

WATCHMAN ALERT

Volume 29, Number 10—October 2025

Prayer and Faithful Obedience

*And we prayed to our God and set a guard as a protection against them day and night. **Nehemiah 4:9***

The book of Nehemiah records the exciting record of Israel's return from their Babylonian captivity. Nehemiah and his contemporary Ezra led the people back to Jerusalem where they found it in physical and spiritual shambles. Called and convinced that God had appointed them to restore the city, Nehemiah set out to rebuild the wall around the city, protecting the inhabitants from outside dangers. But in the process, the construction project faced opposition from those who knew that a fortified Jerusalem was an independent Jerusalem, and that once the walls were up, it would be much harder to take advantage of the people. Nehemiah records:

*But when Sanballat and Tobiah and the Arabs and the Ammonites and the Ashdodites heard that the repairing of the walls of Jerusalem was going forward and that the breaches were beginning to be closed, they were very angry. And they all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause confusion in it. And we prayed to our God and set a guard as a protection against them day and night. **Nehemiah 4:7-9***

What's important to catch here is that while Israel relied on the Lord for their protection, they also took responsibility for their actions. They prayed *and* set a guard. They asked God for help, *and* took up arms in their defense. I think it's easy to pray to God and then stand there and wait for an answer, but that's not necessarily how the Lord works. God allows us to partner with him in our prayer, acting in a way that reveals our belief that if we take the right steps in the direction of our desires, God will lead us where we need to go.

Trust God and lock your doors.

The decision to set a guard wasn't a sign the people didn't trust God; it was taking responsibility for the situation they were in and recognizing that prayer doesn't mean we sit passively on the sidelines and ignore the dangers presented to us. God often grants us victory, while still expecting us to fight the battle. God often answers prayers through the process of our efforts.

Someone once said, "pray like it all depends on God, but work like it all depends on you." In the end it does all depend on God, but there is something to be said about taking active steps towards what it is you are asking from the Lord.

Praying for a job *and* submitting applications.

Praying for a relationship *and* going on dates.

Praying for wisdom *and* seeking wise counsel.

Praying for financial blessings *and* being a good steward of your gifts.

Prayer, coupled with faithful obedience, will lead to God's blessings. What are you praying for, and what are you doing about it?

George Helewa

Young Adult Pastor

PRAISE & PETITION...

Pastor, Dr. David Jeremiah

- Join me in prayer that God will grow each of us in our worship, faith, and service as we continue our teaching series on *The Holy Spirit You May Not Know*.
- Give thanks for the great start-up of our fall ministries at Shadow Mountain, truly a place where God's Word is proclaimed! Let's be diligent in trusting God to enable us to 'love as we are loved' as we face a declining culture.
- I am thankful for the 425 new people who signed up to participate in our Small Group ministry. Let's look to our God to provide encouragement, support, and growth through each group this Fall season.
- God has privileged us to train up leaders embracing a Biblical world view through our schools and seminary. Pray for their protection as well as their spiritual and academic growth.
- Pray for revival across our nation and for righteousness to be exalted. As many mourn the events of our day, let's trust God to use us in answer to our prayers!
- Let's trust God to protect all the various ministries that make up Shadow Mountain.

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! While I live I will praise the LORD; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. (Psalms 146:1-2)

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 the development of our Marriage Mentor program for those who are preparing for marriage.
- Please pray for our leaders and the needs of all who are attending our DivorceCare and GriefShare groups. Pray for those who have lost loved ones and for those 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 and Baptism, Pastor Scott Pittman

Praise Report

The Sunday after the tragic death of Charlie Kurt, during Pastor's book giveaway, we had one of our largest attendances—over 9,000 people—at Shadow Mountain's main campus. We also welcomed 100 first-time guests, 58 of whom were local to San Diego County. Please keep praying that God would use this time to draw people to Him.

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 our Discipleship Groups, that they would help build strong foundations for new believers and connect them into the life of the church.
- Pray for Toni Vowels, our Administrative Assistant, who handles all the details related to assimilation.

- 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 Member's 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: Loretta Emert, Carolyn Hunt, Betty Preston, Jim Nemec, Elizabeth Carrillo, Ruth Cast, Suzanne Bennett, John Paradise, Tom Henry, Arlene Vollmer, Don Harrison, Jeanette Eddery, Shirley Pickney, Jack Kriege, Jordan Verhoeve, Jonothan Jones, Glenda Parker, Marilyn Campbell, Mark Kuker, Christina Bowman, Joel and Joyce Schrum, Krystal Emery, Lee White, Sue Buffington, Lorraine Hanley, Mary Hodge, Gary Coombs, Sam Gaea

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: Gladys Brown, Patsy Sturgeon, Colleen Sutton, Bea Keller, John Tepfer, Jonothan Jones, Brian Fulton, Eric Bauer, Dave Umphress, Gary McDonough, Alice Wilbourn

"For you shall go out with joy, and be led out with peace; the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing before you, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands." Isaiah 55:12

Director of Servant Ministries, Joyce Tepfer

Praise for the answers to your faithful prayers:

- New Members keep coming and are valued
- Ministry Advisors keep listening and guiding
- Opportunities to grow and serve keep being explored
- Connections keep being made
- Ministries keep getting new servants
- Growing keeps happening
- Niches keep being found
- Families keep getting discovered
- God keeps getting glory

Please keep praying...we all need it!

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

- We had a successful launch of our new Kids Blast service this Fall and have been navigating new changes in our ministry gracefully.
- 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:

- The launch of the new Kids Blast at 9:00 am has been a big success. Now our prayer request is for more volunteers! We need more adult leaders to help us continue to grow and reach more kids.
- We pray that children can process the recent developments that have shaken our country, namely Charlie Kirk's assassination. Pray for wisdom and discretion for parents, staff, and volunteers to navigate this complex topic.
- We need more reliable adult volunteers in ALL weekend programming - nursery, preschool, elementary, and greeter/check-in team.
- 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 for the New Season of Small Groups**
Please join us in praying for God's blessing over every group as they begin this season. Ask the Lord to foster meaningful relationships, authentic conversations, and spiritual growth through the study of His Word.
- **Pray for Our Leaders**
Lift up the faithful men and women who are opening their homes and leading groups. Pray for their strength, encouragement, and joy as they create an environment that encourages both grace and truth, where people feel welcome and challenged to grow.
- **Pray for the Small Group Experience**
Pray that each participant in the Small Group Experience would gain a deeper understanding of the value of biblical community and be inspired to live it out in their daily lives.

College Ministry, Trey Cole

Prayer Requests:

- That God would provide 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

- Thank you that we HAVE a ministry to this vulnerable and challenging demographic. This is a good group of young professionals who are pursuing the Lord!
- For many answered prayers within our ministry, and that God is using the community to meet one another's needs.

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.
- We have had several **leaders** step out to God's next chapter. Pray God blesses them and fills our needs in Young Adults. We've "promoted" some couples to Young Marrieds and sent a number of military out to their next chapter.
- **For Small Groups**, 2025-2026 as we start a new series on prayer.
- **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.
- **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. **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 has started her Senior Year of HS!** Pray for physical strength and for a Car for Jasmine as she starts driving this fall. Praying for a small SUV to help accommodate her physical needs.
- **That all our vehicles continue to operate well.** Grateful for all the repairs we were able to do this summer.
- **Prayers for the Local Fire Departments** that Pastor George serves as Chaplain. Safety for the crews and opportunities to hear the gospel.
- **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.

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

Prayer:

- Growth of new couples at the beginning of the Fall.
- New leaders have joined the ministry.
- The new name has created energy and excitement around the ministry.
- Renewed vision and mission to help couples married with children in elementary school and up.

Prayer:

- Our Family Life Men's Spiritual Disciplines program is starting on September 20th and will continue for three Saturdays throughout the Fall.
- Family Life Parenting Workshop in October. Praying for growth in parents and in families.
- Praying for spouses deployed.
- Praying for continued health, as many couples are facing sickness and health difficulties.

Young Marrieds Ministry, David Todd Jeremiah

Prayer

- Safety for our military on deployment and comfort as well as peace for their spouses.
- For our momentum to continue into the fall as more young couples discover Young Marrieds.
- The positive change that is taking place in our ministry and updates that will help us be more intentional with our couples and families.
- Finding a new administrator and coordinator that's passionate about ministry. We are looking to hire.
- Consistency with our leaders as it can be tough with most of them having multiple children under three years old.

Praises

- Several very recently married couples have joined us in the past few weeks. We want to continue that trend.
- Our community is really taking on an identity of its own. Relationships are growing and friendships are being formed.
- Our recent series on marriage has sparked incredible conversation within our tables and has given our couples tools to grow.

Women's Ministries, Lisa Paulson

Praise:

- Bible studies and Groups are back!
- Women are excited to grow and study God's Word!
- Jesus is all about staying connected!

Prayer:

- Ladies would feel loved, connected, and encouraged in their small groups.
- Women would see the value of growing and studying God's Word.
- Leaders would be sensitive to those who may be struggling to find purpose and meaning in their lives.
- God would continue to raise more Disciple-makers for the ministry.
- Prayer for our October 11th Disciple-maker meeting. Ladies will take up the challenge and have bigger faith over fear!
- The Global Connect Event on Saturday, November 8th, featuring guest speaker Dawn Marie Wilson, will be a blessing to our SMCC women and all those involved in missions. Please pray for strength over Dawn as she prepares her message. God would bring all the details together concerning tech support, Provider Food, decorations, event promotion, maintenance, worship, and volunteers. No details would be left undone.
- Active-Duty Military Wives Fall Event is October 4th. Please pray that this would be a meaningful time for our Active-Duty Military wives as they connect over food, games, fellowship, and a Fall craft. Kiddos would be well cared for on the day of the event.
- God will provide more leaders and volunteers as we continue to reach more for Christ!
- Caring for Kids, Needlecrafters, Joyful Hearts, Discipleship, Military Wives, and Global Connect groups will provide opportunities for women to connect, grow, and serve!

"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:

- During the summer workshops a group of 30-35 men from Teen Challenge attended. It was their first time on the SMCC campus, they loved it, and they have committed to attending the Men's Bible Study in the Fall and SMCC on a regular basis.
- We had our Radically Transformed Marriage Conference with 140 couples. It was highly successful. Couples were encouraged in their marriages. One couple told us they were going to get a divorce, had hired a divorce lawyer, but after the conference they decided to fire the lawyer and keep fighting. Eight people were saved and 44 made recommitments to Christ.
- We saw a total of 80 people come to faith in Christ through Men's ministry events and Bible Studies! Praise God!

Prayer Requests:

- We launched our Fall Men's Bible study on the Book of Ephesians on September 9th. We are praying for 475 to attend. We also are praying for 100 salvations in this fiscal year.
- We are planning a Men's Camp event November 7-8 where men can go off site for 30 hours to connect with Jesus and realign their priorities in life and be challenged. We need wisdom and a great team to make it happen. We have a location.

Campus Operations, Bryan Snow

Vernon Charlesworth penned a hymn circa 1880 that says, "The Lord's our rock, in Him we hide, a shelter in the time of storm." In our lives as Christians and as a church we face storms, struggles, and troubles. But when we hide in Him and cast our cares and burdens on Him, we always find that He sustains us just as He promised in Psalm 55:22.

Please pray with us:

- 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.
- "...He shall never suffer the righteous to be moved." (Psalm 55:22) Please pray for the safety of our families this Fall season.
- This month, we will be hosting the annual Southern California AWANA conference, and CUSSD's Jr. High will be putting on a social. Please pray that these events will bring glory and honor to the Lord, and that the Holy Spirit will empower His people to greater works than ever before.

Missions, Dr. Gary Coombs

- Pray for **RJ and Janessa Borja** who serve in a remote tribe in Brazil. Janessa is newly pregnant and is unable to travel to town to visit a doctor until the water level changes on the Amazon River. Please pray for Janessa and the baby's continued health while in the village.
- Pray for **Chava and Andrea Nunez** while they wait for their family's visas to visit the United States to meet with churches and build their support base.
- Pray for **Lance and Jessica Kanagy** while they are here in the United States seeking medical diagnoses and treatment for Jessica.
- Pray for **Mark and Donna's** upcoming trip to Europe to care for our missionaries in France (**Charity Shambaugh**), Romania (**Jason and Lisa Farley**), Belgium (**Eric and Anne Zander**), and the Netherlands (**Richard & Sandra van Dillen**).
- Pray for preparations for our **Alaska Construction Global Team** in November. The team will be working on construction projects at the Tanalian Bible Camp led by our missionaries, **Bret and Christy Zimmerman**.

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 the lasting Kingdom impact on the participants and their families from the messages and environment from the Summer Sports Camps.
- 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 Youth Basketball League. Pray for the impact of the relationships with the players and their families.
- Pray for the volunteers and coaches who will help serve in the upcoming Youth Rec Basketball League. For unity, enthusiasm, and purpose while we coach and facilitate a community basketball league on the SMCC campus.

Cares Ministry, Kevin Gowing

"Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry." 2 Timothy 4:2-5

Praises

- Cares closed out the 2025 fiscal year giving away 10% more than 2024 while spending 5% less! Praise God for His continued favor!
- We saw a 35% increase in donations this year!
- For current faithful volunteers, and some new ones, that love our ministry and serve with joy!
- New recipients that we have been able to share Jesus with.

Prayers – Always the need for the following at Cares:

- 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 keep Kevin's, and the volunteer's heart soft, led by the Spirit, that we would not become calloused with all that is happening in our world today.
- For the health of volunteers and recipients as some have still been experiencing serious health ailments (always a need).
- May God keep our campus safe as we serve our diverse community.
- For another great ministry year heading into fiscal 2026.

Arabic Congregation, Pastor Robert Helou

Praises:

- We thank the Lord for His protection during our trip to Canada, where we ministered at the annual conference of our former church.
- We praise God for the successful and delicate surgery of a dear sister from our church family.
- We are edified and encouraged by our Friday Bible studies as we journey through the books of the Minor Prophets.
- We are grateful for the wide variety of summer activities and ministries that have blessed both our youth and children.
- We praise God for the generosity and faithfulness of many members, enabling the church budget to be completed with a surplus of 23%.
- We thank the Lord for His protection over many church members who traveled across several U.S. states and to Canada.

Prayers:

- Pray for the various ministries and activities resuming in September after being paused during the summer months.
- Lift up in prayer our elderly members and shut-ins who are unable to attend church regularly but watch online.
- Remember Jason, a young man recovering slowly from a serious accident that nearly left him paralyzed.
- Pray for Sister Afaf, who is facing a recurrence of colon cancer and preparing for another surgery in the coming days.
- Continue to pray for Brother Sami, who is struggling with severe bladder issues and may require bladder removal surgery.
- Pray for Roberto, a 26-year-old battling a severe virus, who has been hospitalized for an extended period.

Alpine Campus, Pastor Kekoa Grover

Praises

- We praise God for the faithfulness of those who call Shadow Mountain Community Church—Alpine Campus home. From weekly worship to consistent service to a growing walk with Christ, their lives are a blessing to this church family, and we are grateful for their fellowship.

Praying For

- The Alpine Campus is praying for effectiveness in ministry during this holiday season. Our desire is to be a light in the community and to create an environment where every visitor experiences both faith and fellowship when they walk through our doors.

Encinitas Campus, Pastor Adam Brodwolf

Please ask God

- Please continue to pray for growth in our congregation. 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 commitments 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, Fausto Garay

We are thankful for...

- A successful appreciation dinner.
- Increased number of volunteers stepping into various roles of leadership.
- The growth in children and volunteers in the Awana ministry.

Prayer for:

- Shine the Light event to lead the community to Christ.
- God's presence and guidance in our Awana and small group Bible studies.
- God to set His foundation and guidance in our youth group.

Central Coast Campus, Pastor Kevin Begley

Prayer:

- We are planning the start of a family group to help build up young parents at our campus.
- Pray for our home groups, as well as our men's and women's groups that reach out to non-believers.
- Continued prayer for the kid's ministry.

Praise:

- The campus is looking awesome and we are finishing up a planting project.
- Our worship team continues to grow and often rotates all instrumentalists on a weekly basis.
- We are all excited about the fellowship here and look forward to what God has planned for the coming year!

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 and Staff:** Praise for the dedicated faculty and staff who diligently equip students with biblical knowledge, Christian character, and ministry skills, ensuring they are well-prepared to serve in their fields.
- **A New Academic Year!**
- SCS has begun its 2025-2026 Academic Year. We see God's faithfulness and work in the individual stories from students who share how they came to study at SCS. We are grateful and humbled at the opportunity to continue to teach and equip believers with the Word of God for whatever He calls them to.

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:** Please pray for our students, faculty, and staff as well as their families.
- **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.
- **Council on Dispensational Hermeneutics (CDH):** This year we are hosting the annual two-day CDH event. Pray for a productive two-day conference where attendees will engage in dialogue with presenters as they discuss the study of scripture.

Christian Unified Schools, Bob Ruhlman

Praise Reports

- School is in full swing with wonderful chapels, exciting events and thriving sports programs across all of our campuses.
- Our CHS Football team had a safe trip to Seattle and a great experience playing against King's High School and building community and teamwork among our student-athletes, parents and cheerleaders.
- Our chapel program has launched, and our superb lineup of guest speakers has begun to teach our students on the theme of Firm Foundation - Built to Last based on Matthew 7:24-26.

Prayer Requests

- Please lift up our security department as they faithfully serve to keep our campuses safe. Pray for God's provision, protection and encouragement for their team as they serve both our school and church community.
- Pray for health, safety, and open hearts as the West, East, and South campuses send their 6th graders to camp. Pray that the students have fun, grow in their walk with Jesus, and that those who don't yet know Him would come to faith. Pray also for strength, health and encouragement for the teachers and adult leaders attending camp.
- Pray for unity across all campuses and that we remain focused on the "why" of our service and on the One we are ultimately serving.
- Pray that we finish the first quarter of the school year with excellence and endurance.
- Pray that the Lord would keep sickness at bay and bless our students, teachers, staff, and school community with health and strength.
- Pray that the Lord would move in the hearts of partners to join us in fueling the mission of Christian Unified Schools through the Christian Patriot Fund. Ask that God would provide the resources needed to strengthen our teachers, bless our students and sustain the ministry so that we can further equip our students to think, learn and live with a Biblical worldview.