaving their homes.
- Pray for the Care Ministry each Friday, that the Lord would open the hearts and minds of those who are seeking Him and draw them closer to Himself.
- Pray for God's peace to prevail in our troubled world, especially in regions affected by conflict, and particularly in Lebanon.
- Ask the Lord to bring genuine spiritual revival to our churches in San Diego, awakening hearts and drawing many people into a deeper relationship with Him.
- Continue praying for the FUEL Ministry, asking the Lord to call and prepare a Christian couple to lead and strengthen this important ministry.

Alpine Campus, Pastor Kekoa Grover

Praises:

- We praise God for the many faithful volunteers serving in ministry at the Alpine Campus. Their dedication, sacrifice, and willingness to serve as unto the Lord are a beautiful demonstration of God's love for one another and for our community. We are incredibly grateful for each person who gives of their time, energy, and gifts to strengthen the ministry and bless the body of Christ.

Prayer Requests:

- Please pray for Summer Blast at the Alpine Campus, taking place July 20-24. Pray for wisdom as we wrap up the planning process, for strength and joy for our volunteers as they prepare to serve during such a demanding and rewarding week, and for every child attending. May they encounter the risen Savior and experience the best week of Summer!

- We also ask for prayer as we look ahead to the Fall and seek to expand the number of small groups available at the Alpine Campus. Pray that God would raise up three new small group leaders and allow us to launch three new small groups this fall. May the Lord call and equip faithful leaders to step into this important discipleship ministry, helping others grow in spiritual maturity, deeper community, and faithful service to Christ.

Encinitas Campus, Pastor Adam Brodewolf

Praises:

- Praise God and thank you for praying. We have two families with kids coming now on a fairly consistent basis.
- We've had Sunday school for a few months now.

Prayer Requests:

- Please pray more young families will come, more of our regular attenders will become members, and more of our members will become deacons and deaconesses.
- Pray for more who will attend a small group so we can start a third one.
- Pray for new believers so our older men can be discipling the younger men. Thank you!!!

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 17 small groups operating this season.
- Praise God for our new Shadow Mountain App and the many new decisions for Christ submitted each week through the App and through texting JESUS to 70209. We have over 50 new responses and decisions for Christ since the launch of the App.

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.
- Please pray that the Lord will continue to powerfully to use our church App to draw many to Jesus on a global scale.

South Bay Campus, Fausto Garay

We are thankful for:

- Our new Youth Leader.
- A successful June Sunday Funday's.
- The Summer Blast prep team who are working on sets and getting all things ready for Summer Blast.

We are praying for:

- God to grow our Youth group and to provide guidance for our new youth leader.
- Summer Blast at our campus.
- Engagement of our Summer Blast families in our Awana program and other youth activities.

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 we reach many youth in our neighborhood for Jesus with Summer Blast!
- Our worship leader led us in a country gospel night last month and is planning another for the Fall!
- Continued prayer for our volunteers in worship, Kids ministry and welcoming teams.
- Pray for the many sick and hospitalized at our campus.
- Thanks for the wonderful fellowship we have each week!

Southern California Seminary, Dr. Gary Coombs

Praise:

- The 2026 Graduation and 80th Anniversary Celebration was a wonderful event that highlighted what the Lord has done through SCS over the years. Dr. Jeremiah gave a meaningful commencement address and honored Dr. Coombs for his 30 years of service and ministry as President over SCS as well.
- There were over 40 graduates and the largest recorded banquet and Commencement attendance.

Prayer:

- Please pray for our upcoming leadership conference that will be a continued effort in helping local churches train the next generation of ministry leaders.

Christian Unified Schools, Bob Ruhlman

Praise

- Praise God for the safe and successful CHS mission trips that have departed and returned.
- Praise Him for a productive and strategic start to the summer as we look ahead and prepare for the 2026–2027 school year and all that He will do.
- Praise God for our facilities team, whose hard work throughout the summer helps ensure our campuses are ready for the new school year.
- Praise God for a successful season of hiring new teachers and staff to continue the vital work of Christian education at our schools.
- Praise God that our mid-cycle accreditation was fully approved and we have ACSI and WASC accreditation through 2029.

Prayer Requests

- Please continue to pray for the remaining mission trips and that God would provide safety and protection for all involved, prepare the hearts of those serving, and work powerfully in the lives of those being ministered to.
- Please pray for our leadership team and maintenance staff as they continue planning and preparing for the coming school year.
- Pray that God will continue to bring faithful, gifted, and called Christian educators to serve at Christian Unified School District.
- Please pray for our new teachers as they prepare to serve, inspire, and educate our students from a Biblical worldview. Pray that their hearts would be fully aligned with God's Word and dedicated to His children, our students.
- Continue to pray for the upcoming school year and for enrollment. Pray that each school would be able to balance enrollment demands while meeting the spiritual and educational needs of its students. We ask that the Lord would bring exactly the families He desires to be part of Christian Unified.
- Please pray that our students, parents, and staff enjoy a summer filled with joy, rest, renewed strength, and meaningful family memories.