

# WATCHMAN ALERT

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Volume 29, Number 5—May 2025

## *When Persistence in Prayer Pays Off*

The principle of persistence in prayer is a key theme in the Bible, which teaches us the importance of not giving up, faith, and trusting in God's timing. Several passages highlight why we should pray persistently and how God responds to such faith, but personally, the story of a widowed woman has impacted me the most over the years.

In Luke 18, Jesus shares a parable, which often goes unnoticed by many. Still, it is impressive how Luke collects from the beginning Jesus' intention to share it with his disciples to teach them to "always pray, and not to faint."

To better understand this parable, we must remember that widows were the most helpless people in biblical times. Usually, they had no education, and when their husbands died, they were left to their fate, without sustenance for themselves or their children.

However, this widow persisted in obtaining justice, making her complaint and claim to the evil judge of her city. This man had no fear of God or appreciation for human dignity but gave this widow the verdict she sought because of her persistence.

The poor but determined widow in this parable teaches us three indispensable lessons for our prayer life:

**1) Prayer is a necessity.**

Jesus never taught His disciples that prayer was an option or a "good suggestion" but that it was necessary for our walk with Him. Jesus Himself modeled complete dependence on prayer (Matthew 14:23), and He did not take any steps in His ministry without first consulting with His Father. He even prayed while hanging on the cross! (Luke 23:24, 46).

By making prayer our need, we establish that God is the source of our strength, and everything we do will primarily glorify Him and make His light shine in this world (Matthew 5:16).

**2) Prayer is an attitude.**

Jesus goes further in teaching His parable and challenges us to depend on prayer and live it. Just as the widow maintained a persistent attitude before the judge to obtain justice (Luke 18:3), prayer must become an intentional attitude in our lives.

One amazing thing to me is that the widow's persistence caused the judge's decisions to change in her favor (Luke 18:5). This speaks to the fact that a believer's attitude of prayer does not go unnoticed but impacts all the environments in which we move and brings honor to the name of the Lord.

**3) Prayer is a privilege.**

By studying other religions, I discovered a pattern in which many of them seek to show the gods as distant from human beings, who only need the slightest excuse to unleash their fury and send curses to the earth.

But unlike other religions, God is close to humans. Do you know why this is true? He has left us a powerful tool, prayer, so we can connect with Him and see His will at work. Unlike the evil judge in our parable, justice, goodness, and love emanate from God's heart. That is why Jesus said without hesitation to his disciples: "And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them?" (Luke 18:7).

These three lessons should always encourage us to persist in prayer. Persistence will bear fruit in God's perfect timing, which is often different from our own. God's perfect timing is when our prayers align with His perfect will, and He brings the best outcome for us.

Our parable ends with a passage that may seem daunting, but it is also a challenge to all who trust in God and put all things in prayer to Him: "Nevertheless when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" (Luke 18:8).

If the entire church of Jesus persisted in prayer today, we would see miraculous spiritual transformations in a decaying world. This includes putting all our concerns, worries, and desires in prayer to Him, surrendering to His will and trusting in His plan.

Do you already have a persistent prayer life, or will you start having one?

**Pastor Erick Zaldaña**  
SMCC en Español

## **PRAISE & PETITION...**

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### *Senior Pastor, Dr. David Jeremiah*

- We were privileged to minister the Word of God to many over Resurrection Weekend. Let's look to our Father to protect and grow the faith of those who responded to gospel truth.
- I am looking forward to our new teaching series titled *The Promise of Heaven*. Let's trust God to strengthen our hope through His word and use us in the lives of those around us who have no hope.
- This is graduation month for *Christian Unified* and *Southern California Seminary*. Give thanks for the opportunities God has given us to shape lives and pray that each graduate will seek His will for the future.
- As we honor and mourn those who have died to protect our freedoms, let's look to our God to preserve what they died for and restore righteousness as a hallmark of our country.
- *Summer Blast* is just around the corner (July 14–18). Pray that this ministry to the children of our community will draw many to Christ and that ample volunteers will register to facilitate this important outreach.
- Continue to trust God to use our teams traveling to Albania, Uganda, Alaska, Thailand, and Central California over the summer months. May He be glorified through the ministry of evangelism and humanitarian aid.
- Pray for revival.
- Let's be faithful to seek His protection around all the various ministries of Shadow Mountain.

*For who is God, except the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God? (Psalms 18:31)*

## *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 attend our GriefShare and DivorceCare groups. Pray for those who have lost loved ones or are going through separation or divorce.

## *Evangelism, Connections, Discipleship, New Members & Baptism, Pastor Scott Pittman*

### **Praise Report**

- God has blessed our ministry with a great Team!
- We are currently in our 19th discipleship class.
- We have been busy with first time guests.

### **Prayer Request**

- Pray for our Evangelism/Connections team, that God will continue to guide them in their efforts.
- Pray for the deacons and deaconesses who help with baptisms.
- Pray for our discipleship groups, that they would be able to build a strong foundation to their new faith and that we would be able to connect them into other ministries of the church.
- Pray for Toni Vowels our Administrative Assistant who cares for all the details surrounding assimilations.
- Pray for all our first-time guests, that God would meet them where they are and help them find a home at Shadow Mountain.
- Pray for everyone involved in the New Member's Class as they process the details of the class during this season.
- Pray for all the altar counselors and pastors, that they would be encouraged, and that God would give them many opportunities to minister to people in our weekend services.

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

## *Pastoral Care, Pastor Ray Benton*

Pray for Pastor Ray Benton and Pastor Gareld Murphy and Pastor Tim Powell as they seek to be an encouragement to those going through difficult physical challenges and those who are shut in. Pray our calls will provide encouragement and comfort

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

**People home/hospital recuperating:** Dawn Wilson, Chuck and Loretta Emert, Carolyn Hunt, Betty Preston, Dave and Yolanda Schoenfeld, Jim Nemec, Elizabeth Carrillo, Ruth Cast, Donna Coombs, Suzanne Bennett, John Paradise, Tom Henry, Arlene Vollmer, Don Harrison, Ken Howell, Gwenda Brown, Jeanette Eddery,

Larry Weinstein, Shirley Pickney, Jack Kriege, Jordan Verhoeve, Jonothan Jones, Glenda Parker, Marilyn Campbell, Mark Kuker, Christina Bowman, Joel Schrum, Bea Keller, Krystal Emery, Bruce Fox, Lew White, Sue Buffington, Lorraine Hanley, Ann Hokstad, Walleen Smith, Ian Davies, Gladys Brown

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

**Pray for families who have lost loved ones:** Ray Grimm, Wayne Duncan, Donna Kendrick, Anita Ludington

*"I sought the LORD, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears." Psalm 34:4*

### *Director of Servant Ministries, Joyce Tepper*

- Join us in gratefulness for the wonderful Ministry Advisors who are a part of the team that interviews New Members.
- Ask God to guard their health and calendars to serve when He knows it's the right connection.
- Please rejoice as we see God's hand in the matching up of interview participants.
- Pray that we will be good stewards of His direction in each relationship.
- Pray that May will be a month of eager Servants who will enjoy the privilege of using their God-given gifts in just the right service opportunities.

### *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 are seeing kids coming to faith, wanting to get baptized, and enjoying their time at church while learning and growing in their faith! We are thankful to be blessed to minister to whole families.
- We have a vibrant team of staff and volunteers, which is a huge praise! We all love working together and have a sense of unity.
- Our Kids Blast (and Kids Blast Jr.) large group program continues to be a success and has attracted many new kids to church.

### **Prayer Requests**

- Pray for Summer Blast as we prepare for this huge event - that many kids would invite their friends and we would see a huge turnout as we seek to reach out to our community.
- We are still experiencing a need for more consistent adult volunteers.
- Some of our families are experiencing hardship with loss of loved ones, financial struggles, and sickness.
- Pray for our staff and volunteers to joyously communicate the love of Christ to our kids, their parents, and each other
- For kids to have a genuine relationship with God, build a Biblical foundation for their lives, grow with friends and leaders, and develop a community at church that they love being part of.
- Pray for the power of God's truth to permeate deeper in the hearts and minds of our young ones than any of the lies surrounding them in this culture we are living in!

## *Small Groups, Dale Bacon*

- **Pray for our groups**—Pray for our small groups to be places of deep connection, transformation, and growth. Ask God to build strong, Christ-centered relationships among members, where people feel welcomed, encouraged, and challenged in their faith.
- **Pray for our leaders**—Pray for our small group leaders as they faithfully shepherd their groups. Ask God to strengthen and encourage them as they pour into others, giving them wisdom, endurance, and joy. Pray that they would remain rooted in Christ, growing in their own faith as they lead, and that they would experience God's presence and guidance.

## *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 seek out ways to serve within the ministry and the church.
- 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:**

- Our first Thursday Night College Ministry was a HUGE success. We had 65 students and all of them seemed to enjoy it and look forward to coming back!
- New students are excited and meeting one another and inviting their friends!

## *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 YAs who are pursuing the Lord!
- For many answered prayers within our ministry, and that the group is sharing them with each other!
- For our amazing volunteer leaders who serve YAs. May the Lord bless them richly.
- For robust small groups that act as the lifeblood of our ministry.

### **Prayer requests**

- **For 2025 as we teach through *Identity* in Christ**
- For our **Small Groups** to maintain their community and momentum into the new year.
- We need to develop more **leaders** from within our group. Pray for new table and small group leaders to emerge.
- **Protection** for our Young Adults serving in the military.
- **Mental, emotional, and spiritual health for Young Adults** who are assaulted everyday by the world. **Spiritual discernment** as our community lives and works in the world.
- For our Men to be surrendered and be Men of God who LEAD. For our Women to be Women of Honor, and surrendered to God; May patience, honor and virtue to define their lives. Pray especially for the men in our group, that God would give them more mentors and that they'd embrace genuine, godly manhood.
- **Continued Spiritual** and **physical** growth in our ministry.
- **Relational wisdom** for the YAs that God is calling into more romantic relationships. That they would put God first and their significant other second.
- **Wisdom** for young Adults that are joining us out of failed marriages and relationships.
- **Pray for the couples** looking to get married in 2025 as they make plans for the rest of their life.
- **Administrative help** for the Young Adult ministry as we continue to provide connection and events for YAs at SMCC. Consistent help to manage the “business” of the ministry so Pastor George can focus on the people of the ministry.
- **For Pastor George: clarity** and **endurance** as he leads his group and others in the new year. **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.
- **Prayers for the Local Fire Departments** that Pastor George serves as Chaplain.

## *Middle School Ministry, Chase Eurich*

### **Prayer requests**

- Pray that God would continue to bless Middle School Ministry and the momentum of reaching new students and new families.
- Pray for spiritual growth in those attending our mid-week small groups.
- We have lots of new students joining us—please pray they feel welcome and comfortable.
- Pray that students would have a tenderness toward the Gospel.
- Pray for the parents of our middle schoolers—they have a hard job and need support and encouragement!
- Pray for more volunteers to join us in reaching middle schoolers for Christ.
- Pray for continued safety and health for our staff, volunteers, and students.

**Praises**

- Our ministry to middle schoolers is continuing to grow!
- Students seem to be really connecting and are finding a sense of community in our ministry.
- We have an exceptional team of staff and interns. I thank the Lord for them!

### *Shadow Youth High School Ministry, Pastor Grant Todd*

**We need prayer for the following concerning the Youth Ministry**

- For the Lord to use the High School messages to help our students connect and grow.
- We want to pray for students to connect, grow, and serve the Lord.
- Asking God to energize and use our staff to reach out to our students.

### *Young Married Ministries, Phase 1 & 2, Troy Leeman*

**Praise:**

- The transition to two phases has gone very well.
- There has been consistent growth and attendance in YMC.
- The leaders in YMC have stepped up and helped with the transition.

**Prayer:**

- Please pray for military spouses/families who are deployed.
- Prayer for Steve and Tanya Seitz and the twins.
- Prayer for healthy pregnancies.
- Prayer for continued spiritual growth.

### *Women's Ministries, Lisa Paulson*

**Praise**

- Women were impacted by the message of Christ at our Girl Time event. He is mighty to save!
- Praise God for all the parts (saints) working together in one accord.
- The Word of God changes lives!
- Praise God for the 1600 ladies participating in Bible studies and groups this past year!
- Praise God for our active-duty military wives Bunco night! Ladies had a meaningful time connecting.
- Praise God for new ladies ready to connect, grow, and serve!

**Prayer:**

- Women who decided to follow Christ through our GIRL TIME event will continue to grow in their new relationship with Jesus.
- As we celebrate Mother's Day, many women would feel loved and celebrated! They would see their value, whether single or married, in their family, workplace, and community.
- Both new and returning ladies will see the importance of investing in God's Word and be excited about signing up for the Becoming Part 3 summer Bible study.
- God's peace, protection, and favor over Jennifer as she writes and prepares for the Summer Bible Study—Becoming Part 3.
- God would continue to raise more disciple-makers, and the joy of investing in women's lives will create a ripple effect throughout Women's Ministries.
- God will provide more leaders for the Fall, and momentum will build in equipping and investing in the next generation!



- Caring for Kids, Needlecrafters, Joyful Hearts, Discipleship, Military Wives, and Global Connect groups will provide opportunities for women to connect, grow, and serve!
- God's wisdom, guidance, and protection over Lisa, Jennifer, Kasey, and Council as we seek His will in ministering to the needs of His women. Loving women well and serving would be on full display!
- Women's Ministries will stay true to its mission: Connecting women to God, His Word, and women who will help them grow!
- Protection over all that surrounds SMCC!
- God would be glorified through His people and His church!

*"For the equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro carried away with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love." Ephesians 4:12-16*

## *Men's Ministries, Pastor Manny Sanchez*

### **Praises**

- We had a wonderful end to our Spring Bible Study Season. We had the most men ever with an average of 430 every Tuesday night on the Main Cajon Campus. In addition, we had 75 more that met in our other campuses bringing our total number of men in Bible study to over 500 for the first time ever!
- We got to see 42 men accept the Lord at Dangerous Man bringing our total of men saved through the Men's Ministry for the fiscal year to 69 men. Our goal is 100 men.
- We relaunched our Dads and Kids Ministry with two new incredible leaders. This ministry seeks to help and facilitate meaningful connections between dads and their kids. They kicked off their first event with an Ice Cream Blowout and they had 70 in attendance—our largest dads and kids yet!

### **Prayers**

- We are following up with all the men who placed their faith in Christ from Dangerous Man and are praying that they would all get baptized, discipled, and plugged into church and Bible study.
- We have a very full summer with our summer Bible study starting this month. Right after our summer study we are launching a brand-new thing. We're calling them "Men's Workshops" where we will offer four different topics for five weeks which men can choose from. Topics are "how to evangelize," "issues men face," "life after retirement," and "how to study your Bible." We are praying for many men to attend and that they'd benefit greatly from these workshops.
- We are planning a Marriage event in August and hope many couples will take part. We've been getting a lot of reports of marriages that are struggling over the past year. Pray for marriages.
- We launched a ministry adopting military families whose spouse is on deployment offering meals and basic support like childcare and shopping etc. We need 10 small groups that would be ready to stand by and adopt a military couple so that when a spouse gets deployed, we can assign a small group to them. We have one family adopted so far and are working on the training and details.

## *Campus Operations, Bryan Snow*

*"...Ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof." (Joshua 23:14b)* God always keeps His promises, and He has filled our lives with good things!



**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.
- *“The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them. O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.”* (Psalm 34:7-8) Let us not grow weary of asking the Lord to stand guard over His children here.
- May will be a busy month with school and seminary graduations, Mother’s Day, Men’s and Women’s Summer Bible Study kickoffs, AWANA Awards, several choir concerts, summer interns arriving, and more. There is much to do in preparation for these events, and we need the Lord’s help if it is to edify all involved and glorify Him.

## *Missions, Dr. Gary Coombs*

- Praise—Burton: We praise God for the opportunity to teach and present children’s curriculum material in Bolivia.
- Praise—Bruce: We praise God for Kathy’s good report on her kidney, with no new cancer growth since her second operation.
- Praise—Burdett: We praise God for the progress in reprinting the Dom New Testament and for Jim’s reduced pain after his epidural injections.
- Prayer—Budds: We ask for prayer for wisdom and provision for the sale of our home and property, and for the details of our retirement finances.
- Prayer—Busers at Radius: We ask for prayer for the young men and women graduating soon and heading to the field, that they will be strengthened and guided by God in their mission work.
- Prayer—Falls: We ask for prayer for the growth and development of new relationships in multiple training locations, fostering openness to opportunities and ideas.

## *Sports Ministry, Tim Brown*

**Praise**

- Praise God for the 24 teams and over 200 men that signed up for the Men’s Basketball League.
- Praise God for the resources available on our campus to facilitate our Sports Programs.

**Prayer**

- Pray for those serving in the Sports Ministry to represent Jesus Christ well during our sports programs.
- Pray for the Monday Evenings from Mar-June when the Men’s Basketball Leagues host games from 6pm-10pm. Pray that the environment would help build relationships, share the Good News, and draw people to Shadow Mountain.
- Pray for the Men that participate in the Men’s Basketball League. Pray that they would be open to visiting other programs at SMCC. Pray for the relationships that we would build with them and the influence of the Christian community in their lives.
- 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 volunteers and coaches who will help serve in the upcoming Youth Summer Camps. Pray for their teamwork and communication while coaching and leading.

## *Cares Ministry, Kevin Gowing*

*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. —Ephesians 2:10*

### **Praises**

- Continually amazed at God's provision to this ministry!
- Seeing recipients come to Christ, join our church and get baptized!
- We continue to have vendors that supply food at wholesale prices.
- Celebrated 5 years of ministry! Over 93,000 Cares boxes given, 2.6 million pounds of food and over 130 volunteers serving weekly!

### **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 leading Kevin in discernment with recipients who may not really be in need and for ways to continue to keep costs down.
- 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 community.

## *Hispanic Congregation, Pastor Erick Zaldaña*

### **Praise:**

- Praise God for having a Vigil exalting the name of God, where all the Hispanic congregation felt the love and the presence of God.
- Praise God for his word shared by Pastor Erick Zaldaña, in our Sunday Passover service.
- Praise God for our Kids Ministry, that celebrated "The Day of Children," a Hispanic tradition where we celebrate the life of children and the blessing of having them.

### **Pray:**

- For all volunteers serving in our Kids Ministry, who will be taking training to ensure guidelines and protocols are met when approaching children.
- For the Hispanic Evangelism Team; for their willingness and disposition, their love to serve God and the understanding of people's needs.
- For all the wonderful and loving Mothers of our Church. Praying that God shows them his love, protection and guidance each day of their lives.

## *Arabic Congregation, Pastor Robert Helou*

### **Praises**

- For the baptism of two young individuals—one from a Muslim background and the other from a Catholic background.
- For the salvation of two people, a Mexican and an Iraqi, who came to Christ through the efforts of the Parkway Evangelism Team.
- For the formation of four new discipleship groups for those eager to grow in their faith and deepen their knowledge of the Bible.
- We're grateful for the success of a very delicate surgery performed on a young man who was rushed to the emergency room.

- We rejoice in the increased attendance at our regular Friday and Sunday services, including the presence of several newcomers.
- We give thanks for the quick recovery of a church member who underwent sensitive surgery to remove a cancerous thyroid.
- For the growth in weekly offerings—many are giving generously, and we have already surpassed 20% of our giving budget.
- We thank God for the increase of viewers tuning in to our Sunday morning services, Friday Bible studies, and Ladies' meetings.

#### **Prayer Requests:**

- Pray for all those who have responded to the Gospel message, especially through the Parkway Evangelism Ministry.
- Pray for more baptisms for those who have been Christians for a long time but remain hesitant to take this important step.
- For the discipleship groups, that they may remain committed and complete their respective courses. Each group is studying.
- Pray for a church member who suffered a severe head injury after an accidental fall and is currently in a coma.
- Pray for the various ministries of the church, especially Kids Care, and for more volunteers to serve in this vital area.
- Continue to pray for our sisters, Afaf and Heyam, as they endure ongoing health challenges and undergo cancer treatments.
- Pray for the situation in Syria under the new regime—for the protection of all minorities, especially Christian communities.
- Pray for a genuine spiritual revival within our church and across the Arabic Evangelical churches in San Diego County.

### *Alpine Campus, Pastor Kekoa Grover*

#### **Praises**

- We thank God for such a robust volunteer ministry at the Alpine Campus! What a blessing to see so many serving and growing in their walk with the Lord, as a result.

#### **Praying For:**

- God to blossom our community, particularly those who attend our 10:45 AM Service. Praying for attendees to connect and come to a place where they feel like the 10:45 Service is where they belong.

### *Encinitas Campus, Pastor Adam Brodewolf*

- Please pray this verse for our congregation: John 13:35, *"By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."*
- Please also pray for a likeminded desire for Jesus to be glorified both within and without to everyone in Encinitas and beyond. If His glory is our goal, how could we help but build up and strengthen our congregation.
- Pray God will send us more people.

### *Online Campus, Pastor Rod Gray*

#### **Praises**

- For over 15,000 viewers worldwide each weekend on our online platform, Facebook, and YouTube.

- For those who accept Christ and those who make recommitments through our online ministry.
- Praising God for 15 small groups operating this season.

#### **Prayers**

- For many who are homebound and shut-in to find a place to belong at Shadow Mountain Online.
- Continued increase for new online small group leaders and continued growth of our online small groups.
- For unchurched non-believers to come to Christ through our online platforms.

### *South Bay Campus, Pastor Fausto Garay*

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

- Successful Palm Sunday with more than 350 in attendance. Congregation enjoyed taco truck and petting zoo.
- Celebrated Easter with a successful egg hunt and fun treats after service.
- AWANA participation has remained steady in April

#### **Prayer for:**

- Preparations for Mother's Day Event.
- Continued growth of Kids Ministry and Youth Ministry.
- Continued growth of Men's and Women's Ministry.

### *Central Coast Campus, Pastor Kevin Begley*

#### **Central Coast Prayer**

- For our campus to reach the neighborhood kids with this year's Summer Blast!
- For our new office administrator, Sonia Bartlett, she keeps our calendar organized.
- Continued prayer for our kids ministry and outreach.

#### **Praise:**

- We continue to have families who join our service by walking in from the neighborhood!
- Our worship team continues to grow with a new professional violinist!
- Our men who joined the Dangerous Man night and women who joined Girls Time (all by satellite) felt a part of the greater Shadow family.

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

#### **Praise for**

- **The Blessing of Ministry through Shadow Mountain:** We are grateful for the opportunity to serve as a ministry of Shadow Mountain, and for the partnership in sharing the gospel.
- **Pastor Jeremiah's Inspiring Leadership:** Praise for Pastor Jeremiah's faithful leadership and ministry, including his role as chancellor of Southern California Seminary, which continues to inspire and guide many.
- **Dedicated SCS Students and Alumni:** Gratitude for students and alumni who are faithfully serving in local churches, missions, counseling ministries, and Christian schools and colleges. We celebrate the grace, peace, and wisdom God grants them as they minister to others.
- **Faithful and Skilled Faculty:** Praise for the dedicated faculty who diligently equip students with biblical knowledge, Christian character, and ministry skills, ensuring they are well-prepared to serve in their fields.
- **A Servant-Minded SCS Team:** We are thankful for the joy of serving alongside SCS staff and faculty, who create a working environment marked by a servant-hearted attitude and commitment to helping students succeed in their ministry calling.

- **Several faculty presented at the Regional ETS:** We are so proud to have such outstanding faculty.
- **So proud of our graduates!** Our very own Jessica Thomas is graduating with her BABS and is winning the ACLU Award.

#### **Prayer Requests:**

- **Blessing and Wisdom for Seminary Leadership:** Pray for Dr. Gary Coombs (President), Dr. Gino Pasquariello (Provost and Chief Academic Officer), Dr. James Fazio (Dean of Bible and Theology), and Dr. Elizabeth Elenwo (Dean of Behavioral Sciences) as they lead with vision, integrity, and effectiveness in their ministries.
- **Encouragement for SCS Students and Families:** Lift up students and their families, asking for strength, encouragement, and faithfulness in their academic studies, ministries, and personal spiritual growth as they navigate life's changing circumstances.
- **Gratitude and Support for Donors:** Pray for continued generosity and faithfulness from donors, whose giving provides scholarships that enable students to receive biblical training and spiritual formation at the seminary.
- **Ministry Opportunities for Alumni:** Ask for doors to open for graduating alumni to step into meaningful ministry roles and to stay connected with one another through the Alumni Association, fostering ongoing support and collaboration.
- **Growth and Impact of the Call to Care Training:** Pray for the continued success of the Call to Care Training, as churches increasingly seek guidance in establishing lay biblical counseling ministries. Ask for the provision of resources and the strengthening of teams to meet this growing need within the church community.
- Thank you for joining in prayer for these important needs!

### *Christian Unified Schools, Bob Ruhlman*

#### **Praises**

- Praise for successful events such as: the district 4th grade trip to Indian Hills, the Patriot Derby, Spring musicals at the different campuses and so much more!
- Praise for the faithful service of our faculty and staff throughout the highs and lows of a school year.
- Praise for strong enrollment and interest for the 25-26 year.

#### **Prayer Request:**

- Please pray for our teachers and support staff as we engage our students and face the demands of the final weeks of school. Pray for their patience, flexibility, and that God continues to work through them during this special time of year. Help them focus on sharing Christ over all else and being an example of the love of Christ through positive, supportive, daily interactions with students.
- Please pray for all our students as they prepare for graduation and the end-of-year celebrations and for our staff as they support these events. Please pray that all of our new families are able to experience what is special and unique about CUSSD. Pray that each family that encounters our school would become established in our faith, be filled with lasting memories and each person grow in their relationship with Christ.
- Please pray for our staffing needs for the 25-26 school year and that the Lord brings the best candidates to impact our students for Christ and for wisdom for the administrators that are hiring for these open positions.
- Please pray for enrollment and an abundance of wisdom as we fill the spots remaining for the school year and that the Lord guides our admissions team as they assess students and families for mission fit and seek God's clear guidance on each decision.