

WATCHMAN ALERT

Volume 29, Number 9—September 2025

To Those Who Pray and Serve Quietly: You are Building the Kingdom

Not every role in the church comes with a title. Not every act of faithfulness is noticed. But the unseen work—the praying, the preparing, the encouraging, the quiet serving—matters more than most people will ever know. If you serve behind the scenes, this is for you.

Jesus, in John 13, knelt to wash His disciples' feet. He didn't make a speech. He didn't draw a crowd. He just served—lovingly, humbly, and completely. That one quiet act preached louder than a sermon.

"Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet." —John 13:14

Your prayers are washing feet. Your setup, your intercession, your phone call to someone hurting—these are acts of love that may never make a platform, but they echo in eternity. The world may not see you, but heaven does.

"Serve one another humbly in love." —Galatians 5:13

Don't underestimate the power of small, faithful service. When you pray in the quiet, God hears. When you serve without applause, God sees. When you give without being asked, God honors it. You're not filling a spot—you're fulfilling a calling.

So, keep going. Keep praying. Keep serving. Because through your love in action, lives are being touched, burdens are being lifted, and the heart of Jesus is being revealed. You are not invisible. You are indispensable. And you are building the Kingdom of God—one quiet act of servant love at a time.

Troy Leeman

Christian Education Pastor

PRAISE & PETITION...

Pastor, Dr. David Jeremiah

- I am thankful for the men who ministered the Word to us during our *Summer Series 2025* and trust that God will grant us strength to follow through on those things He has brought to our attention.
- Our *Fall Ministries Kickoff* is underway. As you read through this month's Watchman Alert, ask God to make this a rewarding season of spiritual growth for each of us and to bring much growth to His kingdom while there is yet time.
- September is Small Group sign-up month out on 'Main Street.' Let's trust God to add many host homes and leaders and that many new participants will sign up for a group in their neighborhood.
- As our schools and seminary are back in session, let's look to God to shape the heart of every student to seek Him, know Him, and trust Him for His will in their life.
- Pray for revival.
- The evil one seeks to marginalize all God has called us to do. Faithfully call out to our God for His protection around *Shadow Mountain Ministries*.

Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving... (Colossians 4:2)

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.
- 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

We had a small group from our Evangelism Team canvass new apartments in Santee with church invitations. Another team went to Comic-Con to invite people to church and share about heaven. We praise the Lord for this great team of helpers with a heart to reach the lost!

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 that our calls will provide encouragement and comfort

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

People home/hospital recuperating: Loretta Emert, Carolyn Hunt, Betty Preston, Jim 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, Bea Keller, Krystal Emery, Lee White, Sue Buffington, Lorraine Hanley, Mary Hodge, Eric Bauer, Joe & Charlotte Donahoe, Gary McDonough, Rex Gastrich

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: Larry Weinstein, Roy Harvey, Ken Howell, Noel Broas, Bruce Murphy

"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 Tepper

- What a privilege to serve those new-to-our-family by listening, guiding and caring for them during their processing of the membership journey.
- After a July hiatus, the team is returning invigorated to serve with restored enthusiasm.
- Pray that we will represent God's lavish love and the church's lavish welcome in clear and identifiable ways that make these new-to-the-family-members feel comfortable and purposeful.
- Can you recall when you were new-to-the-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.
- 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:

- 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 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 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

- What a great Summer of ministry! From Alaska Missions to Beach Bible Study—God is good!
- 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.
- 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!

Prayer requests

- **Continued Spiritual** and **physical** growth in 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 some **leaders** step out to God's next chapter. Pray God blesses them and fills our needs in Young Adults.
- **For Small Groups, 2025-26** as we prepare to form new groups and 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 strength and for a Car for Jasmine as she starts driving this summer. 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.

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

Prayer:

- The Summer Young Marrieds Bonfire was a success with over 170 people.
- Our YMC Summer Marriage Series has been encouraging couples to grow in their marriage.
- We have seen consistent growth and connection in YMC.
- We are looking forward to the fall with continued growth and community.

Prayer:

- Prayer for spouses of those deployed.
- Prayer for new leaders this fall.
- Prayer for continued growth and momentum for both phases this fall.
- Prayer for our events upcoming in September.

Women's Ministries, Lisa Paulson

Praise:

- Fall Bible studies are back in session!
- Women are excited to study God's Word!
- Lives are being transformed through Jesus!

Prayer:

- God's peace over the Teaching Directors and Assistants as they organize all the details for each Bible study.
- Leaders would welcome new and existing ladies with joy and warmth.
- Ladies would feel loved, connected, and encouraged in their small groups.
- Leaders would be sensitive to the woman who may not be saved. God would open her heart up to hearing the gospel.
- God would continue to raise more Disciple-makers for the ministry.
- 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!
- 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!
- God will provide the right speaker for our Girl Time event in the Spring!
- Women's Ministries will remain true to its mission: connecting women to God, His Word, and women who will help them grow.
- Please pray for protection over all that God is doing through Women's Ministry.
- God would be glorified through His church and His people!

"For the equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro carried away with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love." Eph. 4:12-14

Men's Ministries, Pastor Manny Sanchez

Praises:

- We launched our new Men's Summer Workshops with four different 5-week courses for men. Topics were Evangelism, How to Study Your Bible, How to Keep serving when you retire, and Fighting Battles Men Face. We had 150 men attending these classes for each of the five weeks.
- 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 had our Men's breakfast on Saturday August 23 with James Darnell as our guest speaker. We are praying that God would bring growth to every man who attended.
- We launch 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 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

"...and, lo, I am with you always, [even] unto the end of the world." (Matthew 28:20b) As we preach the gospel and disciple new believers, Christ has promised to empower us and to be with us. We absolutely need Him and His power in order to carry out His ministry here on earth, because without Him, we can do nothing!

Please pray with us:

- God's blessing and power upon Hunter Davis, Dalton Villamero, Eric Behling, Noel Mia, Robert Hutcherson, Joe DeLeon, Steve Guzman, Sergio Fernandez, Heber Lima, Colin Lepiscopo, Mike Pata, Daniel Hernandez, Sonyah Scruggs, Blake Shaw, Joe Morones, Alexander Dietz, Israel Rivas, Jesse Wherley, Stephen Shipley and Kaylee Liniewicz as they serve on the Safety and Security team.
- *"What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"* (Romans 8:31) God is for us and is watching over the safety of our families and students. Let's thank Him for His good hand upon us.
- This month, the Spanish Ministry will host their Noche Hispana event, Christian Elementary East will hold their Fall Festival, and the Small Groups Ministry will kick off their fall season, as will the Youth Ministry small groups. Please pray that people of all ages will see the importance of joining a small group, that they will attend faithfully, and that they will be strengthened in their walks with Christ.

Missions, Dr. Gary Coombs

- Praise the Lord for a wonderful Day of Prayer event held at the SMCC Alpine campus in August. We received reports and prayer requests from 131 missionaries and were able to lift them all up in prayer as a staff and Mission Board.
- Pray for Steffan and Julie Pyle who moved to Papua New Guinea in August.
- Pray for Jim Shankula's recovery from hip replacement surgery.
- Pray for our upcoming Global Team trip to Wayumi in Jersey Shore October 5-10. Wayumi is a camp led by Ethnos360. During this trip, college students who are considering a future in missions will experience a week of immersion-style training.
- 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.
- Praise God for the 500 participants this past Summer at the Sports Camps!

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

"If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday. And the LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail." —Isaiah 58:10-11

Praises

- God allows us to continue to see the fruit of our church's generosity through lives that are transformed by grace.
- We not only receive the weekly produce free of charge, but we are also receiving farm fresh eggs for \$.15 a dozen!
- Donors continue to bless this ministry, so that we are able to do more!
- We heard from a 22-year-old woman raising six kids of a deceased family member, that we helped a couple of years ago, and she reported that they are doing wonderful now! Four of the kids have moved into an apartment of their own and are all working!
- For faithful volunteers that love our ministry!

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 continue to keep integrity in those seeking help so that the Cares team can keep focused on ministering to those in need 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.

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 all the graduates from High School, that now are part of College Ministry.
- Praise for our Discipleships taking place all summer. Thankful for the leader Carlos López and his family. God to give him strength and wisdom for all the work that he did.

Arabic Congregation, Pastor Robert Helou

Praises:

- We thank the Lord for two special meetings with guest speakers from Egypt, which greatly blessed our church family.
- We praise God for the successful recovery of a church member who recently underwent a delicate surgery.

- We continue to be enriched by our Friday night Bible studies, as we explore the books of the Minor Prophets together.
- We are grateful for the variety of summer activities and ministries taking place for both our youth and children.
- We thank the Lord for the generosity of some church members who have given to support very needy families in Syria.
- We praise God for the faithfulness of many members who give regularly toward the church budget—we are currently 21% over budget.

Prayers:

- Please pray for the upcoming special meetings in September, featuring various guest speakers from Egypt.
- Pray for several members who have contracted a virus with symptoms similar to COVID-19 and the flu.
- Remember in prayer Jason, a young man slowly recovering from a serious accident that nearly left him paralyzed.
- Pray for Sister Afaf, who is battling a recurrence of colon cancer and preparing for another surgery in a few days.
- Continue praying for Brother Sami, who is experiencing serious bladder issues and may require bladder removal surgery.
- Pray for Roberto, 26 years old, who is battling a severe virus and has been hospitalized for an extended period.

Alpine Campus, Pastor Kekoa Grover

Praises

- We're praising God for answering our prayers for small groups! Just one year ago, we were praying for 5 groups at the Alpine Campus. Today, we are blessed to offer 7 small groups, and we're so thankful for the leaders who have stepped up to facilitate them. It's our joy to see more opportunities for people to grow in their faith, connect with fellow believers, and strengthen the bond of community in Christ.

Praying For

- We're praying for God to provide the right person to lead our Sunday morning Jr. High ministry. With several families soon to have children aging out of elementary, there is a strong desire to maintain community at the Alpine Campus. We're asking the Lord to raise up someone with a heart and passion for helping young people grow in their walk with Christ. Our prayer is that we can serve our community well by offering a dedicated space where Jr. High students can be encouraged in their faith.

Encinitas Campus, Pastor Adam Brodwolf

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!

- Summer Blast at Encinitas turned out spectacular, with 47 kids.
- The volunteers worked so hard.
- All the kids had a great experience, and the parents got to hear them sing about Jesus and the fruits of the Spirit!

Please ask God

- To use the event for these families to know and serve Him.
- Also, 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...

- Completion of modifications on our campus to include Christian Unified Schools.
- An increased number of volunteers to help with the Thursday Kings Crew.
- Women stepping up into leadership, trusting God to guide them as they lead other women.

Prayer for:

- The start of Christian Unified Schools, to see more families in the community join the school and church.
- Youth Leaders to seek God for guidance as they lead the youth.

Central Coast Campus, Pastor Kevin Begley

Prayer:

- That our small groups grow and continue to reach non-believers.
- Continued blessing over the unity of our worship team.
- For a new leader to help us with our kids ministry.

Praise

- A few families who joined us for Summer Blast have continued to visit the Sunday service.
- God continues to give us amazing fellowship every Sunday.
- Wonderful leaders of our small groups.
- Our campus is looking in great shape for the new 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.

- **Biblical Leadership Training and New Student Orientation:** We were able to host a seminar on the Essentials of Biblical Leadership in partnership with IBL for the local community. Grateful for the effort of all who helped make it happen as well as the opportunity to continue our mission of equipping believers. SCS also launched their new academic year with a well-attended New Student Orientation and Time Management Seminar.

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.
- **Start of the 2025–2026 Academic year:** Please join us in prayer as we prepare to begin the 2025–2026 academic year. Pray for strength, wisdom, and perseverance for our students, faculty, and staff as they face the opportunities and challenges ahead. We ask for God's guidance over every aspect of the year—from teaching and learning to spiritual growth and community life.

Christian Unified Schools, Bob Ruhlman

Praise:

- Praise for Pastor Jeremiah's leadership and wisdom in making key campus moves to further our mission, expand our capacity and strategically align our older students in their own campus and our younger students in beautiful age-appropriate spaces.
- Praise for our dedicated facilities team that "moved mountains" in helping us prepare to begin school in August by moving over 25 teachers into new classrooms.
- Praise that the Lord has provided outstanding Christian educators, both new and returning, that will be leading our classrooms and programs in the new school year.
- Praise for the blessing of being in our 60th year in Christian Education. We are grateful to God for His faithfulness to our ministry and for the blessing of our association with Shadow Mountain Community Church and Southern California Seminary.
- Praise for all our new and returning students and families.

Prayers:

- Please pray for unity among our students, staff, parents and new families as unity is crucial for our culture. That we can be one in mission and vision for our school.
- Please pray for our students starting new routines and new friendships. Pray that our new students would be quickly integrated into the faith and culture of our school. Pray that they would grow in faith and knowledge.
- Please pray that many of our students would accept Christ as their personal Savior.
- Please pray for all the back-to-school activities that will be happening such as open houses, homecoming, lip sync, and many others. Pray that they will be successful and do a great outreach to our community of students and school families.
- Pray that God would continue to bring students to our school as we have worked to develop capacity on all campuses.